



AHS PARENT CONNECTION

KEEPING YOU INFORMED / October 18, 2019



Mission: *To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition*
Vision: *A community of academic excellence, Catholic in spirit and culture, nurturing integrity and respect.*

Dates to remember:

- Oct. 24: Christmas Cookie orders due
- Oct. 25: AHS Retreat Day
- Oct. 30: Catholic Speaker @ Sacred Heart
- Oct. 31: ACS Halloween Costume Party
6:30-9:30 (All K-12 families and
Guests are invited to attend.)
- Nov. 1: No School K-12
- Nov. 4: NHS Induction
- Nov. 9: Auction Royale

Athletic Event

- Oct. 22: VB Regional vs Rosholt 7:00
- Oct. 24: VB Regional Semi Final
- Oct. 25: CC Sectionals
- Oct. 26: VB Regional Final
- Nov. 2: CC State @ Ridges

DRESS CODE REMINDERS

Clothing must reflect the virtues of modesty and respect for self and others at all times.

- ACS spirit wear tops may be worn any time. (excluding Mass days)
 - Long pants - Solid colored khakis, or colored denim (excluding the color blue) may be worn
 - Clothing must fit properly – no tight fitting or oversized clothing.
 - Clothing must be clean, free of slits, tears, holes, patches, personal alterations, and stains
 - Midriffs and cleavage must be covered at all times
 - Skirts and dresses – Bottom hem must be no more than 2 inches above the knee. If wearing leggings underneath, bottom hem must be no more than 4 inches above the knee.
 - Shorts must be no more than 2 inches above the knee
 - Shirts must have sleeves. Crew necks or collared shirts are recommended.
- The following apparel is **not permitted** for any middle/high school student during the school day.
- No outerwear, including hats, caps, coats, and gloves
 - No slides, beach shoes, flip flops, or heels over 2 inches (Birkenstock style sandals are allowed)
 - No visible undergarments such as; bra straps and underwear
 - No clothing with logos advertising illegal or illicit substances, sexual content/innuendo and inappropriate messages
 - No workout clothing such as; leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, wind pants, joggers, athletic shorts or sweatpants
 - No blue jeans
 - No oversized hoodies

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER BECKER: Free Gift

Recently someone said to me, "That's why God gives us two eyes." It turns out these were words they used to try and console their loved one who had lost sight in one of his eyes. Their thought process was God gives us two eyes so we can still see even if we lose one. Obviously this statement has stuck with me not only because it sounds really funny, but because I think these few words express something profound—"God gives". All that we have, even our very life is a gift from God.

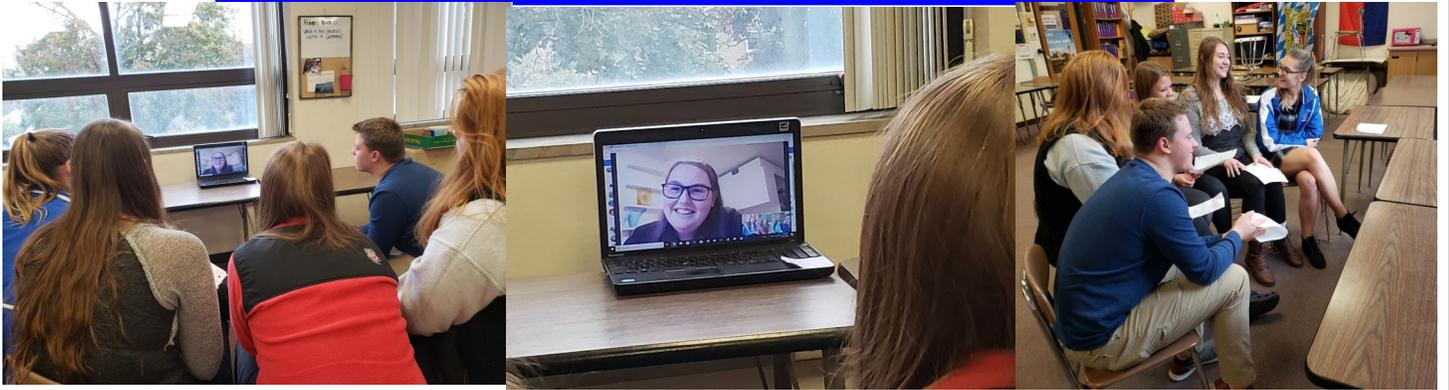
Though we implicitly know this reality, we forget it so often. Things should be the way we want them. Sometimes we can find ourselves feeling sorry for ourselves. Maybe in our mind we're not thin enough, strong enough, make enough money. When this happens we remember that God never gives us more than we can handle with His grace. Again, "God gives". Even giving us no more than we can handle with His help is a gift He gives. However, what about people who are deficient in some way, missing something they, in our opinion, *should* have? People who are blind, deaf, mute... People with debilitating physical ailments. People who struggle with mental and psychological disorders. Can we honestly say that God actually gave them anything? It sure seems like He held something back. How else are they to respond but in anger?

Toward the end of the book of the prophet Jonah, Jonah gets angry with God over a plant (Jonah 4:6-11). Jonah who is tasked with evangelizing the people of Nineveh, refuses and awaits their destruction. As he waits in the hot sun God gives Jonah some shade via a plant God miraculously grew in one day. The next day however, the plant dies and Jonah suffers the heat and wind once again. Jonah gets ticked at God since he thought he was entitled to the plant and its shade. God responds with the question why are you angry? God makes the point that Jonah has no reason to be angry since the plant was a gift to Jonah. Jonah's anger would be justified if the plant was his, if he were entitled to it. However, the plant was a pure gift from God and therefore Jonah's anger made no sense. The only appropriate response to a gift is gratitude.

Why? Why is gratitude the only response to a gift? How can someone who struggles with mental illness or someone with a physical difficulty be grateful? The key to such gratitude is the recognition of the gift. A gift is something intentionally and freely given to someone out of love expressly for that someone. When we claim "God gives" us the gift of life, we are actually saying my life was intentionally and freely given to me by God for me. The God of the universe actually cares enough about me, to give me a purposeful life without expecting anything in return. Even if we are burdened with mental illness or struggle with some sort of physical deficiency, our life is still a gift we have received from a loving God. We cannot but help to respond with gratitude to such love.

Yes, God gives us two eyes for a reason, and we are grateful that He give us life. However, from experience I know it's one thing to intellectually know this, but something entirely different to know it inside. It seems like pious piffle to say, "be thankful to God for the gift of your life," to someone struggling with epilepsy or chronic anxiety because in many ways it is. Yet when these individuals come to know that their life is a gift from God, gratitude will soon follow. The recognition of our giftedness and our response of gratitude is not mere head knowledge. It's a rest and movement of our heart. We rest in the arms of our loving heavenly Father, and we gratefully embrace Him, our God Who gives.

STUDENT LIFE AT AHS



German 5 class is doing a unit on Austria & Switzerland. Yesterday, they had an opportunity to video chat for the class period with my friend from Vienna. She talked to them in Austrian German so they could get an idea of the dialect and they took the opportunity to ask her questions about the language and culture in Austria (the entire video chat was in German!) It was an amazing opportunity to learn from an expert!



Layne Gebert and Delaney Weiler have taken the initiative to start a new club here at school, the Assumption Service Club with Ms. Kowaleski. The club is planning many events this school year, and they have already visited Renaissance Assisted Living twice to chat with the residents and play games with them. We will be visiting again on Tuesday, November 5 from 3:30 - 5 pm and are hoping to have even more students join us!



Great things happening at Assumption High School. Mr. Renner's Home Improvement class is working on the music storage room on Third floor. First step in this project was the removal of some lockers. We can't wait To see the Finished Project. Thank you!