



April 10, 2024

Dear Parents,



Would you like a closer relationship with your children? Would you like your children, both now and later in their teenage years, to feel secure in sharing their joys and struggles with you? Would you like your children's faith and prayer to keep growing throughout their whole lives? Then please come to the school family meeting on Tuesday, April 23 at 6:30 pm. I consider this to be our most important meeting of the year.

I have invited longtime friends, Matt and Joan Tasler, to share a simple parenting practice that they believe made a huge impact in keeping their family bonded to each other and to God. What did they do? They gave spiritual direction to their children. Overwhelming? Not at all. It

was easy and enjoyable. These parents simply made it a point to meet with each child individually once a month at which time they prayed together, listened to their child, and spoke about living the faith. Every parent can do this.

Matt and Joan successfully raised six children, all of whom are now young adults and all of whom are committed to living out their love for God. Most of their six children are now married and handing the Catholic faith on to their own children. Please come and listen to Matt and Joan explain in detail what they did and the blessings it is still bearing for their family.

You might now be thinking:

1. "They must have been incredibly holy parents and we are just struggling ordinary parents."
2. "I don't know much about prayer or the Catholic faith myself, so how could I lead my children in spiritual direction?"
3. "How on earth could we find the time and energy for this?"
4. "I'm a single parent. It won't be possible for me."
5. "My spouse and I differ greatly when it comes to the faith. How could this work for us?"
6. "I would enjoy hearing some wisdom from a couple whose children are now happy adults."

If you have any thoughts along these lines, please come and listen to Matt and Joan. I truly believe they have something valuable and attainable to share with you. We will be sure to leave plenty of time for questions and discussion. Babysitting will be provided.

All parents, by the sacrament of matrimony, have the grace to raise their children in the faith. This is true even if you feel awkward at prayer or know very little about the faith yourself. You and your children can grow and learn together.

Parents, what we do at school is exceedingly important, but it does not compare with the impact and influence that you have on your children. Absolutely no one can take your place. I think the Lord has something special to give you through Matt and Joan which will help you in your Christian parenting. Please make a firm effort to

come to the SFA meeting on Tuesday, April 23 beginning at 6:30 pm. It might be one of the most pivotal parenting decisions you will ever make.

In the Heart of Christ the King,

Sister Mary Alma, C.K.

**Calendar Lottery Tickets:** Might you be one who forgot to turn in your tickets? We very much need them sold or unsold. Please turn them in immediately so we can comply with the laws and continue to have the calendar lottery each year. It looks like it was another success this year. A final report will be coming soon!

**Calendar Lottery Prize Drawing:** Prize winners for the calendar lottery will be drawn on Sunday, April 21 after the 9:00 am Mass.

**Summer Food Service:** Check out Nebraska's Summer Food Service Program. The program which provides free summer meals to kids and teens (ages 1 – 18) may be available in your area at select locations. The meals help ensure children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is out for the summer. There are numerous open summer meal sites throughout the state of Nebraska.

Call 2-1-1 or text FOOD to 877-877. Visit <https://www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids> or <http://www.education.ne.gov/NS/SFSP/index.html>

Get updates via Twitter at #NESummerMeals and the Nebraska Department of Education-Nutrition Services' Facebook page.

**Coming Home Today:** Lunch balances, tuition notices, Doane College's Adventure Zone flyer, Crete Parks and Rec flyers.

**Important Upcoming April Dates:**

- 12 Grades 3 and 4 field trip to Homestead National Park
- 19 First Holy Communion retreat day
- 20 First Holy Communion - 11:00 am Mass
- 21 Calendar Lottery drawing in the Parish Hall after the 9:00 am Mass.
- 23 SFA meeting – 6:30 am
- 25 Feast of St. James celebrated at school
- 26 Grades 5 and 6 field trip to Schram Park and the Holy Family Shrine
- 27 Father Daughter Day at Villa Regina Motherhouse