

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 2025

THE
**FRIDAY
CRUSADER**



ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL

414 Michigan Street, Petoskey, MI. 49770

School Office: 231.348.2360

REMINDERS

10/7 Next PTO meeting (Tuesday) at 8:05a in the library

10/8 - Parent Commitment Night (Wednesday) 7-8p Grand Unity Center

10/9-10/10 - Middle School to Camp Daggett

10/16 - Parent Teacher Conferences

10/17 - Half-day of school ; dismissal at 11:40am



October Playground Sign-Up

**SFX Church bulletin for Sunday
10/5**

The School Spirit Wear Store EXTENDED to 10/5 - click to shop!

Sign-up to sell raffle tickets after mass!

October Virtue of the Month - Fortitude

This month, our school community is reflecting on the virtue of fortitude. Fortitude is the strength of mind and heart that helps us to *do what is right, even when it is difficult*. It is the courage to persevere through challenges, to resist temptations, and to remain faithful to God's will in the face of adversity. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that fortitude "ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good." For children, this virtue is especially important as they grow in faith, face peer pressure, and learn to make choices that reflect their values.

Fortitude in Daily Life at School & at Home

Students can practice fortitude in many ways:

- Standing up for what is right, even if it is unpopular.
- Persevering in homework and responsibilities, even when the work is challenging.

- Speaking the truth, even when it's difficult
- Choosing kindness and forgiveness, even when it is easier to stay silent or hold a grudge.
- Trusting in God's plan, especially during times of uncertainty or difficulty.
- Share stories of saints who lived with courage and faith, such as St. Joan of Arc, St. Maximilian Kolbe, or Blessed Carlo Acutis.
- Pray together for the strength to face challenges with trust in God.

The Bible reminds us that God strengthens those who trust in Him. Fortitude is not about relying on our own power alone, but about allowing God's grace to give us courage. Through prayer and faith, we can face trials with confidence, knowing that God is always with us. "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." – Joshua 1:9



✧ SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS ✧

The **October Lunch Menu** can be viewed by [clicking here.](#)

The October Playground Duty SignUp Genius is UP! [Click here to snag your spots...](#)thank you for volunteering. As a friendly reminder, each family is required to give 4 hours of playground volunteer time.

The Crusader Spirit Wear Store has been EXTENDED! IT NOW CLOSSES ON OCTOBER 5th so please [click here](#), browse and place your orders! Your order can be picked up at the school. Some of these items make great Christmas gifts and we also have several uniform add-ons (fleece & quarter zip). **PLUS your student can wear all Crusader spirit wear (t-shirts & sweatshirts) on Fridays.**

Parents - please be vigilant with checking your kids' hair for lice before school. We had a few cases this week.

Father Peter is inviting all students to the 10am mass at St Francis Xavier Church on October 19th for **Youth Mass**. We need your help! Please have your student consider signing up to sing, serve, greet, read, and usher. **[Click here to sign up - thank you!](#)**

Our dedicated staff & fundraising team are gearing up for our annual Parent Commitment Night. We are switching up the format a bit this year; we ask that one representative from each family be present. This is a VERY important night to set the tone for the year and provide you with the current financial status of the school. **[Every family's presence](#)** makes a difference as we work together to uphold our mission and secure a strong future for our children in a faith-filled environment. **We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, October 8th from 7-8p at the Grand Unity Center.**



PTO & GALA UPDATES



We would love to see you at the next PTO meeting on [Tuesday, October 7th 8:05a in the school library](#). We will be discussing Turkey Bingo, which takes place in November. This is a FUN event held in the church cafeteria....Win BINGO...WIN a TURKEY! Whether you decide to volunteer during the event or attend & play bingo, it will be a fun night.

THANK YOU to all of the families who have been selling raffle tickets. We have already sold 505 tickets - we are almost HALFWAY to our goal. As a reminder, for every 10 raffle tickets sold, you get a FREE gala ticket. Sell 20 and you have the perfect date night on March 7th! Congrats to Mrs Daniel's class for winning the TUG OF WAR challenge - her class turned in the most tickets last week so they will be CHALLENGING the teachers to a TUG of WAR o Field Day in May!

STUDENTS VS STAFF TUG OF WAR ON FIELD DAY IN MAY

MRS DANIEL'S 3RD GRADE
CLASS WILL BE
CHALLENGING OUR
TEACHERS....GOOD LUCK!!



OTHER HAPPENINGS....



Our **Crusaders Middle School Girls Volleyball** team has their LAST home game at **6pm** (Central Elementary School gym) on **October 6th**. Their last game of the season will be at Petoskey Middle School on October 7th at 4pm. **Cheer on our Crusaders!**

The **Middle School Camp Daggett trip** will take place on **October 9th-10th!** ***We are still looking for middle school parents to volunteer...especially for breakfast & lunch prep!*** [Click here to sign up.](#)

Middle School Ski Team Meeting -There will be a Parent/Athlete Informational Meeting on **Monday, October 13th** in the Petoskey High School Cafeteria at 7:00PM. They will talk about the upcoming season, athlete requirements, go over sign-up, fees, etc. Coaches, organizers and Boosters will be available to answer questions!

Teams of Our Lady Annual Retreat - this retreat is open to everyone! The theme is "Building Better Marriages: The Power of Hope in Lasting Relationships". This event will be held at the St Francis Xavier Parish on **Saturday, November 1st from 8:30a-4p**, followed by 5pm mass. The cost is \$30/person or \$60/couple. Interested? Please reach out to Laurie Cesario at 231.632.9584.

In school this week:

-Father Peter & Deacon Paul trained altar servers this week.

-What a blessing to have our *SFX Alumni* come back to the school on Homecoming day. These football players signed autographs, played football, and hung with our students on the playground.

-Thank you to the PTO for sponsoring the annual Fall Fun Run. The students were decked out in PINK and they ran hard! Support the Petoskey Northmen football

team tonight at their PINK game. You'll see a few SFX Alumni on the field!



Catholic FAITH



Alter
SERVER





**Donate to the Fall Fun
Run!**

**Shop the SFX Spirit
Store!**

We could not have asked for a better day for the Fall Fun Run. It was sunny and warm - the PERFECT DAY! There is still time to donate. But hurry—time is running out faster than a runner on race day! The donation link closes on Monday, so let's make sure your generosity counts. Thank you for being a vital part of this journey—let's run towards success together! Click on the pink link to donate today.



Join Us for Youth Mass Day

Come participate on October 19th at 10am



Sign your student up to sing, read, usher & greet!

Click to sign up - we need USHERS & SINGERS on 10/19! Thank you!



Watch the School News!

Click here to watch the SFX School News, brought to you by your middle school students.



St. Francis Xavier School and Parish | 414 Michigan St | Petoskey, MI 49770 US

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