FAITH & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Faith & Community Committee

- Faith and Community is a committee, within the PTO, that aims to support and nurture the spiritual growth of teachers, students and parents at St. Gabriel. Through activities and events, charity drives and celebrating Catholic traditions, we hope to promote a missionary spirit that will build a strong foundation of faith and encourage our kids to become young disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Please contact Ashley Fletcher (<u>ashleypfletcher@gmail.com</u>) or Jennifer Guidry (<u>jenguidry77@gmail.com</u>) if you have questions or would like to get involved.

Spiritual Growth Advisory Kallah Oakes and Gigi McDonnell

- The Mission of the Spiritual Growth Advisory is to enrich the Catholic culture of the school and to encourage students and families in their friendship with Christ. We prayerfully support the staff and PTO in every initiative to live out our discipleship of the Lord Jesus through charity drives within our local Church community, celebrations of our Catholic traditions, and growth in understanding of what we believe. Some of our initiatives are:
 - \circ Jr. Disciples
 - Traveling Mary (learn more <u>HERE</u>)
 - Adoration
 - \circ Rosary
- Email Kallah Oakes if you're interested in joining this year: <u>kaloakes@gmail.com</u>

Praying Mother's Group Melanie Carroll and Martine Bryant

- The Praying Mother's Group was created to lift up our St. Gabriel Community to the Lord each and every Monday throughout the school year. Each week, we pray specifically for the children and teachers of a particular class, as well as any special intentions from our school community. It is such a wonderful way to start the week with prayers for our children, and fellowship among moms. Please join us on Monday mornings (beginning 9/12) at 8am, and bring your friends and little ones!
- Please email <u>stgabespmg@gmail.com</u> for more information or to be added to the list.

Catholic Schools Week Kim Hill and Tara Hill

- The Catholic Schools Week sub-committee plans a fun-filled week for students and teachers to celebrate Catholic education.
- Each day of the week will include a theme for students along with games and activities. We look forward to providing for our teachers by hosting lunch, a coffee bar, and providing snacks.
- Service is fundamental to Catholic education and the core of Catholic discipleship so we use this week as an opportunity to support Mira Via, a safe haven and source of hope for pregnant mothers and their children. There will be a daily collection of desired items to benefit Mira Via. We will also host a school-wide service project to benefit our local neighbors in Charlotte..

Traveling Mary

Kallah Oakes and Gigi McDonnell

- Every year, from Kindergarten through 5th Grade, each student will bring home their classroom's special statue of Mother Mary for one week. By the end of your time here at St, Gabriel, your family will have the opportunity to learn six of the approved Apparitions of Our Blessed Mother, from all across the world, spanning a variety of Catholic cultures.
- Click <u>HERE</u> for more details on Traveling Mary and be on the lookout for information from your child(ren)'s teacher on sign-ups.

Catherine's House Melanie Carroll and Amanda Schiffer

- Catherine's House is a residential facility that provides transitional housing for women and children who are homeless. Women who enter Catherine's House become part of a 4 month program designed to empower each resident with skills and information to regain and sustain a healthy and productive life. Catherine's House is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy and relies heavily on donations and volunteers to care for the women and children residing there.
- During December, each St. Gabriel class is assigned one or two residents to provide household items and "wish list" items for.

Parent Coffees Kate McDermott and Josie Sanctis

• These talks aim to arm parents with resources and information that will help them throughout their parenting journey.

Charitable Outreach Ashley Fletcher and Laura Walsh

- Charitable Outreach is a way for St. Gabriel families to learn about and assist local Catholic charities in monthly donation drives and participate in Corporal Works of Mercy. Our 2022-2023 charities include: Missionaries of Charity, Mira Via, Veterans Charities, Catherine's House, OLA Elementary, Roof Above, Holy Angels and the Seminarians at St. Joseph Seminary.
- Email Laura if you'd like to get involved (laurawalsh85@gmail.com)