

# St. Cecilia School

September 26, 2011

Visit [www.stceciliafc.org](http://www.stceciliafc.org)

*September Virtue of the Month: Faith  
Discipline With Purpose Skill: Listening*

## *Parents in Partnership*

Passing on the **faith** is the privilege and responsibility of Christian parents. Families that are shaped by faith develop a spiritual character that is based on truth, guided by principles, rooted in trust, defined by love, and supported by grace.

This year we will continue to include in the family communication envelope a newsletter *Seek First the Kingdom: Parents Sharing Faith With Their Children*. We hope that you will make time to read this newsletter and ponder the many ideas for growing in faith as a family. Each month of the school year you can expect to receive some parental helps that will focus on faith formation. Please look for them in the future.

You will notice that at the top of this *Monday Memo* we have posted the **September Virtue of the Month** and the **Discipline With Purpose Skill** that we are working on as a school community. According to the **Catechism of the Catholic Church (#1803)**, a virtue is a “habitual and firm disposition to do good. It allows the person not only to perform good acts, but also to give the best of himself (herself).” Our goal is to be intentional in our teaching of Christian virtues by focusing on a specific virtue monthly. Our teachers will be sharing with their students practical ways they can grow in this virtue. We hope that you will join us at home. How can we grow in the virtue of **faith**?

Last Spring I attended a workshop along with our teachers entitled *Discipline With Purpose*. We found the workshop to be very informative and helpful in approaching ways to enable our students to develop self-discipline. Fifteen skills were presented as necessary for our students to grow in self-discipline. These skills serve as the framework of the program.

Each month we will focus on the development of one of these skills. You will notice that the skill of listening is the skill for September. **Listening** is a foundational skill upon which all the other skills build. How many problems can be eliminated if we just focus our attention on the speaker and listen to the message? How often have you said to your child, “Did you listen?” Let’s work together in developing this skill.

## *Saint Cecilia Parish*

*Celebrating a Century as a Faith Community*

### *Mass of Thanksgiving*

*Sunday, October 2, 2011*

*2:30 PM*

## *Dancing Classrooms Philly*

*Dancing with the Stars* has nothing on our fifth grade students and their teachers! A partial grant provided by the Connelly Foundation has enabled our students once again to participate in a ten-week program entitled *Dancing Classrooms Philly*. This highly acclaimed program was launched in Philadelphia in 2007 and now reaches over 35 schools. Not only do students learn the steps of the dancing curriculum, but they grow in social skills, confidence, respect, responsibility, leadership and teamwork.

## *Important Reminders*

- There will be **NO SCHOOL** for students on **Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**. This is a Professional Development Day for the faculty and staff.
- Please mark your calendar for our first **Home and School Meeting** on **Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**. The focus will be on the Common Core Curriculum Standards with a DVD message from our Superintendent. In addition, we will be sharing information about some of the new programs in our school this year. We hope to see you there.
- Students should be ready to move into our winter uniforms on **Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Thank you, parents, for your support in making sure that your child has the proper school attire. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pinkl have offered to embroider school golf shirts, sweaters, and vests for anyone who would like this service. You can contact Mr. and Mrs. Pinkl at 215-887-0855.

