

-- A special thanks to all those who donated to the Divine Mercy Image project that we hope to have completed before winter. We are over half-way to the goal, with about \$3,000 left to cover the cost. The image is large at 18 feet tall and 11 feet wide and it will be mounted on the Milwaukee Ave. side of the gym and will have a high visibility. Please consider donating to this worthy effort to put Jesus Christ at the center of the parish, as He himself said to St. Faustina: **"By means of this image, I shall be granting many graces to souls; so let every soul have access to it."** (St Faustina Diary, 570). **Not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush lies the greatness of this image, but in My grace. (313)**

-- This week has a special Solemnity on August 15th, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven, which is a Holy Day of Obligation. The vigil Mass will be at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday evening in English. Masses on Thursday are at 8:30 a.m. in English and Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. in Spanish. Come honor our Blessed Mother and be inspired by her heroic example of faith and the hope in the resurrection that she herself now already enjoys.

-- The 8:30 a.m. Thursday morning Assumption Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Mike Knotek, who has served many roles in the Archdiocese as a pastor, Vicar for Priests, Executive Secretary of the Placement Board, and Vicar for the professional and pastoral formation of priests. Fr. Knotek will be leading our all-staff retreat that day, which starts with the morning Mass. Please pray for all the parish and school staff that we may continue to be inspired to put Jesus at the center of our own lives and that faith may grow through the church and school. Fr. Knotek is also an excellent homilist, so do come to the morning Mass if you can.

-- It's that time of summer to get ready for another school and religious education year. Do tell your loved ones and neighbors about our excellent SEOT school. Tours are available. Also, for those not sending their children to a Catholic school, the Religious Education Program is necessary to help your child grow in their Catholic faith and prepare to receive the sacraments that Jesus gave us. The First Communion and Confirmation program requires two years before your child can receive those sacraments of initiation. Please contact Hugo Munoz to register for RE: [hmunoz@archchicago.org](mailto:hmunoz@archchicago.org).

-- We are working on a professionally guided, strategic planning process this year for the school. Dr. Hillmann has recruited the services of a gifted facilitator, Dr. Debbie Sullivan, who also has experience as a successful principal in the Archdiocese and puts it to good use in her consultation and school strategic planning work. Using the National Catholic Standards of Education as the tool, she spent the last year guiding Queen of All Saints in their five-year plan for their school. Since our school is the most potentially engaging ministry of the parish, non-school parishioners will be asked to be on the subcommittees this year, working with Dr. Sullivan.

There is a lot of positive energy to help the school be even better and we have the person in Debbie Sullivan, and the structure of the Standards to guide us...don't be surprised if you are asked to learn more and be involved!

May the year ahead be filled with grace, faith, and an openness to the Lord's will in all our lives.

God bless you,

Fr. Mike