

A Newsletter for the Blessed Trinity Catholic High School Community

THE TRINITY

News on GISA, parking, and graduation tickets

Dear Friends of Blessed Trinity:

On Monday, November 7, Blessed Trinity, Queen of Angels, and Fellowship Christian School will host the annual Georgia Independent School Association Conference. About 2,000 teachers from private schools across the state will be in attendance. Being a host school gives us the opportunity to put our best foot forward and to be seen by hundreds of teachers and school administrators from around the state, most of whom would barely know us by name, much less where we are located and what we look like.

Normally the conference alternates year by year between the metro Atlanta area (where the most private schools are located) and other locations around the state. Last year, Greater Atlanta Christian was the host school, and they did an excellent job. Our whole faculty was there, and we left having interacted with folks who work in very similar situations. We also left with a familiarity with one of our fellow independent schools, having spent a day on their campus. We were originally scheduled for the 2006 conference, but Savannah Christian, the original site for this year, had to postpone a year due to construction that will not be completed on time.

Archbishop Gregory will come in the morning and greet the attendees at the opening general session. At the breakout sessions, 22 of our teachers will be presenters, along with about 160 others from around the state. Please say a prayer for the success of the day and for dry weather!

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A few weeks ago in the late afternoon we had a football injury at practice that resulted in a 911 call. The young man is fine, but the drivers of the emergency vehicles were not. Due to the large number of cars parking along IBIS Drive (the horseshoe drive by the front of the school) the EMTs could not complete the turn through the drive. Not to my surprise, the next morning the fire marshal assigned to our school showed up. He knows us well and is in fact the same one who signed off on the fire code compliance when we opened in 2000. We had a nice conversation, but the bottom line is that we need to keep that driveway clear of parked cars.

Beginning the Monday after this hits the Web site, and e-News, we will begin putting reminder notices on cars that are parked in that area. Please do not leave a vehicle unattended there – drive into the parking lot if you need to come into the building.

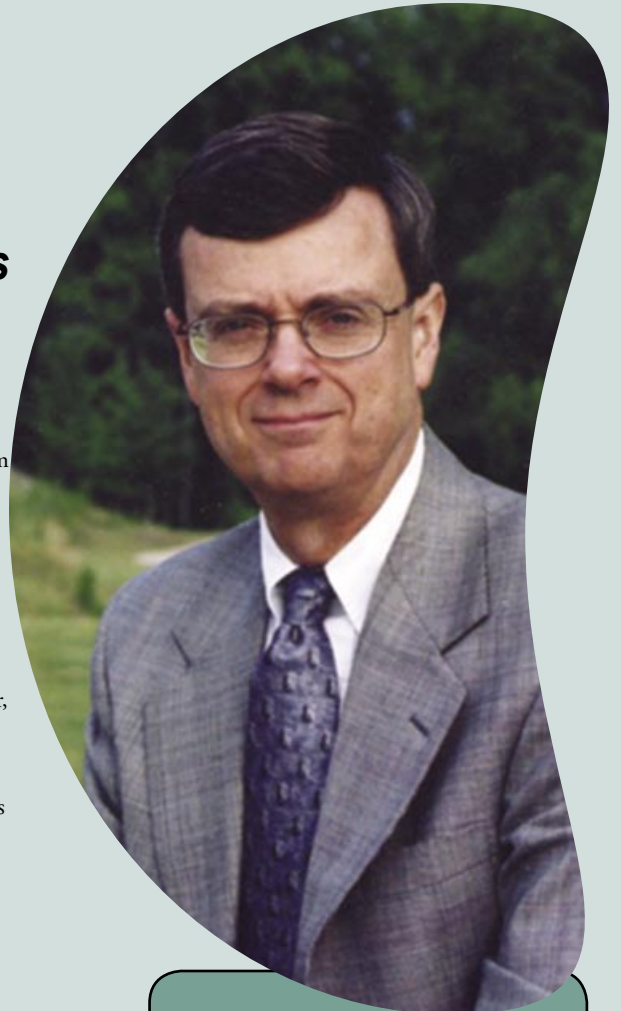
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Attention senior parents: Each graduate will receive seven (7) tickets for graduation. We do not use tickets for the Baccalaureate Mass, but we do ask that each family bring no more than four (4) to that event.

Sincerely in Christ,



Frank Moore
Principal



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Sophomore Caitlin Ryan prepares posters for the Mardi Gras fundraiser for those displaced by Hurricane Katrina

SCHOOL NEWS

French Club - Raises \$ for Katrina Victims

As its first club project of the year, French Club decided to do a service project to benefit victims of Hurricane Katrina. It was decided that an early Mardi Gras party would be an excellent way to raise money while having a great time.

On September 20, a small group of dedicated students managed to prepare enough food to invite the entire school to the party. They decorated the cafeteria in traditional Mardi Gras style and served food and drinks to everyone who came by. Students were asked to donate a minimum of \$3 to Hurricane Relief efforts; many generous students donated more. In the end, a total of \$429.17 was sent to the Red Cross.

Habitat for Humanity - November 12 (Please note time change)

It's Carnival Time at Blessed Trinity!

Blessed Trinity's Habitat for Humanity Chapter is holding a Harry Potter-themed carnival in the front of school, in anticipation of the release of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* on Saturday, November 12 from 10am until 4:30pm

BT's chapter will be sponsoring the fundraiser with the North Fulton High School build. The build is for Katrina evacuees who have relocated to the Roswell area. Please come and support this worthy cause; help us meet our high school chapter's pledge of \$8,000 by attending this family event!

There will be a movie screenings, numerous games and activities. Come spend some time in the "potions class," help overpower the bad guys in "Defeat the Basilisk", learn your fate in "Fortune Telling" and perfect your hurling skills with the "Moaning Myrtle Toss." Activities are geared toward elementary and middle school students.

Platform 9¾ (Blessed Trinity) will be open from 10:30am to 4pm for transportation to and from Gringotts Bank where admission and galleons (carnival tickets) will be sold. At Diagon Alley (cafeteria) there will be activities costing from 1-2 galleons such as Defeat the Basilisk (piñata), house selections by the Sorting Hat, the Triwizard Tournament and the chance to win prizes. Quidditch matches will be held on our Quidditch field (auxiliary gym) and we will be showing *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* at 12pm in the Great Hall (theater).

Kids, be sure to be dressed in your best Hogwarts attire or best impression of a character from the Harry Potter series. Prizes will be awarded to the best costumes of the night. No costume? No worries! Dressing up is not required for entry, you can be dressed as a Muggle and still enjoy the fun to be had at Diagon Alley.

Medication Policy

Just a reminder concerning the medication policy at Blessed Trinity. Students are allowed to carry small amounts of over-the-counter medication such as Tylenol, Advil or Midol. This medication must be in the original container clearly marked with the name of the medication on it. This medication is only for your students use and they are not allowed to share it with another student.

We do not dispense any over-the-counter medication to students unless they have provided us with medication to keep in the clinic. Any prescription medication should be brought to the clinic, and a form filled out by the parent giving us directions on how the medication needs to be given. Any medication left at the end of the year will need to be picked up. Please contact the school nurses if your child is taking any medications and they will be happy to work with you.

Sandra Hickey RN Shickey@btatholic.org
Lorri Byrnes RN Lbyrnes@btatholic.org
678-277-9083 ext522

Senior Ads for Yearbook

Attention Senior Parents - By now, all of you should have received information regarding senior ads for yearbook. The deadline to have submitted a senior ad was Monday, October 31. The yearbook staff, now busy developing the ad pages, thanks you for your participation.

If any senior student has not sat for senior portraits, he or she should do so as soon as possible. The deadline to have had senior portraits taken was Monday, October 17. The deadline to have selected a pose was Tuesday, October 25. To contact LifeTouch for any reason related to senior portraits, please call 678.554.2134.

BT Mom's Group

Join in the fun and get into the holiday spirit with the BT Mom's Group! Come and see some ideas for the holidays. Our speaker will

be Maureen Penniman proprietor of Catered Tastes. The BT Mom's group will meet on Wednesday, November 9 at 7pm in the Media Center (library). Please join us and get some holiday ideas brewing early this year.

Feeling Scary This Fall?

The *Panorama* is currently seeking entries for the Mystery, Fantasy, and Sci-fi Stories, Poetry and Art Contest.

Send us your fanciful, scary, and mysterious entries by November 16 in order to be in the running for some secret and mysterious prizes as well as possible publication in this year's *Panorama* magazine.

Turn-in all entries to Mrs. Mueller, Mrs. Englert, or your English teacher by November 16.

Business Office - Financial Aid 2006-2007

Financial aid for the 2006-2007 school year will be processed by FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment service. Any family wanting to apply for financial aid will need to fill out an on-line application.

Financial aid is a need-based program. All students awarded financial aid must complete work study during school. Financial aid must be applied for every year – it does not carry over from school year to school year. Please note this is a different service than most of the elementary schools use. If you have students at both schools you will need to fill out the application for their school in addition to ours.

The on-line application will be available starting on December 1, 2005. The deadline for submitting your application is Monday, February 27, 2006.

Here is some important information you will need to complete your application:

- The web address for the on-line application is www.factstuitionaid.com. Click on the applicant sign-in button and follow the step by step instructions.
- You will need copies of your 2004 or 2005 IRS federal income tax return 1040 or 1040A (2 pages), including all supporting tax schedules (Schedule C, E, F). (State income tax returns are not required.)
- You will need copies of your 2005 W-2 and/or 1099 forms for both you and your spouse.
- Under the Student and School Information section please make sure you enter ALL students attending a private primary or secondary school, not just those attending Blessed Trinity. (College expenses are listed in another section.)
- Payment of your \$20 application fee.
- If you have any questions regarding the application you may reach FACTS at 1.866.315.9262.

**Please note that no application will be considered complete and no aid will be awarded until your tax return has been verified by FACTS.

All award letters will be mailed on March 31, 2006. If you have any additional questions please contact Monica Chambers, Business Manager, at 678.277.9083 x526.

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Career Day - Help Wanted

Home & School needs help with Career Day. It will be held on March 21, 2006. If you are interested in helping organize this valuable program, or have any questions, please call Kathy O'Dwyer @ 770.591.7762.

Student Life Committee

Home and School's Student Life committee is putting the "S" in school spirit and social events. The Student Life committee, along with many, many parent volunteers, is designed to assist Blessed Trinity faculty, administration and students in social and extra curricular activities. The goal of the committee is to help parent volunteers build a sense of community at Blessed Trinity and encourage school spirit, especially at school social events.

Freshman Dance - It has been a busy fall for Student Life. The Freshman Dance was well attended on September 10, with many freshman parents behind the scenes decorating the gym for their son or daughter's first official BT social.

Homecoming 2005 - Student Council selected the theme "New York, New York" for Homecoming 2005. The Student Life committee got busy trying to replicate New York's skyline for the Homecoming Dance on October 15. Over a hundred parent volunteers built, painted and created New York, complete with a subway tunnel, the day before and day of the dance. The at-capacity gym filled with Blessed Trinity students almost made it seem like Times Square. Student Life Chairs would like to thank all the parent volunteers, especially those that came in at 11pm to break down the decorations.

Flags, Banners and Signs - In addition to dance decorations for Homecoming, another group of parents were busy ordering large spirit flags in gold and green. The flags were displayed for Homecoming and were proudly placed on the bleachers near the football field. These new flags will be used for any event where Blessed Trinity wants to display its colors and spirit. Look for more BT banners and signs in the future.

Project Graduation - Lastly, Project Graduation 2006 is underway with the selection of two new Chairpersons. The Chairs for Project Grad are junior parents Mary Irrgang (terryirrgang@aol.com) and Donna Dierkes (treadhead2@comcast.net). Project Graduation is

the senior all night party at the Roswell Rec Center that Junior Class parents' sponsor. Project Graduation is in its 4th year and becoming a not-to-be-missed graduation night tradition. If you are a junior parent and are interested in volunteering, please contact the Chairpersons listed above. There will be more on this event later in the year. If you see Lisa Sherrill and Ann Valentino on campus, please thank them for heading up Project Graduation last year.

Students aren't the only one's having fun - Anyone interested in sharing their time and talent to Student Life can contact Chairperson Diane Spraley (spraleyd@bellsouth.net) or Angie Bonadio (abonadio@tir.com). Everyone is encouraged to help enhance and build our school spirit.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Mother's Retreat

Please join us for a special day of prayer, reflection and sharing for all Blessed Trinity moms. This year's retreat will be held on Saturday, November 12, from 8:30am to 2:30pm. Our theme this year will be "Celebrate being a woman of God, by becoming a beacon of his love."

Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and the opportunity for Reconciliation will be included in the program. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served; a \$15 donation is suggested. Further details will be sent home. Please feel free to invite a friend. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Aquino at 770.346.0532.

Spiritual Life Committee

If you would like to stay updated on the happenings in the school's Spiritual Life Committee please visit the organization's Web page here.

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration is held every Wednesday from 7:45am - 2:45pm in the school Chapel. Come spend an hour with our Lord. For additional information, please contact Eileen Homire at EEH001@aol.com.

BT Mom's Catholic Bible Study

This is a monthly Bible study. We are studying Courageous Virtues: A Bible Study on Moral Excellence for Women by Stacy Mitch. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 9-11am in the conference room next to the Chapel. For additional information, please contact Eileen Homire at EEH001@aol.com.

BT Mom's Catholic Book Club

This is a monthly book club. We meet the 4th Tuesday of every month from 9-11am in the conference room next to the Chapel. Our November book selection will be Meet Edith Stein by Cynthia Cavnar. (We will be meeting on November 29 which is the 5th Tuesday in November due to Thanksgiving.) For additional information, please contact Eileen Homire at EEH001@aol.com.

Prayer Requests Welcome!

Volunteer members of the Prayer Chain pray for all BT students, teachers and staff, parents and families. Prayer requests are sent weekly via e-mail. To submit an intention or join the prayer chain please contact Kathy Bryan at btprayers@earthlink.net or 770.565.3613.

ATHLETICS

Banquet Dates

November 20, 6:30pm - volleyball, cross country, softball

December 4, 6:30pm - football, football cheerleading, competitive cheerleading

Junior Titan Wrestling

The Junior Titan Wrestling team has started practices. The Junior Titans practice every Monday and Thursday 6:30 - 8pm. If you would like your son (6th - 8th grade) to go out for wrestling team, please contact Coach Parker, head coach of the Junior Titan Wrestling Program, via e-mail at btwrestlingclub@yahoo.com.

In the Swim of Things



The United States Swimming Association has notified senior Caitie Curran that she has been selected as a 2004-2005 Scholastic All American.

The selection is calculated based on GPA and final times and placement at the US Sectional meet (which she had to have at least 3 sectional cuts in 3 different strokes) held earlier this spring in North Carolina.

Caitie's incredible accomplishment comes after much sacrifice: 4:30am practices three times per week, as well as an additional 3-hour afternoon practice six times per week.

Look for Caitlin's official All-American certificate and plaque to be displayed in the school's trophy case.

Varsity Basketball

The boys' and girls' varsity basketball teams open the 2005-2006 season at home with a non-region game against rival Pace Academy on Friday, November 18. Tip-off for the girls' team is at 5:30pm followed by the boys' at 7pm.

Blessed Trinity Baseball News Feeder Team Baseball Tryouts

Friday, November 11 from 4:30 - 6pm
Saturday, November, 12 from 11am - 1pm
Contact Coach Andy Harlin if you have any questions at aharlin@btcatholic.org

North Metro Miracle League

The Blessed Trinity varsity baseball team has been volunteering at the North Metro Miracle League. It has been a great experience, and if you would like to come out and see a game, visit the league Web site at www.nmml.net for a complete schedule.

Alumni News

Mike Lobacz, '05, hit a game-winning homerun in a game during his fall baseball season at Young Harris.

FINE ARTS

November will be a busy month for the Blessed Trinity Fine Arts Program as they host both the annual Georgia Regional One Act Play Competition and the annual Fall Arts Festival.

One-Act Competition - November 3rd

After only two years of participating in the competition, Blessed Trinity will be hosting local school theatrical groups in Georgia's Regional One-Act Play Competition on November 3 at 9am.

As newcomers to the event, playing host is a real "feather in the cap" for our school. With an impressive performance in 2004, Blessed Trinity placed 3rd overall with their one-act production of *Assembly Line*. It was a performance of distinction by a talented and spirited ensemble of actors led by students Amanda Rowell and Robby Glade who earned individual achievement awards.

The Georgia Regional One-Act Play Competition is an annual event which challenges competing schools to perform a complete one-act play where students are required to set, perform, and breakdown the production within a 55-minute block of time. Success of a production can be attributed not just to the level of acting talent, but also to the support of an incomparable technical crew and the ability of the whole group to work as a team.

This year Blessed Trinity Theatrical Alliance will perform the play *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* by Steve Martin. The play depicts a mythical meeting between Picasso, Einstein, and Elvis and promises to be a fun and entertaining event for audiences of all ages.

When asked about the group's preparation for the competition, Director Allan Dodson commented, "I try not to concentrate on winning or losing when we approach the competition. There are too many things that can't be controlled. I try to get the cast and crew to focus on presenting the best play possible and letting the chips fall where they may. It's tough, because they want to win. Who wouldn't?"

The competition will begin at 9am with productions continuing throughout the morning. Admission is free to the public.

Fine Arts Festival - November 19

On Saturday, November 19 at 7:30pm the Fine Arts Association hosts its biggest production of the year with the annual Fine Arts Festival.



The festival will include featured selections by the school's band, chorus, dance, and drama; as well as an opportunity to view student works in the visual arts gallery.

Tickets for the Festival are free for students and \$5.00 for the general public. You may purchase tickets at the school on the Thursday and Friday prior to the event during lunch or after school, or at the door one hour before the performance. Join us for an evening of fun with the arts as we celebrate our student achievements!

Parent volunteers are needed at both events to assist with ticket sales, concessions, and membership sales. Please contact Diane Rowell at drowell@us.ibm.com if you are able to lend a hand.

FAA

The BT Fine Arts Association will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, November 2 in the art room. All parents of students

involved with the arts are welcome to attend. Can't be an active member of the association? Consider supporting the fine arts program by registering as a patron. To find out more information and the registration form go to the Fine Arts link on the BT Web page.

GUIDANCE

Junior Parent Night - November 10

This year's Junior Parent Night will be held in the school's theater at 7pm on November 10. All juniors and their parents are required to attend. Juniors and their families will be receiving a packet which will include their Naviance password, social security confirmation forms, college planner and financial aid information. The Deans of Admission from Rhodes College and Emory University will be speaking about the admissions process.

College Application - November 16

All seniors' college applications are due to the Guidance Office.

Financial Aid Night - January 11

Financial Aid Night with Mr. Calvin King from the Georgia Student Finance Commission will take place at 7pm in the BT Theater. Senior parents should plan to attend this session which will cover all forms of financial assistance and the HOPE Scholarship.

Junior Guidance Parent Night - Jan. 24 & 26

Parents with an 11th grade student are asked to pick one of these evenings to attend an informational session regarding Blessed Trinity's college application process. Topics will include: SAT/ACT, college visits, deadlines, application procedures, and scholarship sources. Junior Guidance Parent Night will be held in the theater at 7pm on each night.

MEDIA CENTER

"New and Noteworthy"

Check Out the "New and Noteworthy" page on the Media Center section of the BT Web site to discover the latest additions to the book collection.

WRITING CENTER

Need Writing Help?

Do you need to brush up on your basic writing skills this semester? Are you anxious about the new writing section on the SAT? Come join us this month in The Learning and Writing Center for help! Below is a list of the upcoming seminars for November. Sign-up sheets are located on the door of The Learning and Writing Center (Rm. 611) or call Jeanine Englert at ext. 560 for more details.

November 2

More Strategies and Practice Questions for the New SAT Writing Section

From 3:00-4:00pm

*This seminar will continue to practice and guide students through the writing section of the SAT.

November 16

Capitalization: Common Mistakes and Special Rules

From 3:00-4:00pm

*This seminar will discuss the special rules of capitalization as well the most common capitalization mistakes.

GOLD MEDAL WINNERS



(Left to right) David Rutz, Ryann Kopacka, Liam Bracken, Christine Romero, William "David" Ward, Craig Spandau, Mary Burnsed, Sean Dolan, Bailey O'Sullivan, Michael Bryan, and Patricia McGrath (not pictured)

Commended Students

Eleven of Blessed Trinity's seniors have been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program as Commended Students. Commended Student status means that the student scored above the 96th percentile of college-bound juniors who took the PSAT/NMSQT. BT's Commended Students are Liam Bracken, Michael Bryan, Mary

Burnsed, Sean Dolan, Ryann Kopacka, Patricia McGrath, Bailey O’Sullivan, Christine Romero, David Rutz, Craig Spandau and William “David” Ward.

The Commended Student designation allows these students to become candidates for special scholarships offered by corporate sponsors and they will be contacted by NMSC in December.

Colleen Curran “Shares the Dream”

In hopes of winning a Coca-Cola Share the Dream Essay Contest scholarship, junior Colleen Curran was asked to submit a letter written to the leaders of major modern nations addressing world peace.



“I wrote about my experience at the Illuminated Fountain at Barcelona,” said Colleen, “and how the entire production made me think of world peace in the simplest terms.”

Colleen came in third place and was awarded a \$1,000 college scholarship. “Writing has always been a great hobby for me, and this scholarship just proved to me that if you really work at something, good will come from it.”

Eagle Scout Status

Senior Joe Frye has earned Eagle Scout status, the highest ranking in Boy Scouts. This award is a performance-based accomplishment only four percent of all Boy Scouts achieve.

According to Eagle Scout guidelines, a Boy Scout must plan and fund a project to help their community and also must fill requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills.

Joe’s Eagle project was the construction of an outdoor classroom and nature appreciation area for the



pre-school at his parish, St. Michael the Archangel, in Woodstock. Congratulations, Joe.



Heisman Award Nominees

Seniors Ryann Kopacka and Mason Gordon have been nominated as BT’s Wendy’s High School Heisman Award winners. The award honors a female and male student who has excelled in academics, athletics, and community service.

In the eleven years since the award was founded, more than 125,000 high school seniors have been nominated. The award is a partnership between Wendy’s, the Heisman Memorial Trust and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

In academic pursuits, both Ryann and Mason are members of Blessed Trinity’s National Honor Society and are the recipients of the Georgia Certificate of Merit. Ryann was selected last year for Georgia’s Governor’s Honors Program in Mathematics and is a National Merit Commended Student.

In the athletic arena, Mason is a cornerback on BT’s football team, was named the Gatorade Rookie of the Year last year, named a member of the All-County Academic Football Team and played for the Titan’s varsity baseball team. Ryann swims year-round for three teams, including the BT varsity team and Swim Atlanta, has been a Georgia All-Star swimmer three years in a row and was named Georgia All-State Honorable Mention.