

Geibel Catholic's

GATOR BLAST

December 17, 2015

Year 5 Issue 13

Christmas at Geibel Catholic

A Celebration of the Birth of Jesus Christ

The spiritual significance of the birth of Jesus Christ clearly is the reason that the world has and continues to celebrate Christmas. We will celebrate our Christmas mass as a school on Tuesday, December 22, a half day which requires formal attire on the part of our student body and school staff. Our annual student body Christmas celebration will take place following mass in our school cafeteria. Our 9 am mass is open to all Geibel families.

We are also raising money for Catholic Charities in several ways in these days before Christmas. Please participate in our traditional Christmas trees raffle; tickets are on sale via Mrs. Haky in the main office, tickets are \$1.00 each or 15 for \$10. This two-week period of fundraising for Catholic Charities has been part of the Geibel Catholic Christmas celebrations for 25 years.

So from the faculty and staff at Geibel Catholic, we wish all of our families a Blessed and Merry Christmas. As one religious advertisement reads, "the most important thing about Christmas is the first six letters."

Gator Blasts will return in January.

Merry Christmas!

Religion and Science

Pope Benedict XVI said that there is a positive relationship between science and faith; to quote this Pope, "Scientists can through their vocation to study nature, follow an authentic and absorbing path of sanctity." His words echo long-held Christian beliefs. St. Paul said "the invisible things of God have been clearly seen by the mind's understanding of created things." St. Bonaventure held that God Himself can be found in the study of nature.

(Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame)

As a Catholic high school we are proud of our science courses and often make connections between science and religion. In fact, we find an incredible harmony in the teaching of religion and science in the same building to the same students. The deeper that we travel into the realms of science the deeper our appreciation becomes for the power of our Creator, the Lord Himself. So in your Christmas conversations at parties or with guests in your home, do not hesitate to explain that your child's Catholic high school has an outstanding science curriculum that builds on the teachings of our Catholic faith

We are so proud of the three young ladies who were selected to receive the following math and science awards:

Seton Hill University Women in Science Award

Abbey Sitko – won for Biology

Maggie Ewing – won for Math

Julie Wachtel – won for Chemistry

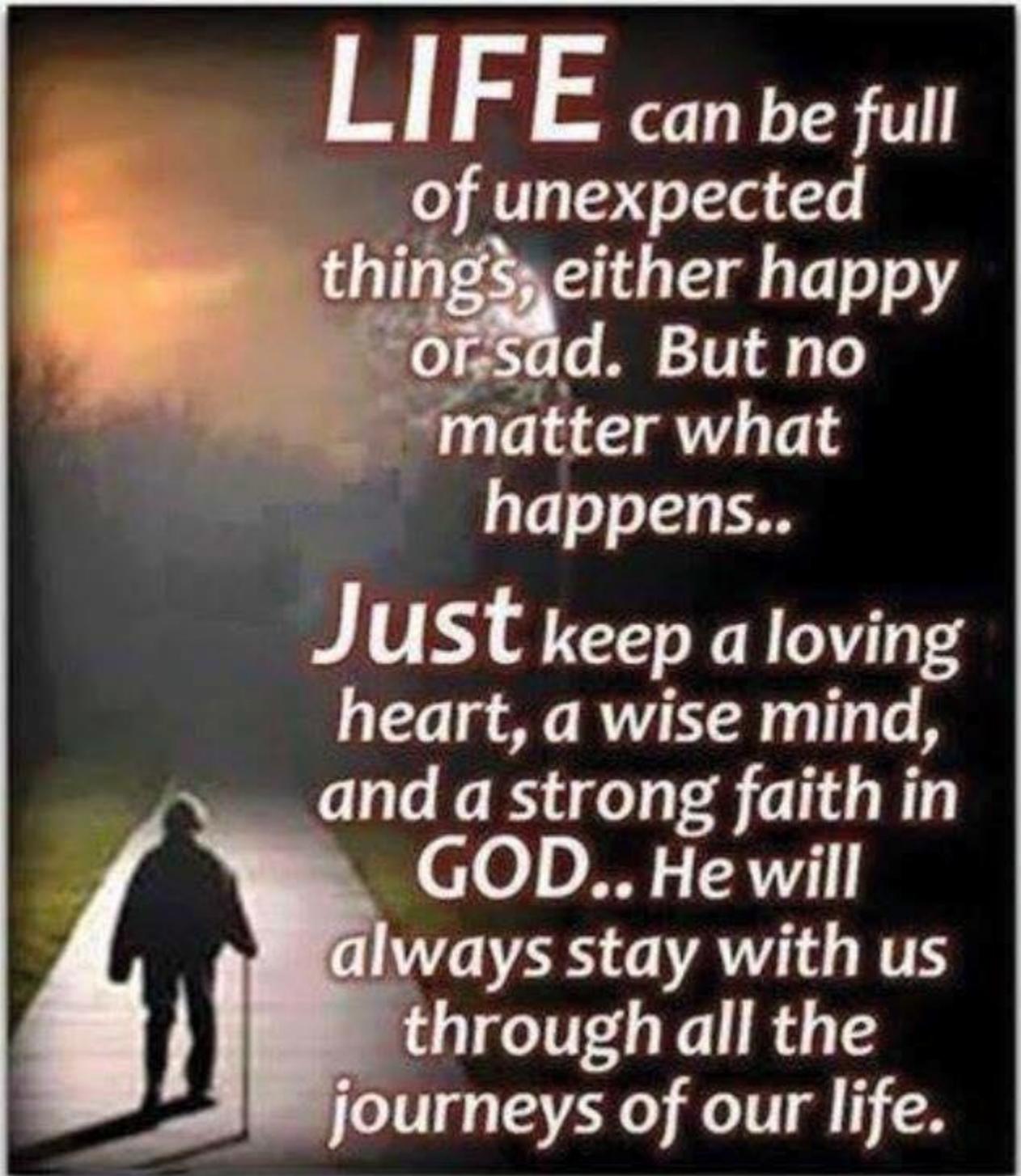
These girls were chosen by their math and science teachers on the basis of their high averages in these subjects and their interest in pursuing a career in math or science. They will be awarded a plaque and will have scholarship opportunities to attend Seton Hill University.

It's Called a Life Lesson **Student Resilience so very Impressive**

Fellowship and friendship generally abound during the Christmas season, but at Geibel Catholic it is alive and well all year long. Geibel students support one another and often share a friendly competition with one another win or lose. If they do lose and suffer a disappointment, they bounce back so quickly. Examples: Not every girl gets voted onto the homecoming court and only one girl is elected the homecoming queen, but in the end they support one another regardless. Each December dozens of talented Geibel students audition for the major roles in our spring musical, but when the parts are announced by Mr. Bell, the ones that do not get major parts put their disappointment aside and work together to create a high quality performance. Not everyone who goes out for a varsity sport makes the team or if they do, not all dress for the varsity. Even so, players compete at every practice and some get elevated to varsity status late into the season or must wait till next year. Nonetheless, students who did not make the team still attend games and support their classmates on the field or the floor. Players who do not dress for varsity games cheer their varsity teammates from start to finish.

Whatever the case might be, the kids at Geibel stick together. Their positive attitude is so refreshing to see in our "me-me-me" culture. Learning to deal with disappointment-even failure-as a teenager is important. Showing resilience by staying positive instead of whining and complaining is such an important character trait to develop during one's high school years. Our students are setting a great example for all of us.

As the principal at Geibel Catholic I find the students here so very special in many ways, but their ability to work together successfully regardless of who is team captain, who gets the most playing time, who wins the major roles in our plays, or who is chosen for the solo singing parts in our performing arts programs is a beautiful thing to see. The strength of character to put disappointment aside and contribute in all the other ways that they can will continue to serve our students in this thing we call life after high school. Go Gators!



Reminder to Parents

Please remember that lunch will not be served on Tuesday, December 22. There is an 11 am dismissal on that day. Also families are invited to attend our 9 am mass on this day.

Student Accident Insurance

One of the benefits for our students and families is the student accident insurance which supplements parents' insurance for certain covered expenses related to an accident. This insurance is in effect during the hours and days when school is in session, and while attending school sponsored and supervised activities.

This insurance provides payment of covered, medical necessary expenses, incurred for treatment of injury, caused by a covered accident up to a maximum limit of \$6,000,000 incurred within ten (10) years. The coverage is excess over any other collectible insurance plans. Written notice of a claim must be given to the insurance company within 90 days of the accident. The first medical expense must be incurred within 90 days following the accident.

We strive to provide a safe environment for our students; but, unfortunately, accidents do occur. If you need to report and injury to request reimbursement through this program, please follow the steps below:

- In the event of an accident, notify the school immediately.
- The school will complete and sign Part 1 of the Loss Reporting form, and then forward this form to the parents of the injured student. The Loss Reporting form provides additional reporting instructions.
- The parents will complete and sign Part 2 of the Loss Reporting form in full, remembering to include the name and mailing address of both parents' employers, as well as other information regarding the parents' insurance.
- The claim form must be submitted within 90 days from the date of the injury. It is not necessary to wait for bills to be received to send in a claim form on a particular accident.

24-Hour Accident Plan

Parents also have the option to purchase 24-Hour Accident coverage to extend the school time accident protection to a full 24 hours a day plan that provides the same benefits against accidents that occur anytime. Parents can enroll students online at www.BollingerSchools.com or complete the attached enrollment form and mail it along with payment. The annual cost of enrollment is

\$88.00. Under the 24-Hour Plan, benefits are payable for expenses incurred up to a \$500,000 maximum. If you would like additional information regarding Student Accident Insurance, please contact the school.

Help Geibel While Shopping on Amazon

(4th printing)

Geibel Catholic can earn 0.5% of eligible purchases made online via *Amazon Smile*. Parents and Geibel alumni and friends can use the link on Geibel's homepage to register for Amazon Smile and in this way support Geibel Catholic. Go to geibelcatholic.org and look on the right side of the home page for the *Amazon Smile* bar.

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please call the principal at 724-331-8840.**
