

FAW News
October 1, 2023

Dear Father Andrew White School Families,

Happy Feast Day of St. Therese of Lisieux who taught us "*What matters in life is not great deeds, but great love.*" May our love for God and others continue to grow!

This Friday, September 29, was our annual FAW Golf Tournament. We appreciate your support of our school! Thank you to Mrs. Katie Bailey and our HSA for all of their hard work to make this a successful event!

MAP Growth testing has been completed. Teachers are using this data to form instructional groups for our K-5 students. More information will be forthcoming about a special program that our teachers have created to assist in the reading growth for our K-5 students.

Teachers participated in Professional Development of Kagan Cooperative Learning Strategies on Monday! The staff loves to learn new ways to teach our students and they are already utilizing some of the strategies in their classroom. The teachers learned ways to review material, help students process information and give students opportunities to interact with each other, increasing their social skills.

I participated in *ALICE* training later in the week. *ALICE* is a national program that teaches skills needed in order to deal with any violent critical incident; VCR. Traditional lockdown is no longer recommended as an option for these situations. I will begin to train the teachers in these skills to increase the safety of all students and staff in our school. The teachers in turn, will begin training our students. We are thankful to the Archdiocese for providing this training for all of their school communities.

October is Respect Life Month. Pope Francis spoke out against abortion and physician assisted suicide earlier this week during a trip to Marseilles, France. He told reporters, "*You don't play with life, not at the beginning, and not at the end. You don't play with it.*" Let us continue to pray that all human life is respected by all in our nation and in our world.

Please remember to take your child to Mass today! We have many wonderful feast days to celebrate this week, including the Feast Day of St. Therese and St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4) who was responsible for the beautiful prayer, "*Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace...*" which we pray every Thursday afternoon with our FAW students.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Janet Szoch
Principal