



SENTINEL OF THE SAINTS



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What it Takes to be a Teacher

Dear Friends and Benefactors,
As we embark on the 30th anniversary of this precious academy, it is our intention to reflect on the qualities found in an educator. Children do not become saints and leaders of society by chance. There is a process through which the students must pass and there are instruments by which the students are forged into the pillars on which the future rests. These teachers are real, these teachers are rare, these teachers are remarkable!

A key point for any educator is that he must be an image of God, even more so than the average human. God is the prime analogue of all educators. Those who follow Him must imitate His qualities. An all-encompassing trait of God is that He dispenses goodness — being its source! The teacher is meant to share the goodness he possesses with the students by speaking the truth — whole and entire.

To give (truth) and not to count the cost (lack of appreciation) requires a strong character. The teacher must persevere in speaking the truth even without reciprocated benevolence. There are three qualities of a teacher — which are principally found in the

priestly ministry (as education is a priestly work — the lay and religious assistants are the extension of the priest): pray, prepare, administer. The last element is what we know as “teaching.” This action must be preceded by a prayer life and lesson plans — they are the fuel for the fire!

The readers of this newsletter are asked to continue their support of those in the vocation of teaching. All teachers (parents included) are reminded of the necessity to pray and prepare for the noble task at hand — forming heirs of Heaven! It is truly a calling — it is not a career! Generous men and women are forging the future — let us be grateful and amazed!

Under the guidance of St. Isaac Jogues,

Fr. Richard Boyle
Fr. Richard Boyle
Principal

“A teacher is more like a midwife — does not cause but facilitates life to come.”

- Socrates



Education is a transmission of a life not a material amount of doctrine. That is why it is stated that in a good teacher 15% is technical knowledge and 85% is social ability — to help communicate the known truth to the student. “The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.”¹ The teacher hopes to engage the mind in an endless pursuit of the true, the good, and beautiful which culminates in Heaven — where God abides for eternity.

We hope that by having educators with the required qualities and students receptive to such, the application of the knowledge given will blossom into the Catholic Action the world craves! *Leading souls to God is easy... as the grace of God permeates all things, yet there are many obstacles present which can inhibit growth.* The environment is crucially important. That is why at the Academy we have determined to renovate each classroom to a standard of beauty — in flooring, paint, cleanliness, artwork, and attitude. Over the years teachers have been asked to do a mission impossible...to teach in an old (looking) building — presenting precious treasure within the context of an atmosphere lacking in the beautiful. The time has come to alter that situation and support the staff in this practical manner.

The environment sought by the teacher in his personal life and presentation of material is one of order, harmony, beauty, peace, discipline, spirit of affirmation, wonder, and spiritual joy. These qualities are a work in progress for all educators — that is why a teacher never ceases to be a student! If this attitude is kept, the educator can continually bring forth life in souls struggling against the obstacles of the world because he has found ways to overcome those hurdles himself and shares the secrets with those under his charge!

¹ [How to Win Friends & Influence People](#) by Dale Carnegie

Thank you to our benefactors!



August 16th
Teachers Return for In-Service Days



August 29th
2022-2023 Academic Year Begins



September 8th-10th
Auriesville Pilgrimage



September 12th
Varsity Soccer Team begins a promising season with a victory against Bishop Ludden



September 14th
Blessing of Outdoor Stations of the Cross



September 15th
Jog-a-thon Kick-off
St. Philomena, help us!



ALUMNI NEWS



Summer 2022: Stephen Simmerer, Class of 2022, enters West Point Military Academy



June 11, 2022: Christopher Fullerton, Class of 2012, and Josefa Vearrier are united in Holy Matrimony



June 19, 2022: Rafael Rodriguez, Class of 2012, celebrates the baptism of his third child with his wife, Rose Marie



*Mater Dei mourns the loss of its first alumnus to enter eternity.
Requiescat in pace.*



September 3, 2022: Matthew Sullivan, Class of 2008, and Valerie Muntean are united in Holy Matrimony
September 9, 2022: Matthew Sullivan, Class of 2008, passes into eternity



*Are you an alumnus? Email alumni@materdei.academy to reconnect and share your news!
We like to hear from our SAINTS in the world!*