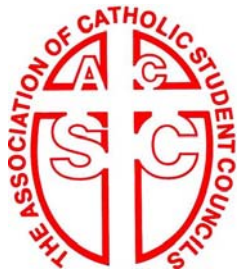


TACSC's *Monthly Menagerie of Ideas*



Growing Leaders Since 1982

October 2004

A monthly collection of LEADERSHIP activities...



THANK YOU for visiting TACSC's MONTHLY MENAGERIE OF IDEAS. Every month you will find more ways to boost leadership, morale and involvement at your school!

If you would like to submit an article for www.tacsc.org or for TACSC's Leadership Times, please email us at tacsc@tacsc.org. We want to hear what is happening at YOUR school!

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TACSC's Monthly Menagerie of Ideas

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The Association of Catholic Student Councils

WE GROW LEADERS™

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NEXT MONTH:

Officer In-Service: Treasurer Part I:

How to be a World-Class Treasurer - DON'T MISS IT!

Officer In-Service- Class Representative

Duties of a Class Representative:

- ◆ To serve and represent the student body
- ◆ To report back to their class about the student council meetings
- ◆ To receive feedback and ideas from the class to bring back to student council meetings.
- ◆ To serve on committees as a Reporter, Idea-getter, and Idea-sharer.
- ◆ To be a good communicator.

A student council representative represents the interests and feelings of the class in the student council's decision-making process.

The Representative Also:

- ◆ Records the official actions of the class to submit to the council, by obtaining and reporting the class decisions.
- ◆ Stimulates class interest and ideas with enthusiasm.



The Class Representative is an important council member, especially at the beginning of the year. They act as the voice of the school.

A great kick-off activity for all the class reps to sponsor could be a "Back to School Ice Cream Social." The Reps could host this event during or after school and all the students are invited.

The Reps could solicit a live survey asking the students what they liked about last year's activities and what different could be done for this year.

The Reps could then report back to the council and announce the results over the PA thanking the students for their presence and their opinions.

By showing the student body appreciation for their time and efforts, more students will be excited to come to the events and share their ideas!

What are some other ways the Class Representatives can get more students involved?

Email us at tacsc@tacsc.org with your ideas. We will publish them in a later month on the web site and give you credit for your great suggestions.

**For more information about
CLASS REPRESENTATIVES, visit www.tacsc.org and
order your TACSC TITLES today!**

Recognition Project - Opening Day Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



On the first day of school gather the children by class outside the main door of the school. Across the front door, tie ribbons or crepe paper in the school's colors.

When the student body has gathered to enter for the first day, the principal and student council president each give a short welcoming speech. Together, they then cut the ribbon to signify the opening of school.

Once inside, station members of the Student Council at each classroom with little gifts for each child to remember the beginning of the new school year such as an eraser, pencil, stickers prayer card or bookmark. Taken together, these two gestures provide a friendly "welcome back" for the incoming students.



Service Project - Rakes & Kids

Students learn responsibility and lend a hand to the elderly in the community with a "Rakes & Kids" project.

After all the necessary permission forms have been completed, students and as many parents as possible meet at the school on a Saturday morning.

The students are divided into teams, with each team having at least one adult chaperone/driver. The teams then go out to the homes of pre-selected elderly folks to rake leaves. The young people bring their own gloves, rakes and bags.

Refreshments can be supplied by local businesses. Then older folks in the community really love seeing the children and getting this extra needed help. To follow up the visit, students send cards and poetry to the senior at holiday times.

Each student also is awarded a certificate to remind them of this wonderful, giving experience!

Holiday Activity - All Saint's Day

If you feel you don't know much about many of the saints, this may be a good time to tell your kids a bit about Saint Patrick, Saint Valentine and Saint Nicholas (we celebrate holidays for both, but with the commercialization of many occasions children may not be aware of their history).



There is a lot of information and activities for Saint David (the patron saint of Wales) Saint Andrew (the first apostle of Jesus and patron saint of Scotland) and Saint John the Baptist This is a very good holiday to discuss or celebrate along with or instead of the typical Halloween festivities. Passing on the knowledge that All Hallows' Eve is about more than just collecting candy, can help make your children better people.

Discussing the lives of some of the Saints inspires us all towards better lives. When planning Halloween type celebrations for Sunday School, have the children dress up as a favorite Saint or character from the Bible. Each can tell a bit about the person they have chosen.

You can also celebrate with some readings from the Bible, such as Matthew 5:1-12 History of All Saints' Day [The vigil of this feast is popularly called "Hallowe'en" or "Halloween".]

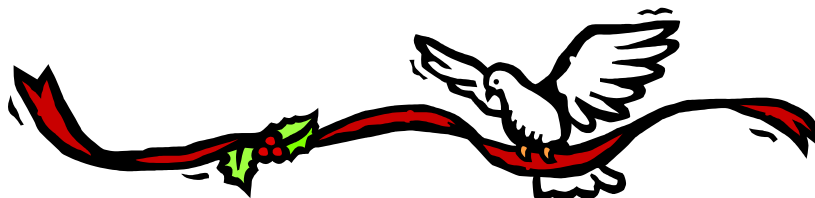
History of All Saint's Day

Celebrated on the first of November, All Saints' Day was instituted to honour all the Christian saints, known and unknown, and, according to Urban IV, to supply any deficiencies in the faithful's celebration of saints' feasts during the year.

Eastern churches celebrate it on the first day of Pentecost. The first All Saints' Day occurred on May 13, 609 (C.E.) when Pope Boniface IV accepted the Pantheon as a gift from the Emperor Phocas. Boniface dedicated it as the Church of Santa Maria Rotonda in honor of the Blessed Virgin and all martyrs.

At first only martyrs and St. John the Baptist were honoured by a special day. Other saints were added gradually, and increased in number when a regular process of canonization was established. Pope Gregory IV officially designated the day in 837.

From: <http://www.dltkids.com/crafts/halloween>



Prayer Service -

The Person Next to You

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

1. The person next to you is the greatest miracle and the greatest mystery at this moment, a testament of the Word made Flesh, of God's coming continually into the world, into our midst.
2. The person next to you is an inexhaustible reservoir of possibility, with potentialities that have been only partially touched off.
3. The person next to you is a unique universe of experience, seething with necessity and possibility, dread and desire, smiles and frowns, laughter and fears, fears and hopes, all struggling for expression.
4. The person next to you believes in something, something precious, stands for something, lives for something, waits for something, runs for something, runs toward something.
5. The person next to you has problems and fears, wonders how he or she is doing and often doesn't feel very good about it, is often undecided and disorganized, and painfully close to chaos; but endowed with a great toughness in the face of adversity able to survive the most unbelievable difficulties and persecutions.
6. The person next to you can do some things better than anyone else in the whole world. There is something this one life on earth means and cares for, but does the person dare speak it to you?
7. The person next to you can never be fully understood, is more than any description or explanation. That person can never be fully controlled, nor should be.
8. That person next to you is a mystery, as the Word Made Flesh is Christ and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Leader: So look around you, for Christ is here. Amen.

We Grow Leaders!



Thank you for visiting the **MENAGERIE OF IDEAS** at www.tacsc.org.

See you next month!