



THE INQUISITOR

IN THIS ISSUE

- Oktoberfest
- From The Editor
- Fatima
- Yours Truly, Julie
- Origin of Halloween
- Taking Mrs. Carroll's Class Home
- Pizza, Pepsi, Polaroid Party
- Columbus Day
- Cannonization of Paul VI
- Forensic Fun for Seton Seniors
- The Heart of Our School
- Seton Renovations: What's New?
- Field Trip Fun
- Discover the Saints
- Seton School and the Culture of Life
- Lead
- Cornerstone Club
- Sacred Life Club
- Creative Corner
- Tasty Tidbits

Oktoberfest

By: Bethany Johnson

Seton School's beloved German teacher, Mrs. Ruth McCaa, and her students have again produced an educational and immensely enjoyable annual Oktoberfest. This year it was held on Wednesday, October 17th. The festivities began with a traditional parade led by the "Burgermeister", played by Ben Ashton, grade 12. The "Bierwagn" was pulled by the horse, played by Dominic Hartung, grade 11. Attendees learned about the history of Germany's Oktoberfest from Colette Waldron, grade 12. The Oktoberfest originated in the year 1810 as the celebration of Prince Ludwig's marriage to Princess Therese on October 12th. The festivities lasted for five whole days. The main event was a horse race, but, in later years, more was added to the fun: beer, food, music, a carousel, swings, and an agricultural show. The fun continued as everyone learned about Augustine the clown, played by JP Moore, grade 10, who led a fun German song about his troubles. The students enjoyed playing

games in order to earn candy rewards; including guessing ingredients in a German potato salad, learning the German dance known as "das Hammer", and participating in a root beer drinking contest! Seton students and their family members were not the only ones who had fun at the Oktoberfest. Fr. Noah Morey from All Saints Parish was present as well. Dinner was also served, providing an opportunity to sample traditional German food items, including sausages, salad, sauerkraut, and strudels. "I have to say," said Rachel Harbour, grade 10, "my favorite part of the Oktoberfest was the food. It was delicious. I will definitely come again." The German students provided additional entertainment during the feast with song and dance. There was one more thing to do before everything was cleaned up and cleared away. Ellie Moore, grade 8, stood in the center of the circle of people that was formed in the middle of the John Paul II Center and led everyone in a "duck dance."



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Amanda Bishop

SPORTS EDITOR

Joe Dotson

COPY EDITORS

Sean Hilbert

Grace Vestermarck

FACULTY ADVISOR

Mrs. K

STAFF REPORTERS

Brooke Stidham

Kathleen O'Malley

Lauren Volk

Matthew Kelly

JP Moore

Reagan Kammerdeiner

Bethany Johnson

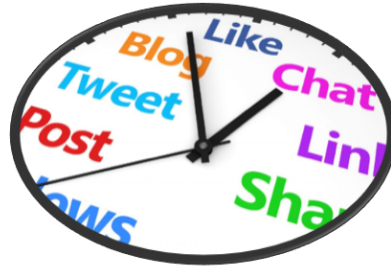
Lizzy H

Dominic Smith

FROM THE EDITOR By: Amanda Bishop

Social Media: A Blessing or a Curse?

Social media is very popular among young adults and teens. It runs rampant through high schools and colleges. From Snapchat, to Instagram, to Tinder and Twitter, social media is becoming a new way to interact with friends and family, but it comes with many pros and cons.



Social media is a great way to connect with friends and family but use it with caution because there are also negative consequences to social media use. We check phones before starting a paper or our math homework, then an hour or two has passed by without looking up from the screen. Media use drains time from our already busy lives as students. I recommend finding how much time you can safely spend using social media without having to cram homework in at the last minute.

(Note: For those of you with iPhones the new update includes a time tracker which tracks the average time you spend on your phone daily. This could be a great tool to help with time management.)

More than just our time can be affected by social media. Our self-esteem and anxiety levels are harmed without our realizing it. FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) is a new phenomenon in young people caused by jealousy of seeing other people's positive experiences on social media. This raises anxiety levels because as young people we do not want to miss out on exciting experiences. Though it might sound like a joke, FOMO can be harmful to your self-esteem and general outlook on life. Just remember that people only post the best parts of their lives on social media; struggles and hardships are generally not posted on our platforms.

Though there are a considerable number of negatives to social media the positives are important to consider. The U.S. military and

the Department of Veterans Affairs use social media platforms to raise awareness in suicide prevention and other public health information. This is a great way to reach out to those who are struggling.

The most prominent benefit is being able to contact people when they are far away, or when you are in a pinch. Social media also deserves a big thanks for giving me the ability to contact other students or teachers when I need homework help.



Social media is the way this generation communicates, but we must learn to use it properly. Before getting on your phone, think of the time that is lost through hours of liking, commenting, and retweeting. Many deeper problems can be caused by social media such as depression, FOMO, and high anxiety levels. There are also numerous benefits of social media including contacting important people and suicide prevention. Professionals in the area recommend taking frequent breaks or a social media cleanse will help with the negative affects of social media.

Sources:

"How Does Social Media Affect Teens?" Dove US, www.dove.com/us/en/dove-self-esteem-project/help-for-parents/talking-about-appearance/how-does-social-media-affect-teens.html?gclid=Cj0KCQjwl9zdBRDgARIsAL5Nyn1KkA7Rc0Cm9fD6m5GGsuzL-ob8DHTTa0tdjPLDnVZVkiBO-AE2YwEaArYdEALw_wcB&gclid=aw.ds

Zhukova, Anya. "7 Negative Effects of Social Media on People and Users." MakeUseOf, 16 May 2018, www.makeuseof.com/tag/negative-effects-social-media/

"20 Pros and Cons of Social Media Use." SUCCESS, 30 Nov. -1, www.success.com/20-pros-and-cons-of-social-media-use/

Fatima

By: Kathleen O'Malley

Last year was the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima to three shepherd children in Portugal. She appeared six times to Lucia and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta between May 13, 1917 and October 13, 1917. It is the most popular and well-known Marian apparition in the recent history of the Church (Catholic News Agency). When the Virgin Mary appeared to the children on May 13, 1917, she was described as "a lady dressed in white, shining brighter than the sun, giving out rays of clear and intense light". Our Lady promised to appear to the children on the 13th of each month and made many promises to the children of Fatima every time she appeared. She asked them to pray the rosary daily for an end to World War II and for world peace, and later revealed that the children would suffer tremendously and that Francisco and Jacinta would go to heaven soon. "By following this message their spiritual lives were elevated to the heights of sanctity, to which the beatification of Jacinta and Francisco testifies, and the hope and possibility of the conversion of the world from its ruinous course was offered to mankind" (EWTN). In the last apparition, Our Lady revealed herself as

The Lady of the Rosary to the faithful children. 70,000 people gathered to see the final miracle that Our Lady promised would occur on October 13, 1917. The sun danced and it was terrifying to all of the townspeople to witness, as they thought the end of the world was happening right before their eyes. This miracle lasted for ten minutes. Scientists have tried to find natural explanations for this miracle, but none have succeeded in explaining away this unreal occurrence.



Canonization of Paul VI

By: J.P. Moore

In 1978 Pope Paul VI released *Humanae Vitae*, and with it, he confirmed the right to life for all, even the unborn. But who was this man, this Pope? Giovanni Montini was born in northern Italy on September 6, 1897. He was the third son of a large Catholic family. When he reached adulthood, he entered the seminary, and in 1920 he was ordained. He then became the chaplain to the Federation of Italian Catholic University Students. After World War II, Italy was destroyed, and its people were lost because of despair or the evils of the socialist regime. But in 1954, he was named Bishop of Milan, and set about reconverting his flock. In 1958, he was named a cardinal and worked in Vatican II, and spoke for the continuation of the counsel after being appointed Pope. He constantly strove to reunite the Catholic Church with the schismatic Russian Orthodox Church. In 1968, he released the encyclical *Humanae Vitae* supporting the right to life, and showing Catholics the truth on birth control - that every life is sacred. He died August 6, 1978. The liturgy of his canonization date was not an accident. The first reading was from the Book of Wisdom, and spoke about how we should

come to love wisdom in all we do. In the Gospel, Jesus spoke on how we should leave behind all our comforts and follow him, showing what all vocations truly are, total giving of oneself to another and God. Due to his wisdom, Paul VI showed Christendom itself that we must let the children come to be, if they are to come to him.



Yours Truly, Julie

I'm having a hard time finding a homecoming dress, help! ~ Girl In Need

Dear Girl In Need, finding a modest, flattering homecoming dress these days is definitely a struggle that every girl at Seton goes through! Something I would advise you to do is think outside the box; Pinterest is a great place to go for ideas and inspiration. There are a few stores that a lot of girls go to, including Marshalls, Ross, Macy's, and many online shops as well. Skirts are also an amazing alternative to a dress because there are so many different options. Don't stress, you will look lovely no matter what you wear! Good luck with your dress shopping and have fun at The Enthronement Dance!

Yours Truly,
Julie

Is there such a thing as going "overboard" when asking a girl to homecoming? ~ A Confused Lad

Dear Confused Lad, I think a lot of guys feel like every girl wants a big ordeal when it comes to a boy asking her to a dance, but being a girl, I can assure you that many of us would prefer something more subtle. Do not feel pressured to make it a competition with other guys. If you do what makes you feel most comfortable, it will make the whole situation less awkward. I also want you to know that whomever you are thinking of going with, she would be happy with however you decide to ask her! I hope this helped and I wish you the best of luck in asking someone to the dance!

Yours Truly,
Julie

How do I get a homecoming date? ~ Single Pringle Girl

Dear Single Pringle Girl, I am here to assure you that you could have just as much fun at the dance without a date. You don't need a boy to go with you in order to have an amazing night! If someone asks you, that's great, but if not, that's okay too! So many people go with a group of friends and have a blast, so don't worry if you don't have a date. If you don't get asked, something fun I suggest to do is get a group together and go out for dinner. It gives you an amazing chance to relax and enjoy others' company before the dance, and you can always snag a few cute pictures while you're out! Please don't think that you need a date in order to have a good time because you can always make your own fun! Have an amazing time at The Enthronement Dance!

Yours Truly,
Julie

Taking Mrs. Carroll's Class Home

By: Brooke Stidham

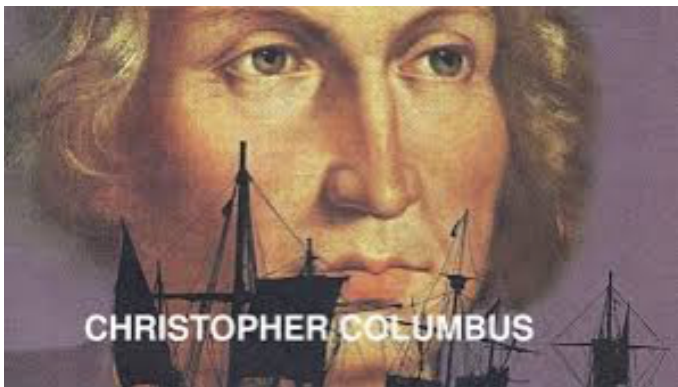
This year marks the inauguration of audio-recording Mrs. Carroll's two Religion 12 classes as well as her Religion 11 class, as suggested by Mrs. Montavon. The purpose of the recordings is allowing parents and home-school students to experience Mrs. Carroll's insight outside of the classroom. The recordings could also prove helpful to students who struggle with notetaking or who need to make up notes after a long absence. Mrs. Carroll acknowledges that the occasional tangents in her classes could be considered a bit of a nuisance to those who would use the recordings for the syllabus material, but she embraces these tangents, stating, "Sometimes the 'off the subject questions' produce some of the best discussions." When asked what she hopes regarding the legacy of her classes, Mrs. Carroll said, "I hope that my religion classes and indeed everything we teach and do at Seton will bring our students closer to God and help them to become instruments of the New Evangelization. I hope that they will grow intellectually in their Faith, but also grow ever more deeply in love with Our Lord. If some of what we do here can bear fruit beyond our classrooms, that is so much the better." The question of mass-production and distribution was raised, and Mrs. Carroll said she would be open to selling recordings of the classes to anyone who wished to buy them as a fundraiser for Seton. God willing, this initiative will make Mrs. Carroll's teachings more accessible to all who wish to grow in the Faith.



Columbus Day

By: J.P. Moore

In 1492, a set of three Spanish ships, under the guidance of an Italian sea captain, reached the Coastal Islands in the Caribbean and discovered a new world. Christopher Columbus was born the son of an Italian sea captain in the city of Genoa; as a young man he sought the sea, and journeyed across the Mediterranean. From his father and brother, he learned the arts of the sea, from astronomy, to good treatment of others, to faith in the Divine Will. Later he commanded his own vessel and learned the painful honors and horrors of leadership. While young he moved to Portugal and was wed. They had a son, but then his wife was lost to illness. Columbus was left a widowed



father, with a young son. He then sought meaning in his life, a reason to keep living. Knowing the common fact that the earth was round, but lacking the measurements or calculations to prove its size, he sought to bring a ship west, to reach the spice islands of the Philippines and China. At first, he went to the king of Portugal, who had the calculations of the world and believed any voyage west would end in certain death. He refused Columbus' idea. Columbus, now impoverished, went to seek the patronage of Spain. When he reached Spain, he was in complete destitution, and would have died had he not been taken in by a group of monks. They gave him and his son aid. The monks introduced him to the bishop of the court, who then convinced the monarchs to meet with him. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabel did not have the resources to offer; their war with the Muslims controlled their attention. After the Reconquista of Spain, they gave him three ships, the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria, and supplies for his voyage. Taking his son as a cabin boy, and any sailor foolish or desperate enough to sail the seemingly limitless

Atlantic Ocean, he set sail. For weeks they sailed through storm and gale. The crew threatened and then mutinied, but Columbus convinced them to sail for three more days. Night and day, he prayed, and almost miraculously, upon the third day a seagull landed upon the mast near dawn, and by night, land was sighted. August 3rd, the Year of our Lord 1492, he landed on a small island in the Caribbean, and claimed the land for Christendom and Spain. His story does not end well, however. His son died of disease, and he lived to see poverty once again before he joined his loved ones, yet his act of heroism is what gave us the knowledge of the new world. Some say he was only the fifth man to reach that enchanted shore, yet it is because of Columbus that we are who and where we are. He formed our country as surely as Washington, Lincoln, or any other great man. For even faced with great pain a man can fall and fail, or rise and soar.

Sources:

[Sean Hilbert's American History Notes.](#)

Origin of Halloween

By: Lizzy H.

Do you believe that ghosts appear on Halloween? Well, the ancient Celts did. The celebration of Halloween has been around for centuries now. It was originally a pagan celebration the ancient Celts would call Samhain. The Celts believed that the dead could walk, and would come to visit the living on the night of Samhain. "To commemorate the event, Druids built huge sacred bonfires, where the people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices to the Celtic deities. During the celebration, the Celts wore costumes, typically consisting of animal heads and skins, and attempted to tell each other's fortunes" (www.history.com).

They believed that the world of the living and the dead would merge, and the dead would come to visit their families. "Celtic people also thought that the presence of the otherworldly spirits made it easier for the Druids, or Celtic priests, to make predictions about the future" (www.history.com). The Celtic people, being pagan and not having a loving God to believe in, found that the predictions by the priest were the only things that they could believe and find comfort in during the cold winter. The tradition of dressing up or putting on a costume was also brought about by the Celts. In fear of what the spirits might do if a living person was recognized, the Celts would disguise themselves with animal skins. Not long after, in attempt to stop the superstitious beliefs, the day after Samhain, November 1st, was announced to be All Saints Day. Pope Gregory III said that November 1st would be a day to honor the saints. The pagans would celebrate their new



year on this day. "For the Celts, November 1st marked the end of summer, the harvest, and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death" (www.history.com). Once again, in attempt to be rid of false beliefs, November 2nd was nominated as All Souls Day. "All Souls Day was also celebrated similarly to Samhain, with big bonfires, parades, and dressing up in costumes as saints, angels and devils" (www.history.com). All Saints Day, which is prior to All Soul's Day was known as All-Hallows, and Samhain which was before All-Hallows was known as All-Hallows Eve and thus giving us the name Halloween. Throughout the centuries the celebration known as Halloween has added and taken away traditions. "Thus, a new American tradition was born, and has continued to grow. Today, Americans spend an estimated \$6 billion annually on Halloween, making it the country's second largest commercial holiday after Christmas" (www.history.com).

Pizza, Pepsi, Polaroid Party

By: Lauren Volk

Starting at a new school or even coming back for a new school year can be difficult and somewhat awkward. The Pizza, Pepsi, Polaroid Party is a very fun way to break the ice and meet the people you will probably be spending the next six years with! It is also a great start to the year because younger students get to interact with the older kids that they do not get to talk to as often! This year's party was a huge success and a great turnout. There were many exciting activities; for example, the annual scavenger hunt where the seventh and eighth graders ran all around the school and took pictures with random items like a fan or a silver car. They also played scattergories, dodgeball, and a game that required them to go around the school and find answers to questions on their piece of paper, while the upperclassmen tallied their scores. They finished the day by running around the Corpus Christi building while upperclassmen threw water balloons at them and sprayed them with silly string and squirt guns. Last,

but certainly not least, they ate lots of pizza and drank Pepsi! Ana Reyes, school president, said, "Everything ran smoothly and there was a lot of noise which I've learned is usually a sign that people are having fun!" The annual Pizza, Pepsi, Polaroid Party was a huge success as always and everyone is already looking forward to joining in on the fun next year!



Photo by Reagan Kammerdeiner

A Halloween Story: Jack O'Lantern

By: Dominic Smith

After a long day of unlucky hunting, I found myself stuck in the middle of the marshlands for the night, without a flashlight or a lantern to guide my stumbling steps. So I settled beside a fallen log to rest until daylight. As I tossed and turned, I recalled the story my great-uncle told me about a ghost that haunted the marshlands.

There was once a man named Jack who was a nasty fellow. He hurt his wife and kids and was an all-around bad chap. Jack got worse and worse as the years rolled by. But finally Jack's body got so worn out that he died. He went up to heaven, but Saint Peter refused to let such a wretched fellow in. Then he went to Hell, but the Devil barred the door as soon as he saw Jack coming and wouldn't let him in either. "Go away and don't come back," the Devil told Jack.

"How am I supposed to get back in the dark?" Jack grumbled. "Give me a lantern."

So the Devil threw a chunk of molten fire out to Jack, who took it for his lantern and went back to earth, where he wanders forever through the swamps and marshlands of the earth, a bitter spirit whose only delight was in luring the unwary to their doom with his lamp.

At this juncture in my musings, I happened to look out over the marshes and noticed a blinking light in the fog.

"Is that you, Jack O'Lantern?" I called jovially.

"Jack, (jack, jack)," a voice whispered back. I was seriously spooked. I clutched my gun to my chest, the hairs on my arms standing on end. Had that been an echo of my voice, or was someone out here with me?

"Who's there?" I shouted, trying to sound brave and menacing. I waved my gun around. "Show yourself at once."

"Jack, (jack, jack)" the voice hissed from a completely different section of the swamp. A light blinked on and then off. On and then off.

Shudders ran up my spine at the sound of that ghostly voice coming from nowhere. I huddled up against the log, wanting something firm at my back. Suddenly, the story of the Jack O'Lantern didn't seem so funny.

My heart was pounding so hard it made my chest hurt. I strained my ears in the silence that fell over the swamp.

"Jack, (jack, jack)" the voice hissed from somewhere to my left this time. The light blinked on, off, on... I counted ten heartbeats this time before it went off.

The voice sounded closer. I held very still, my instincts screaming at me to hold my breath and not move until the menace had passed. The voice came again, far off to the right. "Jack, (jack, jack)" it hissed. The light came on, off, on...off.

It's moving away, I thought, relaxing just a bit. Feeling safer. There was a long, long, long silence. Nothing stirred, not the wind in the

grass, not the frogs or turtles in the water, not the crickets or night insects.

"Jack, (jack, jack)" the voice hissed softly, right into my ear. And I looked up into the glowing red eyes and twisted face of the Jack O'Lantern.

I screamed, and lashed out at it with my gun. I ran a few steps, tripped and fell over, knocking my head on a sharp stone. For a moment I saw stars, and I felt blood dripping from my scalp. But the Jack O'Lantern was right behind me. I had to get away. I rolled and fell into a deep pool. I plunged underneath the water, flailing desperately against ropelike grasses that tried to keep me down. My head finally burst out of the water, and I gasped desperately for air, treading water as best I could with my trembling limbs and aching head. I heard the creature laugh in the mist.

"Jack, (jack, jack)" the voice hissed delightedly, and the light blinked on, off, on right over my head, blinding my dazed eyes as horror flowed through me and froze my limbs so I could no longer swim. For a long moment, the grotesque face and red eyes of the Jack O'Lantern loomed out of the mist before my petrified gaze.

My head started to swim with pain from my bleeding skull. The evil face above me, lit by its bright light, whirled around and around, growing dimmer as my eyes started to glaze. I was vaguely aware that I should keep swimming, keep trying to make my way to the edge of the pool, but the effort was too much for my suddenly heavy limbs. I barely noticed myself plunging down and down into the watery depths of the pool, too stunned by my injury to fight my way to the surface a second time. I deftly managed to summon up the last tiny bit of strength left in my weary body to pull myself to the surface and drag myself to the edge of the pond. I saw nothing and felt utterly exhausted.

Then there was only darkness, and silence, and a voice hissing in the cold night: "Jack, (jack, jack)." I lay still for what seemed like forever, until I finally felt strong and safe enough to try and stand up. Quickly, I made my way home wondering if what had all just happened was just a horrible figment of my overactive imagination. As I walked through the woods to find a suitable place to spend the night, I heard the noise again "Jack, (jack, jack)." It was right above me and struck fear into the very depths of my heart. Terrified I peered into the tree right above my head, and, to my utter surprise, saw a large bird calling through the forest to its mate: "Jack, (jack, jack)." Feeling so very foolish I sat on the ground and started to believe more and more that this whole incident was nothing more than my imagination and my eyes playing tricks on me. The only thing still gnawing at my brain was the mysterious light that had been blinking through the forest all night long....

An adaptation of: Schlosser, S.E. "Jack O'Lantern." How the Rainbow Was Made: From Native American Myths at Americanfolklore.net, americanfolklore.net/folklore/2011/07/jack_olantern.html. 10/9/18.

Forensic Fun For Seton Seniors

By: Amanda Bishop

The seniors at Seton High School went on an exciting field trip to the Prince William County Forensic Lab. It was a great opportunity for these students to see what they are learning in their ALS (Advanced Lab Science) class being used in real-life, crime-solving situations.



From left to right Gianna Gonzales, Chris Nguyen, Anna Gasser look on while Prince William County Officer, Eric Toto, explains how to lift fingerprints from paper.

The students had the chance to talk to police officers about how they go about solving crime using physical evidence. The officers explained that it is not just the forensic unit, cops, or detectives that solve the crime but everyone working together. Officer Eric Toto, of the Prince William County Police Department, explained, "Not one person is responsible for solving a crime. If you don't put in the team effort you're not going to win." This is striking because it shows that these officers are not as interested in getting credit for solving the case but, more importantly, getting criminals off the street.

In the lab the students were shown different rooms that focus on different tools to examine physical evidence at a crime scene. One room was dedicated to photography, and another focused on fingerprint and DNA analysis. It was amazing to see the numerous techniques used to get one single fingerprint from a piece of evidence. The officer used various chemicals, powders, or lasers to get an image of a fingerprint to Analysis and entered into their system.

One of the students, Alana Compton, commented, "I found it very informative because this is actually what I want to do." Many of the students were inspired to consider

forensic science as a career after seeing the effect that it has on the community, and how important it is to arresting criminals. Others were turned off by the gruesome details of the work. Ana Gasser said, "I enjoyed learning about how they solved the crimes but I would not want to do it because it's too scary." Though all the students appreciated the science behind forensics some would not want to take part in it, which is why the officers who do are so important. Not everyone is made for this type of work.

By exploring the lab and learning about forensic analysis the students gained a great deal of respect for our criminal justice system. It is hard to imagine how much behind-the-scenes work goes into keeping Prince William County safe. Meeting the officers responsible for solving crime and taking criminals off the streets gave the Seton School seniors a little glimpse into our local, real-world "Forensic Files".



Seniors have the opportunity to practice dusting for fingerprints on glass using various powders and brushes.

El Club De Español

By: Joe Dotson

The Spanish Club, supervised by Mrs. Martella, is one of the most popular clubs among the Seton High School student body. There are approximately thirty members in the Spanish Club. Out of these, the majority are mainly freshmen and sophomores. The president of the Spanish Club is Pamela Medina, the vice president is Paulina Prevoznik, and Mary Krynitsky is the treasurer. Meetings are held every Wednesday in Mrs. Martella's room, St. Joan of Arc, from 3:15 to 4:15 right after school.

The Spanish Club is a very fun and interactive way for students to learn about Spanish culture and society, and they do lots of games and activities to achieve that goal. In their meetings, they have made pinatas, and brought in various guest speakers. One of the speakers was a Mexican bakery shop owner who brought in Mexican bread and tasty drinks, which went over very well with the club members. They have also been watching the movie Coco, a story about a boy, whose name is Miguel, who aspires to be a great musician like his own favorite musician, Ernesto de la Cruz. Miguel ends up in the very bright and colorful "Land of the Dead", and embarks on a fantastic journey.

When asked what the best part about the Spanish Club was, treasurer Paulina Prevoznik said, "It is a great way to learn about Spanish culture without the stress and worry of homework and grades." Mary Krynitsky said, "It is a great way to unwind on Wednesdays, because there are not any varsity athletic practices that day, so it is a great way to relax, have fun, and learn more about Spanish Culture." So if you are not currently in the Spanish Club and are interested in joining, go and talk with Mrs. Martella or one of the officers of the club!

The Spanish Club also sells food every Thursday in Faustina for a very good price. They sell various Spanish and Mexican foods ranging from delicious nachos and taquitos, to chips and guacamole, the list goes on. Hope to see you at the next Spanish Club meeting! Buenos dias!

Halloween Dance

By: Matt Kelly

The first Seton dance of the year was the Halloween dance, and it certainly was a hit! Over a hundred high schoolers came together to have fun and dance together. The night started with a terrifying, guided tour of the Haunted House, with spooky characters that looked suspiciously like some fellow Seton students and teachers. Some dance goers came in individual costumes of all types such as Steve Jobs, Rey from Star Wars and Hannah Montana. Then there were group themes such as barn animals, pirates and Monsters Inc. The winner of the "Best Individual Costume" was 10th grader Evan Wilson, who came as Charlie Chaplin, complete with mustache. The "Best Group Costume" winners were Claire Witter, 9th grade and Maria McIntyre, Sarah Jackson, Marcie Van de Voorde and Reagan Kammerdeiner as Disney princesses. For the people who didn't care to dance, they could give The Limbo a try, or hang around the festive food table. Students danced and sang the night away to all their favorite Seton-approved songs. The night came to a glorious close with an enthusiastic and rousing rendition of "Sweet Caroline."



The Heart of Our School

By: Lauren Volk



The Seton chapel.



The chapel during the praise and worship holy hour.

The chapel is the heart of our school. It is a place where students, teachers, friends, and family can go to spend time with Jesus. Seton students are encouraged to visit whenever they have a chance because even a quick stop can completely change their day. "It is filled with so much love and humility. People go in there to humbly give of their joys and sufferings to God and to be comforted. You feel it as soon as you walk in." -Reagan Kammerdeiner, 11th grade. We all have rough days with trying to balance everything that goes on in our lives, and stopping by to talk to God about it can completely lift our mood. Student, Cristian Godeanu, 11th grade, says, "[It is] a place where one can let go of daily stress and just have a chat with God." He is waiting to talk to you and He wants you to come to Him. We are so fortunate to have Jesus right in our school, so why not spend time with Him?

The chapel is used by everyone in the school. Students get to go with their religion class once a week, along with visiting by themselves. Different classes do different things; for example, they say rosaries, sing, or pray in silence, it is really up to them. Another example of the chapel being used is by our teachers when they started

the school year by going to the chapel together to pray and listen to a talk. Some teachers say a rosary together every morning before the school day starts. The chapel is also used by our student athletes. They all visit and pray together before their games and before every season. Father Noah talks to them about sportsmanship, virtues, and the upcoming season. The chapel is also used outside of school hours when students and families have holy hours, masses. When the students come to the school for the Enthronement dance, it is decorated with flowers and holy images and students are encouraged to spend time with Jesus. At the end of a long week, the chapel is a great place to go, especially on Fridays after mass when the monstrance is exposed. On top of that, students Ana Reyes, Sarah Dewolf, Paulina Prevoznik, and Gianna Gonzalez have started a praise and worship holy hour twice a month on Saturday nights! There is always time in your busy day to go visit Him whether it be before school, during lunch or study hall, or after school. God is waiting for us to come visit Him, even for few minutes!

Seton Renovations: What's New?

By: Sean Hilbert

Not too long ago, Seton underwent a massive change when Our Lady Queen of the Angels Chapel was added. However, there have been other notable renovations in Seton's recent past. As usual, the gym floor has had its traditional yearly refurbishment. The new floor, as expected, looks sleek and impressive. If your schedule takes you to one of the science classrooms in the new building, you may have noticed that outside Patrick are pictures of significant Catholic contributors to the development of science. These pictures are of Father Gregor Mendel, the originator of modern genetics, and a significant contributor to the field of Biology; Sister Mary Kenneth Keller, a pioneer in the field of Computer Science; and Father Georges Lemaitre, the author of the Big Bang Theory. In addition, new scoreboards were installed in the Gym as well. Finally, the computers in Stein, the computer lab, are brand new!



Gregor Mendel



Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman with the 8th graders
at the Air and Space Museum

Field Trip Fun

By: Brooke Stidham

On October 10, while the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors were taking their PSATs, the junior high students went on their respective field trips. The 7th graders went to Luray Caverns with Mrs. McDonald to observe the effects of groundwater on rock, a topic they learn about in Earth Science. The weather was very pleasant, the rope obstacle course and maze were enjoyable, and the trip was a success. Mr. Hoffman took the 8th graders to the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. There, they learned about propellers and hands-on design. The trip was informative, offering a new perspective on the material covered in Physical Science.

Discover the Saints The Saint Stories You Never Knew

By: Reagan Kammerdeiner

St. Lidwina

St. Lidwina was a woman who understood great suffering and showed strength in surrendering herself to God. She was born in Schiedam, Holland on March 18, 1380 and was one of nine children. From a young age, Lidwina had a very strong devotion to The Blessed Mother. She spent much of her time praying to Mary in front of her town's shrine. One day, while Lidwina was praying, she heard a voice tell her that she would endure a pain that would define her life. Then, at the age of 15, while Lidwina was ice skating with her friends, she fell and broke a rib that never healed, spending the remaining 38 years of her life suffering severe physical difficulties. Due to her injury, she developed gangrene which gradually spread throughout her entire body and resulted in her being bedridden. Along with the sufferings Lidwina endured, she also experienced many visions of heaven, hell, purgatory, and Christ. Through her many years of agony, she never strayed from her faith and silently accepted the heavy cross God had placed upon her by offering up her hardships for the sins of humanity. Lidwina finally met Our Father in Heaven at the age of 53 on April 14, 1433 and was canonized by Pope Leo XIII on March 14, 1890. Lidwina is the patroness of sickness, the chronically ill, ice skaters, and the town of Schiedam; her feast day is April 14th.



Sources:

https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=232

Seton School and the Culture of Life By: Sean Hilbert

Many of us do not realize how truly blessed we are to be a part of this loving Catholic community, Seton School. People treat each other with respect, doors being held for others are nothing out of the ordinary, and Jesus is physically present in our school. But out there in "the world", things are much different. Many people we will encounter once we leave Seton have never known God, or are Christian in name, but not in behavior. We will have to be able to defend our beliefs to those who consider them foolish.

Therefore, it is of vital importance that we are taught at this school how to uphold the Culture of Life. Since our nation is surrounded by abortion and birth control propaganda, many who have never known God or were not properly instructed about the difference between right and wrong see nothing wrong with these actions. But we have been given a great gift in our Catholic faith, and are blessed with a school that upholds and champions the Magisterium.

Seton is dedicated to teaching us to respect the dignity of human life. None of us can graduate without giving a

pro-life speech. We have a day off school every January so the student body can attend the March for Life. We have a Sacred Life club, and countless students who champion the cause of life by praying outside of abortion clinics, and our music department frequently entertains the seniors at the nearby Quarry Station Senior Home. All these aspects of Seton are teaching us to defend the dignity of human life, enabling us to bring new respect for the unborn and the aged into a world that persecutes its weakest members. Each of us here at Seton has a responsibility to be grateful for these gifts God has given us, and to take full advantage of our opportunities to grow as God's future emissaries in a world that has largely forgotten him. In the words of Pope St. John Paul II, "America you are beautiful . . . and blessed The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless. If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then America, defend life."

LEAD

By: Matt Kelly

Franciscan LEAD is a five-day experience in the summer at the Franciscan University of Steubenville steeped in Catholic teachings on leadership, evangelization, and discipleship. LEAD comes from the life and witness of St. Francis of Assisi. Teens come together from different parishes and youth groups to grow in community and friendship. To foster discipleship, teens will learn about prayer, practical ways to pray and spend time in personal prayer every morning. Praise and worship are popular forms of group prayer during the week to foster hearts of worship and thanksgiving. Participants encounter Christ in daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and Confession. Throughout the week, they will learn more about the persons of the Trinity and the Blessed Mother and grow in deeper relationship with Father, Son and Spirit. Men's and women's sessions provide an opportunity for teens to grow in their identity as sons and daughters of the Lord in a smaller, more personal setting. To equip them for evangelization, teens will learn how to share their personal witness with others and will be given the opportunity to practice their witness in three minutes. They will also learn how to share their faith in the midst of the culture they live in by learning about various cultural trends that can negatively impact one's beliefs, such as relativism. Senior Ana Reyes said that she learned that "Jesus isn't just about preaching to others about Him," and that she learned that the best way to spread the Faith was through love. As the teens left the week, they were encouraged to go forth and serve with humility and love.



The Cornerstone Club

By: Dominic Smith

Cornerstone, a club for seventh through ninth graders, was recently started back up this year by a few members of the Seton School student body. It is a club centered around Faith, Friendship, and Fun. Cornerstone was originally started in 2014 by the older siblings of the current presidents of the club. Cornerstone is primarily focused on the younger members of the high school, but the upperclassmen get involved as well through their mentoring and leadership. The club is mainly focused on the seventh through ninth graders; however all are invited. The co-presidents of the club are as follows: Grace Vestermark, John Paul Vander Woude, Gabriella Miller, Dominic Smith, Sebastian O'Keefe, Annie Cuccinelli and Justin Fioramonti, who are all Seton students. As of right now there are three seniors and four juniors who oversee Cornerstone and efficiently work together, providing not only the fun and organization of the club, but also a great example of friendship and teamwork amongst themselves. Cornerstone meets periodically throughout the school year, most of the time within the school building, but will occasionally host something like a bonfire or other out of school gatherings. As president of the School, Ana Reyes, states about the club: "Cornerstone is an awesome way for the junior high kids not only to get to hang out with each other but also for upperclassmen to be able to mentor younger kids and to encourage others to grow in their relationship with Christ." Seventh graders Mick Fioramonti and Chris Sprinkle went on to say that it was a "good spiritual experience" and "the lessons we learned in Cornerstone stuck with us throughout the week." Some of the more specific events and activities provided at Cornerstone include eating great food, reading and talking about bible verses, listening to talks on friendship and honesty amongst other things, and playing games like ninja, musical chairs, and more. So far this year we have had one meeting which was a great experience for everyone, with many more to come. Cornerstone is a great club that we hope will continue to grow throughout the Seton community for many years to come.

The Sacred Life Club

By: Grace Vestermark

Life. What does it mean to you? Is it something that can be easily tossed away? Is it something that has little value or meaning? No. Life is sacred at all stages from conception to natural death. The beauty of being a creature granted life on earth with a soul infused perfectly by God is mind blowing. All humans have value, but sadly we are attacked by the constant worldly message that life does not matter. Babies are being aborted every day leaving millions dead and unable to have a say in the matter. Along with the horrible reality of abortion, laws are being passed allowing euthanasia around the world. Peoples' lives are being reduced to an existence. Their conception and ultimate presence are valueless to many people who disregard the intrinsic dignity and value of human life. This lie is being spread throughout the world through propaganda and the common dominating belief that everyone should put themselves first instead of caring about the people around them. Life is granted to us by God for a reason; it does have purpose and meaning. God Himself breathed life inside of each human being. Why would we ever want to desecrate that?

The Sacred Life Club, run by a small group of Seton students, promotes the dignity of human life at all of its stages. The club consists of five leaders: Gabriella Miller, Marcie Van de Voorde, Grace Vestermark, Madalyn Messier, and Katie Dealey. Madalyn Messier, a current Seton student on the council of The Sacred Life Club,

stated, "Be good examples to everyone of how to support life, especially with the unborn and the elderly." Our behavior in daily life can affect the culture of life; we need to exemplify Christ treating all with dignity and compassion. These Seton students will be holding events this year to uphold and spread the culture of life. All the money made through this club supports the pro-life cause. Some of the proceeds go to the Mother of Mercy Free Clinic, which has been an absolute blessing to the city of Manassas helping many women in crisis pregnancies. The Sacred Life Club hopes to spread the joy and the God given dignity of life through praying for the unborn outside of the abortion clinic and running pro-life events this school year. In years past, The Sacred Life club has arranged trips to pray outside the abortion clinic, and this year the club is going to try to make multiple trips. This school year, the club will be entering a pro-life poster contest, sponsored by the Youth Apostles, and all are welcome to enter their own poster. As a Seton student, if you want to do more to help fight for an end to euthanasia and abortion, know that your prayers can do so much! Reliance in God is the center of The Sacred Life Club. After all, He created each and everyone of us completely different from the next and God's creation is always good. Help fight for the pro-life cause! Get involved with the Sacred Life Club!

Tasty Tidbits

By: Grace Vestermark

Peterson's Ice Cream Depot – A Review



Peterson's Ice Cream Depot is located in Clifton, VA. There are many hard ice cream flavors to choose from, which can make deciding on one difficult, but it is worth it because the ice cream is fantastic. Some of the many flavors at Peterson's include chocolate drama, café, key lime pie, granny grunts (strawberry rhubarb), cookies and cream, cotton candy, and more! There is an incredible amount of shake flavors to choose from as well, so if you are indecisive, come prepared to make a decision. If you are looking for a family friendly place to stop by for some quality ice cream, Peterson's is the place. There are chalk walls to entertain little kids as they wait for their ice cream to be prepared. Their menu is so extensive that there are endless things you can order.

In addition to ice cream, Peterson's also serves soft serve ice cream, gelato, sorbet, and food. The sorbet is frothy and icy and comes in many fruit flavors; the gelato is to die for. If you decide to stop at Peterson's and they have S'mores gelato in stock, I suggest you try it out, because its taste upholds its name 100%. Peterson's food menu is just as varied as the ice cream menu. There are so many things you can order! From meat sandwiches to hotdogs and hamburgers, Peterson's has a great lunch menu selection. If you are the kind of person who enjoys your milkshake with a basket of fries, no problem! At Peterson's, you can order a full or half basket of fries with any type of seasoning you want on top! The environment is very welcoming, and there is seating in the back to enjoy your food! Overall, a visit to Peterson's Ice Cream Depot is a great way to reward yourself after a long week, or even spend time with family while enjoying some well-deserved quality dessert! Peterson's closes the weekend after Halloween, but it opens back in the summer. Make sure to stop by!

Creative Corner

Compiled By: Bethany Johnson

"Halloween Party"

By: Kenn Nesbitt

We're having a Halloween party at school.
I'm dressed up like Dracula. Man, I look cool!
I dyed my hair black, and I cut off my bangs.
I'm wearing a cape and some fake plastic fangs.

I put on some makeup to paint my face white,
like creatures that only come out in the night.
My fingernails, too, are all pointed and red.
I look like I'm recently back from the dead.

My mom drops me off, and I run into school
and suddenly feel like the world's biggest fool.
The other kids stare like I'm some kind of freak—
the Halloween party is not till next week.

"October"

By: Edward Thomas

The green elm with the one great bough of gold
Lets leaves into the grass slip, one by one,—
The short hill grass, the mushrooms small milk-white,
Harebell and scabious and tormentil,
That blackberry and gorse, in dew and sun,
Bow down to; and the wind travels too light
To shake the fallen birch leaves from the fern;
The gossamers wander at their own will.
At heavier steps than birds' the squirrels scold.
The rich scene has grown fresh again and new
As Spring and to the touch is not more cool
Than it is warm to the gaze; and now I might
As happy be as earth is beautiful,
Were I some other or with earth could turn
In alternation of violet and rose,
Harebell and snowdrop, at their season due,
And gorse that has no time not to be gay.
But if this be not happiness,— who knows?
Some day I shall think this a happy day,
And this mood by the name of melancholy
Shall no more blackened and obscured be.

Fall Sports Season Recaps

By: Joe Dotson

Men's Soccer

The Varsity Soccer team has been having a fantastic season so far, with a record of 15-2-1. Led by captains Ben Volpert, John Pennefather, Dominic Smith, and Sebastian O'Keefe, they have amazing chemistry and camaraderie. They placed second in the Delaney Athletic Conference in the regular season, trailing Wakefield. But in the DAC Tournament, following good wins against Fredericksburg Academy and Randolph-Macon Academy, the Conquistadors won the DAC Championship, defeating Wakefield in a very exciting game. Following regulation time, the score was 1-1, and the game headed for

overtime. After 10 minutes of scoreless overtime, the game went into penalty kicks. Seton won the series of penalties 5-3, winning the championship. A number of players on the Varsity Soccer team were selected as all-DAC, with Andrew Nguyen, Ben Volpert, and John Paul Vander Woude making First Team All-Conference. Anton Murray got Second Team All-Conference, and Justin Fioramonti got Honorable Mention. There will be a home state playoff game on November 2, against Steward School at Valley View Park. Come out and support the Conquistadors in their quest for a state title!



Women's Volleyball

The Varsity Women's Volleyball team wrapped up their regular season recently, and there are 5 seniors who played their last season for Seton Volleyball. Those seniors are Sarah DeWolf, Lili Albusu, Sophia Pogue, Rachel Rangel, and Anna Gasser. Most of them have been playing together since their junior high years back in seventh and eighth grades. They finished with a record of 5-12, picking up great wins against Christ Chapel, Trinity at Meadow View, Foxcroft, and Wakefield. They will be playing in the DAC Tournament very soon, and everyone should go out and support our Lady Conquistadors!

Women's Tennis

The Varsity Women's Tennis team is having a great season under the coaching of Mrs. Heim, with a record of 5-3. There are three seniors on the team, Mary Heim, Bridget Atkinson, and Mary Krynitsky. Captains Mary Heim and Bridget Atkinson have been playing varsity tennis for 5 years, since eighth grade when they were first eligible to play varsity tennis. They are currently ranked 10th in the state, behind powerhouses like Steward School and Virginia Episcopal. They finished fourth in the DAC. They will be playing in the DAC Tournament very soon, looking to defend their title from last year's amazing season. Come out to watch and cheer on the Lady Conquistadors!



The Joker and the Riddler

Jokes

What did the grandma cat say to her grandson when she saw him slouching?

You need to pay more attention to my pawsture.

What did the gym coach say to the cat?

Have you paid your annual fleas?

I weigh nothing, but you can still see me. If you put me in a bucket, I make the bucket lighter. What am I?

A hole!

Why did the kangaroo stop drinking coffee?

A: She got too jumpy!

Riddles

My goal is to have \$12. If I save \$1 a month, then it will take me 12 months to save \$12. If I save \$2 a month, then it will take me 6 months to save \$12. What if I saved \$1.50 each month? How many months would it take me to save \$12?

8 months

What has 13 hearts but no other organs?

A pack of playing cards

I can't be seen, found, heard or smelled. I lie behind stars and under hills, I fill empty holes, come first and follow after. What am I?

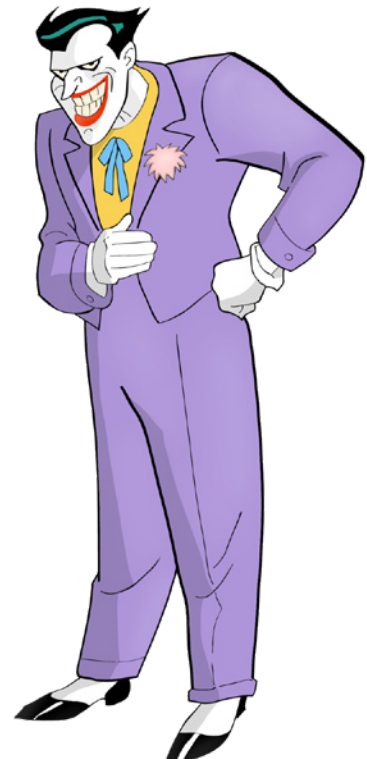
The dark

The Riddler has a riddle for you

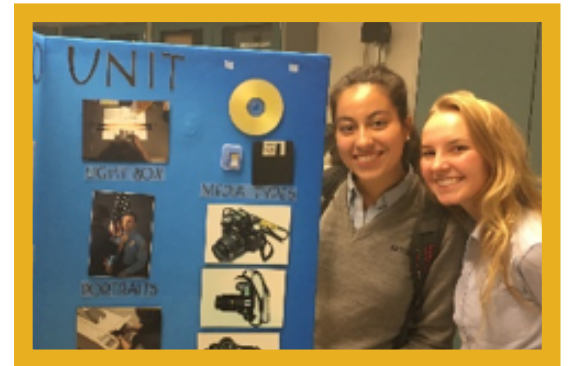
Do you want to win?! Well slip your answer to this riddle in the box in the front of both offices, and hurry for you could be the very first winner of the year! But please don't forget your grade Your 8th Period class period class.

(if we have multiple winners we will raffle the names.)

I beam, I shine, I sparkle white.
I'll brighten the day with a single light.
I'll charm and enchant all.
I'll bring the best in you all.
What am I?



Seton Scenes



Seton Scenes

