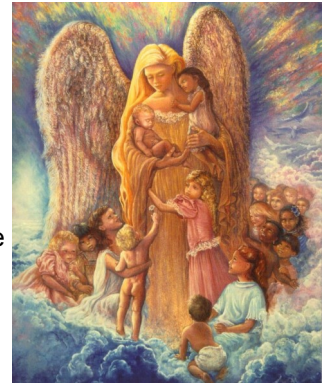


# The Principals' Page

St. Hilary School  
September 2017

The 2017-2018 school year is underway, and it is hard to believe we are already into the month of September! Our school year is off to a great start! We would like to welcome back all of our returning students and their families, and extend a special welcome to the many new students who have joined us in kindergarten through grade eight. Thanks to all of you for choosing a Catholic education at St. Hilary School!

It was wonderful to see so many of you join us for our opening ceremony on the first morning of school. Our theme for this year is *Calling All Angels*, inspired by the many angels in Heaven and those who are unsung hero "angels" on earth and help us each day. Our theme will help all of us to call on our guardian angel and the archangels for help and guidance. We will also learn to appreciate the angels that we have here on earth, those people who sacrifice to protect and serve us. The military, first responders (firefighters, paramedics, and police,) health care professionals, bus drivers, teachers, and many others unselfishly give of themselves to help keep us safe and make our lives better. We will also encourage our students to be angels for each other this year. Angels are God's special gift to each one of us! Our quarterly Angel award will be given to a student from each class who exemplifies courage and bravery and is willing to give of him or herself and stand up for others. We look forward to watching our St.



**The guardian angels of life fly so high as to be beyond our sight, but they are always looking down upon us.**

~Jean Paul Richter

Hilary students and families grow in their faith this year guided by our angels!

We are grateful for the support so many parents showed by attending our Back-to-School Night. We hope it was a worthwhile event for you. We also

enjoyed seeing so many of you at our Curriculum Nights last week. Your attendance at these events shows your child and his or her teachers the importance you place upon an excellent educational experience. Please continue to reinforce at home what your child is taught in school. Academic success truly begins at home and we appreciate your involvement.

Interim reports will be available on September 21. Progress for students in grades 1-8 can be checked daily on Gradelink. Interim progress can be found there. Paper reports will be sent home for kindergarten students. Gradelink also has the capability to send parents email notifications of missed assignments, low grades and other stumbling blocks to student success. Please monitor your child's progress and help him or her set goals to make this a productive year. Establishing good study habits and organizational skills now will help your child achieve success throughout the school year. If you have problems using Gradelink, please contact Mrs. Smith in the school office for assistance.

As many of you know, over the summer we made some significant upgrades to our school facilities with the addition of a Maker Space in our Media Center, Paxton-Patterson labs for our career elective courses, and a state-of-the-art digital communication studio. We also purchased additional Chromebooks for our sixth grade students. These upgrades would not have been possible without the support and funding of our Parents' Association through your generosity. The addition of important enhancements such as these underscore our commitment to provide a well-maintained facility and a top-notch environment in which your children can learn and grow each day.

As a reminder, the school dress code was emailed to returning families last spring and was provided to new families with their acceptance materials. This code, contained in our school handbook, will be enforced during the school year, so please be sure you are familiar with clothing, shoes and accessories that are permitted and not permitted. Students will be issued a minor infraction notification if they are not in proper school dress code. We will be permitting the "Sunshine" plaid skirts, skorts and jumpers to be worn until the end of the 2019-2020 school year. All plaid items must be of the appropriate length - not to exceed 4" above the knee when measured from a kneeling position. Please pay particular attention to **shoes**, which must be leather, low cut, brown/tan, black, navy, grey, (or red - girls). **Cloth, plastic, and canvas shoes are not permitted.**

No metallic finishes or sparkles are permitted on shoes. If boys choose to wear athletic shoes, they must be low cut with no contrasting logos, labels or stitching. Sperry style shoes are the only shoes permitted to have a contrasting/white sole. **Socks** must be black, white or navy, solid in color, with **no logos**, crew or low cut (or knee socks - girls). As for **hair**, St. Hilary School does not permit haircuts that are fad or trend in nature. No shaved lines, tails or bi-level cuts are permitted. Students' hair must remain natural in color. Boys' hair may not cover more than half the ear and must be and off the collar. Hair must not obstruct vision. No facial hair is permitted. Complete dress code guidelines can be found on our school website. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Woodman at [jwoodman@st-hilary.org](mailto:jwoodman@st-hilary.org). Uniforms can be purchased at [wearnumberone.weebly.com](http://wearnumberone.weebly.com) or by contacting Marie-France Londa at [wearnumberone@gmail.com](mailto:wearnumberone@gmail.com). Gently used uniform items are available by contacting Debbie Yarcheck at [ardvark309@outlook.com](mailto:ardvark309@outlook.com) or Darci Houser at [darcihouser@netzero.net](mailto:darcihouser@netzero.net).



To add to your child's school experience, we are pleased to offer a variety of extra-curricular activities in which students may participate. Clubs and groups will begin in the coming weeks, so be sure to watch for more information. Please encourage your child to listen carefully to the daily announcements for information on activities of interest to him or her. Of special note, we will hold our elections for Student Council home room representatives on September 20. Students in grades 3-8 may run for representative. Applications will be available beginning September 6 in the school office. Applications must be turned in to the school office by 3:00 p.m. on September 15. Students running for representative may dress up for the elections on September 20. Posters may be hung in home rooms or the walls immediately outside the home rooms. *Students are asked not to bring candy or other treats as voting incentives.* The induction of Student Council officers and home room representatives for 2017-2018 will take place at the school Mass on October 20.

Please note several important dates during the month of September. School pictures will be taken on September 6, and students should dress up. Please remember that on dress-up days, jeans, T-shirts, crop/tank tops, sandals, clogs, and tennis shoes (except kindergarteners) are not permitted. Please review the out-of-uniform standards in the school handbook regarding dress-up days. Our first round of MAP testing for students in grades K-8 will take place September 11-18. Our Parents' Association will hold its first general meeting on September 22 at 8:45 a.m. in the Spiritual Center. All parents are invited to attend and learn more about our Parents' Association and the events planned for this school year. Our fifth graders will participate in the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center's outdoor education program September 27-29.

***Did You Know?... The continent on which Catholicism is growing fastest is... Africa!***

With our diversity initiative underway, we will be doing much more to foster appreciation of the unique and wonderful attributes each of us has. We have had three meetings since June, and look forward to meeting again this

fall. Many productive discussions and exciting ideas have come out of these meetings! Please watch for more information.

We would like to thank all of the parent volunteers who have already helped with events and activities to begin this school year, and thank in advance the many who will donate their time and talent to help in the months ahead. Your contributions are a vital part of what makes St. Hilary such an excellent school, and we truly appreciate everything you do!

Best wishes for a successful school year! Please do not hesitate to contact either of us if you have any questions or concerns. We want to work with you to make your child's experience at St. Hilary School the best it can be!

*Mrs. Arnone and Mrs. Woodman*