St. Augustine Academy

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In Memoriam
Mr. Roy S. Rohter, S.F.O.
† 2018
Co-founder
St. Augustine Academy

October 9, 2026 *St. Denis & Comps*

Dear Families,

This week, the whole school had the pleasure of going on a field trip to St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Fillmore. Fr. Devassy, the pastor who says Mass here the first Tuesday of each month, had invited us to his parish. Since this year celebrates the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis, there is a special indulgence that comes with making a pilgrimage to a parish dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi. Fr. Devassy wanted the school to have such an opportunity.

Growing up, St. Francis of Assisi always held a place of honor in my family. Neither of my parents were Catholic when they were married. They were Protestant and had met at a Bible study after their college years. They were married by my grandfather, a pastor, and continued as protestants throughout my dad's time in medical school. My father began studying medieval history and it was then that his interest in the Catholic faith was piqued. As he studied medieval and Church history more closely, he came across St. Francis of Assisi.

My father respected him as someone who had devoted himself to the poor. What he learned about was the deep devotion St. Francis had to the Eucharist and his radical approach to the Gospel. During the time of their conversion, my parents took St. Francis and St. Clare as their patron saints.

This past April, the senior class and I had an opportunity to spend a few days in Assisi. Without a doubt, these few days were the favorite among the seniors. The charm of the little town of Assisi was mixed with a profound sense of peace. Particularly in front of his tomb, there was a sense of the eternal; time slipped away there. Many were stunned by the height of St. Francis. For one who was so magnanimous, it seemed impossible that he fit in such a tiny tomb.

We completed a strenuous hike up into the mountains surrounding Assisi to visit the Hermitage of St. Francis. This is where the great saint would go on retreat. Our tour guide neglected to tell us how long and strenuous the hike would be. About halfway up, many of the class were ready to turn around. Despite this, the Hermitage became one of the most talked about parts of the trip. Praying with St. Francis led to a deeper spiritual retreat throughout the rest of our trip.

To wrap up these thoughts on St. Francis, I wanted to share this from Pope Leo's decree on the year of St. Francis:

Our times are not very different from those in which Francis lived, and precisely in light of this, his teachings are perhaps even more valid and understandable today. When Christian charity languishes, ignorance spreads like bad habits, and those who extol harmony among peoples do so more out of selfishness than out of a sincere Christian spirit; when the virtual takes precedence over the real, social discord and violence are part of everyday life, and peace becomes more uncertain and distant every day; may this Year of Saint Francis urge us all, each according to our own possibilities, to imitate the Poverello [little poor man] of Assisi, to mold ourselves as much as possible on the model of Christ, to not let the intentions of the Holy Year just passed be in vain: may the hope that saw us as pilgrims now be transformed into zeal and fervor of active charity.

God Bless, Timothy Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PSAT- The PSAT is this coming Wednesday, October 14 at the Upper Campus! We wanted to remind 10th and 11th grade parents that students will need to provide their own laptop or iPad to take the test. **Chromebooks will not work for the PSAT.**

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES- Conferences will be held on October 30th! I will be sending out a request form for 5th-12th grade conferences on October 16th. This is an opportunity to hear from the teachers about your student and how they have been performing and how they can improve. If you don't get a chance to talk to teachers very often, please consider signing up for a conference, even if you are happy with your student's grades.

PICTURE DAY- Picture Day is coming this Friday, October 16. ALL students (K-12) will meet at the Upper Campus (Wells Rd.) at 8:20 am in Mass day dress. K-4 students will have their individual pictures taken first and will then be carpooled down to the lower campus. We will need to enlist the help of lower school parents to stay and help carpool students down to the lower campus.

UPCOMING SPORTS GAMES
High School Baseball-
Saturday, Oct 10 @ De Anza School, - 1 pm, Sunday, Oct 11 @ Oxnard High- 2pm
Middle School Boy's Flag Football-
Wed, Oct 14 @ St. Sebastian vs Santa Clara - 4:30 pm
Middle School Girl's Volleyball-
Tues, Oct 13 @ Home vs Ventura Christian- 3:30 pm, Thursday, Oct 15 @ Home vs Santa Clara- 3:30 pm

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct 12- Well Read Mom's Talk at SAA (See Flyer),
Oct 12- No School, Columbus Day
Oct 14- PSAT for 10th and 11th graders
Oct 16- Picture Day
Oct 16- End of 1st Quarter
Oct 21- Christendom College visits at Lunch
Oct 23- Report Cards

ORA PRO NOBIS – *We continue to keep all our friends and family in our prayers! For the repose of the soul of Teresa Woodward and Paul Scamperle. For a successful and joy-filled school year at St. Augustine Academy. For the health of Elizabeth Galloway, Sister Francis Mary, Fr. Paul Donlan, Kevin Kolbeck, David Schulz, and Linda Kern. For a special intention. We pray for our Pope, our Archbishop, all of our priests and religious,* ***and we pray especially for each other!***

