



Heart of Gold

Florence Myles, Catholic Digest,
November, 1992, p. 144

It was Thanksgiving. No delicious smells of turkey roasting, no pies on the sideboard, no festive table setting. The mother had lost her job a few weeks ago and a daughter's tiny salary went to pay the rent. A son was still in school, and with no father in the home, things looked bleak. The mother was making a stew and had wrapped day-old bread in a paper sack and set it to warming in the oven. When the doorbell rang, the mother panicked. She was proud and didn't want anyone to know how bad things were.

When she opened the door, there stood Mr. Gold, a door-to-door salesman who kept everyone supplied with household items....Now here he stood with his arms full of grocery bags and a shy smile on his face. "Can I come begging to you today?" he asked. "Here it is Thanksgiving Day and I have no place to go and no one to share it with."

The mother was embarrassed, but invited him in and started to explain. But Mr. Gold interrupted her. "Here I have all this food," he said. "It's only chicken, but who's to know?" And he began unpacking the groceries. There was enough for a Thanksgiving feast, from soup to nuts, plus a mincemeat and a pumpkin pie.

Mr. Gold didn't eat much, but nobody seemed to notice. When he was leaving, he thanked the family for taking such good care of a lonely old man that holiday.

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+Dear St. Cecilia School Families, November 21, 2021

Probably each of us can relate to the challenges and hardships of the people in this reflection. We might be going through a tough time right now, from the loss of a job or other financial difficulties. We might be going through the holidays without our loved ones for the first time. Or, you are on the other side: you are the one providing a meal for a family in need. You are the giver this year and not the receiver.

The story is a simple reminder that we need to have a heart of gold to reach out to those in need and to be open to the goodness of others. We need a heart of gold to remember to thank and praise the Giver for all that we have and can share. We need to have the Heart of God.

Let us join together to offer our prayer of Thanksgiving to our Loving God:

God most provident, we join all creation, in raising to you a hymn of thanksgiving through Jesus Christ, your Son. For generation upon generation peoples of this land have sung of your bounty; we too offer your praise for the rich harvest we have received at your hands. **B**less us and this food from which we share with grateful hearts, **C**ontinue to make our land fruitful and let our love for you be seen in our pursuit of peace and justice and in our generous response to those in need. **P**raise and glory to you, Lord God, now and forever. **A**men.

Have a great week! Happy Thanksgiving!
God bless you,
Sister Catherine Irene, IHM



Looking Ahead:

November 22	Dress Down Day: Gift from Fr. Bonner and for St. Cecilia Feast Day
November 24	Faculty Retreat: NO SCHOOL for STUDENTS
November 25	Happy Thanksgiving!
November 26	Thanksgiving Holiday: NO SCHOOL
November 28	First Sunday of Advent
November 29	Classes resume
December 1	School Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.
	Parish Advent Series begins tonight: Please see flyer on website
December 3	First Penance, Grade 2: 9:30 a.m. First Trimester ends: Grades close
December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Holyday of Obligation: NO SCHOOL
December 10	Report Cards
December 14	Make-Up Picture Day
	Strings Christmas Concert, 7:00 p.m.
December 16	Band Winter Concert, 7:00 p.m.
December 17	Dance Party, Christmas Music Style
December 21	Christmas Tableau
December 22	Christmas Plays with PreK and K at 9:00 a.m. and with Grade 1 at 10:30 Noon Dismissal for Christmas
December 23	School Holiday
December 25	Merry Christmas!
January 1	Happy New Year: Feast of Mary, Mother of God; Holyday of Obligation
January 3	Classes resume

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Dress Down Gift from Fr. Bonner: Monday, November 22

In October, Father Bonner celebrated his birthday. The Student Council gave Father a gift from the school as well as cards from the students. Father Bonner then told the students that I was to give everyone a dress down day. That day will be on Monday, November 22. I ask that you that you follow these guidelines (most are in the Handbook with a few adjustments).

Dress Down Day Dress Code The principal reserves the right to allow students to have dress down days during the school year. Students are permitted to wear clothes other than the school uniform within certain guidelines. Students may opt out of dress down days and wear the regular uniform. Clothing should be appropriate for school.

- Shirts and pants should not have any printed sayings that would be offensive to the students or teachers.
- No baggy pants or shirts.
- Pants may not be torn. (Even though this in style, it is not appropriate for school.
- Clothing should fit, be modest, and the student’s stomach must be covered (appropriate length). Shirts should have sleeves.
- No rolled pants or pajama bottoms.
- Tied sneakers are appropriate. No flip-flops, slippers, or open-backed shoes
- HOODED SWEATSHIRTS WILL BE PERMITTED ☺

If students come to school with inappropriate dress, they will call home for another outfit. They will have to wait in the office until someone brings the right clothes. Thank you for your assistance!

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LUNCH MENU CHANGE FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22: The menu has been changed to PEPPERONI PIZZA.

Thank you!

Financial Aid: Back in October, Lisa Hnat, our Tuition Manager, sent out important information about Financial Aid. I copied some of it here. *We encourage all families to complete the application!*

BLOCS applications for the 2022-2023 school year opens October 1, 2021. Please be sure to complete your Financial Aid application ASAP by logging into your FACTS account and go the Grant & Aid Section. The deadline is April 30, 2022.

Here are a few tips to help you with your application:

1. You can apply for grade & high school students on the same application. Be sure you choose the school & the grade for each child who will be attending for the 22-23 school year.
2. Make sure you check “apply for this student” for all students you wish to receive aid.
3. Remember to include the neighborhood public school your child “would” attend. This is important as it may qualify you for additional funding.
4. Upload your 2020 tax return when prompted
5. Pay the application fee your application is not complete without payment.

If you have any questions or need assistance you can reach out to me at lisa.hnat@stceciliafc.org and I will be happy to help. Any other information on scholarships that become available during the year will be sent out to you via Option C.

Please note: If you experience an unexpected hardship please contact me as there may be help available.

Thank you!

Volunteers: We will be inviting parents back to volunteer after Christmas. If you are interested in volunteering, I remind you of what Lisa Hnat, our Safe Environment Coordinator, sent to families back in October.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT In order to volunteer at school or accompany your child on a school trip you must have ALL required clearances. Information including the cover letter with all required clearances & forms are available on Saint Cecilia School’s website and can be found under the Parent Portal tab <https://scsfoxchase.org/safe-environment-program>

NO ONE MAY VOUNTEER WITHOUT HAVING ALL REQUIRED CLEARANCES.

