



OCTOBER, 1967

SOME STATISTICS - The enrollment this year is 610. There are 146 seniors, 125 juniors, 186 sophomores and 153 freshmen. Our students come from the following parishes: St. Theresa, Phoenix, 195; St. Agnes, Phoenix, 110; Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Scottsdale, 81; St. Thomas the Apostle, Phoenix, 72; St. Daniel the Prophet, Scottsdale, 41; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Tempe, 36; St. Maria Goretti, Scottsdale, 22; St. Mark, Phoenix, 20; Most Holy Trinity, Phoenix, 8; Christ the King, Mesa, 5; Queen of Peace, Mesa, 1; St. George, Apache Junction, 1; non-Catholic students, 18. There is room for more students at Gerard.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION - It is a pleasure to announce again this year the success of our students in the National Merit Scholarship qualifying test. This test was administered to approximately 800,000 students in about 17,500 high schools in February, 1967. Letters of commendation will be awarded to six of our students who scored in the upper 2% of those who will graduate from high school in 1968. These students are Robert Dunn, Greg Eades, Mary Jo Landeira, Kathleen Lauer- man, Nick Peterson and Robert Rowley. Congratulations to these students, their teachers and families. Their outstanding academic achievement gives every indication of continued academic success.

GERARD HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION - The first general meeting of the Gerard Home & School Association which was held on Thursday, September 21, was an outstanding success. We thank all those who supported this program; we appreciate your cooperation and the fine work of the Executive Board and committee members.

The next activity of the Gerard Home & School Association will be a Potluck Fiesta which will be held in St. Thomas More Hall on the Gerard campus, Saturday, October 14, 1967. The social hour will begin at 7:00; dinner will be served at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$1.00 per person, plus any dish or casserole. The purpose of this Potluck Fiesta is to give the parents an opportunity to meet other parents in the Gerard family. We sincerely hope the parents of all our new students and the parents of all our old students will attend this affair.

The Diocesan convention of the Home & School Associations will take place in Tucson on Sunday, October 15, 1967, at the Pioneer International Hotel, at 1:00 p.m. Those who wish more details about the convention may receive this information by calling the school office.

COLLEGE NIGHT - The Catholic high schools of the Valley cooperate in a program of bringing representatives of all the state universities and colleges to speak to students and parents about higher learning in the state institutions. A different Catholic high school hosts this program each year. Last year, it was our pleasure to host the group. This year, the group will speak at St. Mary's High School, 230 East Polk, Phoenix, on October 19, 1967, at 7:00 p.m. We urge all of our juniors and seniors to attend with their parents. Sophomores and their parents are welcome. Forms are being prepared by St. Mary's High School which will enable the planning committee at St. Mary's to prepare for the crowd which is expected for this occasion. These forms will be distributed to our students as soon as they are received. We urge parents to remind their students about the forms. The form will indicate whether or not you plan to attend and which representatives you are interested in hearing.

HOMECOMING - The Gerard 1967 Homecoming will be celebrated at the Varsity football game with Dysart High School on October 20, 1967, at 8:00 p.m. at Camelback High School field. There will be a special half-time program. We hope as many of the Gerard family as possible will be present for this occasion. The Homecoming dance will be held in St. Thomas More Hall on the Gerard campus on that same evening, Friday, October 20, from 10:30 p.m. until midnight. This dance is intended for all Gerard students, their registered guests, and alumni. The students have been busily preparing for the Homecoming activities. We hope you will reward their efforts with your attendance and interest.

Parents are reminded that preparations for Homecoming activities, such as preparing floats, etc., should not interfere with the students' studies. On school nights, Monday through Thursday, no student should be working on a Homecoming float or any related activity after 7:00 p.m.

IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION DAY - The faculty of Gerard High School will join the combined faculties of other Catholic high schools in the city on Monday, October 16, in a special session to improve our teaching. To provide time for this, it will be necessary to dismiss classes on Monday, October 16, at 12:00 noon. No lunch will be served at Gerard that day. Parents should make arrangements for their student's transportation. No students are to loiter on campus that afternoon.

SUMMER SCHOOL ABROAD - Gerard students will be given an opportunity to participate in the Foreign Language League Summer School during the summer of 1968. Regular credit toward graduation for high school students, aged 15 to 19, will be awarded for this program. Father D'Ostilio will supervise a group of students who are interested in art history. This group will spend two weeks in Rome, two weeks in Florence, and two weeks in Paris. They will leave New York by jet on June 18, 1968, and will be returning August 3, 1968. The cost of the trip from New York to Europe will be \$760.00. An extra \$200.00 for spending money is suggested. In addition to both of these amounts, round-trip transportation between Phoenix and New York will be an extra expense. Students and parents who are interested in this program should contact Father D'Ostilio. There will be special meetings for students and parents at Camelback High School in Room 601 at 7:30 p.m., on the following Wednesdays: October 11, October 18 and October 25. Application blanks will be available at these meetings.

UNIFORMS - All students will be required to wear their blazers beginning Monday, November 6, 1967, at 8:20 a.m. Parents should make the necessary preparations between now and November 6. Uniform blazers are available at the J.C. Penney Company in Tower Plaza, Phoenix.

NIGHTS OF RECOLLECTION - Again this year, the Holy Ghost Fathers will conduct Nights of Recollection for our students beginning with the Junior Class. Each student may sign up for the priest of his choice on a first-come, first-served basis. These Nights of Recollection will be given at the school from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Each student must attend one of the Nights of Recollection during the school year. The ones scheduled for October are listed on the enclosed calendar.