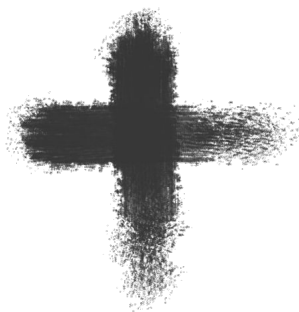




ELEMENTARY VALIANT NEWS

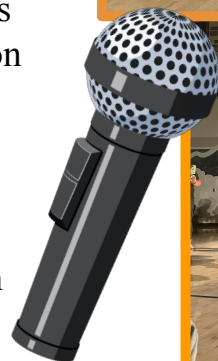
Lenten Promises & Ash Wednesday

To prepare for the start of **lent**, students wrote down their promises on a piece of paper. During the **Lenten Ceremony**, two representatives from each grade came up to present their class' promises to be burned. Together as one, the whole SG community came together the next day for **Ash Wednesday** mass with the bishop, Albert Bahhuth, and Father Lawrence. The ashes we received were a combination of the **lenten promises and the palm leaves**. Our ashes remind us to repent for our sins and represents our mortality. We also had special guests all the way from Australia join our school. They came to visit and learn more about faith formation on our campus.



Justin Fatica Returns to SG

Last week, our 7-12th graders had night school with guest speaker **Justin Fatica**. The **Hard as Nails** mission is to awaken the world to the power of God's love and to make a world where no one suffers alone. Members of this mission shared a time that they struggled. **"But with God's help"** they all said, each person was able to overcome and conquer their challenges. Justin Fatica talks about those that he has helped to get through their hard times and his mission to let others know that they are not alone. **"You can be an inspiration when you been through something,"** Fatica said. Throughout the night school, students shared their own stories of challenges they faced and what helped them through it. It was an inspirational night with Justin letting us understand that **we don't need to suffer alone.**





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Celebrating Inspiring People Past and Present

February is **Black History Month**, a time to celebrate the amazing contributions of black people throughout history. During this month, we had students from each classes present the **story of an African American figure**. We remember Rosa Parks, who bravely stood up against segregation on a bus, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who fought for equal rights with powerful words. We also honor scientists like George Washington Carver, who helped farmers with new crops and Mae Jemison, the first black woman in space. Let's use this month to learn about **African American culture and people** through books, music, and art. Nice job students sharing information at morning announcements!



Happy Lunar New Year!

Yesterday, we had our annual **Lunar New Year Gala**! The new year marks the start of the new the lunar calendar. This year, 2024, is the Year of the Dragon. Even though the Lunar New Year Day was on February 10, the celebration still goes on. The gala was joyous evening filled with lots of activities. There were many performances from 6th grade, middle school Chinese 1, many high school international students, and a special dragon dance. For the activities, there was a challenging **chopstick competitions**, delicious **dumpling making demo**, the **12 Zodiac signs arts and crafts**, and more. The gala was filled with so much fun, and it let us appreciate all the cultures and traditions of those who celebrate the day. Thank you to the HS World Languages department to organizing this event!

