



Blessing of the Pets

Bring your pet to be blessed!

It is a Catholic tradition to bring a procession of animals to the church on the Feast of Saint Francis to be blessed. We invite students to bring their pets to be blessed on Wednesday, October 4th at 2:00. Weather permitting, the service will be outside of the church on the lawn by the main doors. Parents, please remember these guidelines to help make this a truly blessed event at our school.

- Have pets to the school by 1:45 so the service can start on time. Pets **can not** be brought to school earlier in the day. Please park in the gravel lot or in timed parking.
- Cats, dogs, hamsters, rabbits, fish, birds, and other small critters are welcome. Please no large animals or livestock.
- Dogs and cats should be on a leash or in a kennel. If your dog barks or nips at people, please consider using a muzzle.
- Other pets should be in a manageable carrying cage/tank/case.
- In families, the oldest child will hold the pet and the younger child can go to the older sibling while their pet is being blessed.
- The animals will be with the student during the blessing, so students should be able to manage their pet on their own, or have an adult accompany them.
- *There will be lots of people and animals here for the blessing. Some students may be frightened by some pets or some pets may not do well in these situations. We ask that you consider this when bringing your pet.*

Remember, the Blessing of the Pets is a sacred para-liturgy service in celebration of Saint Francis' Feast Day.

Dismissal is at 3:00 from the classroom after the blessing is over.

Students leaving earlier must notify the classroom teacher.

Parents, as always, please remain down in the parking lot with your pet as you wait for your child to be dismissed after school.

