Patience is a virtue. I must have heard that a thousand times from my grandmother while I was a child, and her words have been echoing in my memory lately. Patience is the virtue by which we suffer discomfort, difficulties, obstacles and the like without losing the joy that comes from God; without succumbing to discouragement. As the president of the school, I am sometimes tempted to impatience when we suffer what appears to be a set-back or difficulty as a school. For example, losing two tremendous head basketball coaches due to factors outside my control definitely qualifies as a difficulty; yet, I have also been considering the truth that nothing great is built in a day. What is required in the face of difficult circumstances is the prudence to keep one’s eye on the ball and the courage to press forward with the important and school-building initiatives and practices that over time will be the backbone of what I believe will be one of the finest Catholic schools in the country. That is exactly what we are doing this year: we are creating the new framework that will support and guide our efforts over the next decade of growth and improvement. Difficulties and obstacles along the way are simply opportunities to grow in dedication and courage while doing so.

The framework building begins with a forthcoming strategic planning process facilitated by the firm Partners in Mission, an organization deeply involved in Catholic schools across the country. This process will take about seven months, and the result will be six to eight strategically-chosen goals for the school to achieve over the next five years. The strategic planning process will precisely articulate the most important steps for us to take as a school in order to better accomplish our mission to serve God and his children by laying a foundation for lasting happiness through education in virtue. In the meantime, we are strengthening the foundation for that framework by creating a strategically-aligned educational plan for our whole system, preschool through 12th grade. This alignment will guide educational decisions about course offerings, curricula, pedagogical principles, and desired graduate outcomes. My hope is that you will support our teachers and administrators through these processes by praying for us, staying informed about the progress that we are making, and participating in every way that you can.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus bless you and your family this academic year!
 Pornography is a pervasive problem today for people of all ages, especially teens. However, many parents aren’t sure how to protect their families beyond using traditional internet filters. In his presentation, Matt Fradd offers parents a detailed look at the way pornography harms us and suggests practical strategies that parents need to implement in protecting their children from the lies of an over-sexualized culture.

Bishop Ryan Catholic School, in collaboration with the Diocese of Bismarck, would like to invite all parents to Matt Fradd’s powerful presentation on Parenting the Internet Generation. Matt is a must-hear speaker who will help parents make the best decisions they can in raising their children in an internet- and media-saturated culture.

**Matt Fradd** is the director of content development for Integrity Restored, as well as a bestselling author and popular speaker. His most recent book, *The Porn Myth*, is a No. 1 best-seller on Amazon. He is also a co-creator of the teen-gear Victory app that provides a strategic battle plan for winning the struggle against pornography. Matt lives in Georgia with his wife, Cameron, and their children.

**when:** Thursday, August 31st • 7:15pm  
**where:** Damberger Activity Center  
Bishop Ryan Catholic School

All parents are welcome to attend!  
Free childcare will be provided!

This event will be streamed live at facebook.com/bishopryanlions.

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**Lion Football (season record: 1-0)**  
The team’s next game comes Friday, September 1st in a 7:30pm matchup with Kenmare/Bowbells/Burke County at Herb Parker. Join us for the pre-game tailgate outside Gordy’s Garage, 5pm-6:30pm.

**Lion Volleyball (season record: 1-0)**  
The ladies will hit the court again on Thursday, September 7th at Bottineau. Game times are 5pm (C), 6pm (JV) and 7pm (V).

**Lion Cross Country**  
In their first meet of the season, the JV girls saw two top-10 placers! Next up: the Minot High Invite, rescheduled to September 1st and the Carrington Invite on September 5th.

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**PRIDE OF DAKOTA LUNCH DAY:**  
Thanks to our awesome kitchen crew, BRCS started celebrating the “Pride of Dakota Lunch Day” and the amazing products made in North Dakota just a few years ago! This year’s event falls on Thursday, September 28th, and the special lunch menu will feature products all exclusively grown and made in our state. The best part: parents are invited to join us for this day of deliciousness... Stay tuned for more info coming soon.

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**Lion dictionary**  
Have you ever heard a word or phrase used at Bishop Ryan and wondered what it meant? The Lion Dictionary is here to help!

**GLORY DAY:**  
When the school celebrates an all-school Mass day, the term “Glory Day” is also used as a small reminder for our K-12 students that it’s a special day when our more-formal dress code rules apply. On Glory Days, boys are required to wear their oxford shirts and ties, girls are required to wear their blouses. If they’d like, students can also wear sweaters or vests from the Bishop Ryan dress code catalog. Shorts, sweatshirts and jackets are not allowed on Glory Days.

**PARTNER WITH PARENTS INITIATIVE:**  
At Bishop Ryan, we consider ourselves “teammates” with the parents of all of our students, so throughout the year, we’ll be hosting special presentations with the intention of helping all of us raise the happiest and healthiest Lions possible. The first event happens August 31st at 7:15pm in the school’s Damberger Activity Center; hope to see you there!

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Catch up online at bishopryan.com, join us at facebook.com/bishopryanlions, or search for bishopryanlions on Twitter and Instagram.
around the campus: Making the Traffic Flow

A huge thank you to all of you for your patience and attention in making our new traffic pattern work around the school! We’ve received many positive comments over the past week, but please know that without your participation, this transition would not have gone as smoothly as it has.

We are pleased to report that the widening project on the south-side drive has been completed, and you are now welcome to park on either side of the driveway during drop-off and pick-up times. When parking, please pull in close to the curb on the side that you are parking on, leaving the center lane open for through-traffic. Also, please pull over to park if you are waiting for your child to prevent a stoppage of the through-traffic lane.

You might notice a few staff members outside helping direct traffic and you’ll be seeing new signs to help direct traffic, as well. A few quick reminders that we’d like to pass along include:

- The driveway at the southeast corner of Bishop Ryan immediately off of Broadway is entrance only! Please do not park near the point where traffic splits, then make a u-turn and exit through that driveway. Traffic must proceed west along the south-side drive or north on the east-side drive.
- Please do not block any through-traffic lane waiting to pickup students.

Thank you again for your patience and attention!

Miss Mack 5th Grade

Inspired by her mom and her sisters, Miss Mack is not only busy learning Latin with her fifth grade class right now, she’s also working on her Master’s degree. Her favorite subject to teach is math, and she loves watching each of her students learn and grow over the course of the school year.

If she was a crayon, Miss Mack says she’d be purple, (A true Lion at heart!) and in the little amount of downtime that she has, you might catch her watching Willy Wonka or any Christmas movie on the Hallmark Channel.

Mrs. Zander Language Arts

Anyone who knows Mrs. Zander knows her passion is doing her part to make the world a better place. Her biggest adventure outside of teaching let her share her smile in another part of the world during a two-week mission trip to Guatemala.

Mrs. Zander has shared her spirit with many students over her teaching career, and now she’s starting to look ahead to retiring and spending more Grandma time with her grandson, who just happens to be a third-generation Little Lion this year!

Mrs. Jundt Kitchen

Mrs. Jundt says the best part of her job is teaching elementary students about the correct ways to go through the lunch line so that when they are at restaurants, they know things like “Don’t use your fingers,” “that’s what tongs are for,” “Don’t cut in line,” and “Only take what you’re going to eat.”

Her motto is “God first, family second, job third,” and she hopes her next big adventure takes her to Nashville, Tennessee to visit her sister, Sr. Hannah Jane.

a big lion welcome to our new faculty members:

Mrs. Johannsen (Second Grade), Mrs. O’Neill (Fifth Grade), Mrs. Brooks (Elementary Physical Education), Mr. Theis (Math), Mr. Meharry (Math), Mrs. Peterson (Science), Mr. Coleman (Athletic Director and Middle & High School Physical Education), Mrs. Reimann-Grosz (Spanish), and Mrs. Mardikian (Middle & High School Guidance Counselor)

...laying a foundation for lasting happiness through education in virtue

As part of the integration and promotion of virtues in the education offered at Bishop Ryan, we are introducing and implementing a set of core virtues this year, specifically developed by our faculty for use in our building by our students and families. You will learn more about this code as the year progresses, but here are the seven main points:

1. I prefer nothing to the love of Christ.
2. Through faith, I seek to know God and do his will.
3. I put my hope in God. The good in myself I credit to God and I take responsibility for my evil doing.
4. I justly give to others what is due to them.
5. With fortitude, I endure all adversity for the sake of the good.
6. I make prudent choices by being mindful of myself and my surroundings; I am willing to be taught and act in consideration of the future.
7. I temper my desire for pleasures and my emotions in order to act honorably.

You’ll see more about how our students are bringing these core virtues to life in upcoming issues of Lion Times. You can also view an expanded, detailed version of the core virtues at bishopryan.com/our-mission.