

March 27, 2022

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the week; Masks for Schoolwide Gatherings; Walk-up Gate; Bishop Ordination Holiday; Report Cards; Ecumenical Prayer Service; Summer Program; Lenten Prayer Projects; SJCS Student Holy Week Retreat; Spring Break; Save the Date – VBS; Cardinal Newman Athletic Camps; Part-time Position at CN; and Local Covid Numbers.

Thoughts for the week: “Strive for progress, not perfection.” - Unknown. No one can be perfect all the time and progress is the only way that you can improve. Try and progress with your work and keep going even if you make mistakes.

Masks for Schoolwide Gatherings: We have now completed the 6 weeks that we required students and staff to be in a mask for school-wide events. Our numbers within the school and the community are very low. Due to the low number of cases, we are now lifting the mask requirement for students and staff at all school events. Masks will be optional going forward. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Walk-up Gate: Effective Immediately. Due to increased safety concerns, we have determined we can no longer offer the walk-up gate as a dismissal option. The few students who are approved walkers will be the only children permitted to exit the gate. As a reminder if you use the carpool out front in the morning, that is where you should pick up your child in the afternoon. The same protocol should be followed in the back carpool. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Bishop Ordination Holiday: The Bishop-elect Jacques E. Fabre, CS, will be ordained and installed on May 13. All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charleston will be closed on Friday, May 13th for the Ordination. There will be no extended care.

Report Cards: The 3rd quarter ended this past Tuesday, March 22nd. A link to third quarter report cards will be emailed to each family on Monday, March 28th.

Ecumenical Prayer Service: One of our traditional events that has taken place for 16 years now is the Ecumenical Prayer Service. Unfortunately, this year’s event was not able to be held in person, but with the help of Mrs. Leonard and Mrs. Seezen, we have put together a virtual ecumenical program. The students viewed this program last week. I encourage you to use the link below to watch the program.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/6g7nssmwmzfkly5/Video%20Mar%2023%2C%2012%2056%2010%20PM.mov?dl=0>

Lenten Prayer Projects: Daily Mary's Children began on Ash Wednesday. It will meet each day until Friday, April 8th. All students and parents are invited to join this Lenten prayer group. All students and staff will be participating in the Stations of the Cross on Tuesdays and Wednesdays during Lent. Each day a different grade level will be leading the stations.

SJCS Student Holy Week Retreat: The school will have a day-long retreat on Thursday April 7th. The students will rotate through rooms celebrating Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday. What a great way to have our students transition into Easter (spring) break which will start at the end of the day/noon on the 8th. There will be no hot lunch service, all students will need to bring a lunch from home.

Spring Break: Spring Break will officially start at **12Noon on Friday, April 8th**. There will be no extended care that day. Classes will resume from Spring Break on Tuesday, April 19th, 2022. There will be no Sunday Notes on April 10th or April 17th. Have a safe and enjoyable Easter and break!

Save the Date – Vacation Bible School Save the Date! In-person Vacation Bible School is returning to St. Joseph this summer from July 11-15; 9:00am – 12:00pm. More details and registration information coming soon! Contact emily@stjosephcolumbia.org with any questions.

Cardinal Newman Athletic Camps: The CN Athletic Camps registration is open.
https://athletics.cnhs.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=2017695&type=d&pREC_ID=2176119

Part-time Position at CN: Cardinal Newman is seeking a part-time Office Receptionist and Admissions Assistant. Qualified candidates will possess a positive, professional, outgoing, and friendly attitude in working with parents, students, and prospective families. Candidates will need to have moderate skills with various computer software programs. This person will serve in the role of Office Receptionist Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays during the academic year from 8 am - 12 pm (12 hours) and as the Admissions Assistance for an additional seven hours throughout the week. Those hours are somewhat flexible. Here is a link to the full job description and information on how to apply. <https://4.files.edl.io/b6eb/03/10/22/184835-cf224398-da17-4668-8fdf-862fc8ae1a89.pdf>.

Local Covid Numbers: I am incredibly happy to share that we have had another week with no positive cases in our school community and no quarantined students or staff in the last 28 days.

It is the little things we do that show how God is in us, with us, and working through us - "Blessed are we". Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Donavan F. Yarnall, Ed. S
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