

February 19, 2023

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the week; No School; Lent; Used Uniform Program; Faculty Update; Pi Day; Financial Aid 2023-2024; Personal Electronic Devices; Mother-Son Baseball; and Important Upcoming Dates.

Thoughts for the week: Last week during his sermon, Father Frei challenged the parishioners to find a way to stop and make a spiritual connection each day during Lent. One of his suggestions was to pray the Angelus at 6a, 12N, and 6p. Each school day at noon, the students, faculty, and staff stop to pray the Angelus. This has been a tradition at the school for nine years as a way to have the students stop and make a spiritual connection.

Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary. . .

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary. . .

V. And the Word was made flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary. . .

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

No School: The school will be closed on Monday, February 20th. There will be no Extended Care.

Lent: The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22nd. The school will attend Mass for Ash Wednesday at 9:00a.

During the Lenten season, the school will offer Mary's children daily for students and parents 7:25-7:45. Make plans to join.

Additionally, during the Lenten season, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the school will gather at 8:00a in the gym for the stations of the Cross. Parents are always welcome to join.

Used Uniform Program: After much anticipation, we are excited to open St. Joe's Clothes for its first day of sales! Come shop on Friday, February 24th, from 8 am-1:30 pm- no appointments necessary. Please use the link to review the details [SJC Sales Flyer](#)

Faculty Update: We are sad to announce that our Director of Student Support, Mrs. Stacy Carns, will not return for the 2023-24 academic year. She is stepping away from education to help with the care of her mother. We wish her the very best as she starts a new chapter in her life.

If you are interested or know of qualified candidates for the 2023-2024 academic school year, please refer them to contact Mr. Yarnall at dyarnall@stjosdevine.com

Pi Day: Mark your calendars and practice your best “Pi”rate voice to join your child for “Pi Day Palooza”, a fun, math-themed, one-day experience at St. Joseph on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. Teachers will be in touch with further information if parents want to join their child(ren)’s, class. Math teachers and students will explore a variety of standards-based math problems and activities. They will learn about the most famous irrational number, Pi, and participate in creating some Pi Day make and take crafts. The culminating activity will be a "Pi" in Mr. Yarnall's face by the class who collects the most canned goods! This will be a school-wide event at the end of the day. STAY TUNED!

Financial Aid 2023-2024: We, as a school and parish, continue to seek ways of ensuring that the blessings of a quality Catholic education are accessible to everyone.

General School Assistance through FACTS: The school offers a tuition assistance program open to all families. ***The application must be submitted online to FACTS by Tuesday, February 28th.*** To apply, simply login to the FACTS Family Portal account of the family member who is listed as being financially responsible (this should be the person who completed the enrollment/re-enrollment and set up the FACTS tuition payment). Once logged in, choose FACTS from the menu options on the left side of the screen. You will then choose "Apply for Grant and Aid". You will be redirected to the FACTS website and will need to follow the instructions there for completing the application. You should already have a FACTS account that you created for your tuition draft so use those same login credentials. You will need the following documents to complete the application process:

- copies of your most recent Federal tax forms, including all supporting tax schedules (preferably 2022 tax documents)
- copies of your 2022 W-2 forms
- copies of supporting documentation for social security income, welfare, child support, food stamps, workers' compensation, and TANF.

Diocese of Charleston's Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Tuition Assistance Grant: This tuition assistance grant is for Catholic families in good standing with their parishes. ***The application, along with a completed FACTS financial aid application (see instructions above for completing the form through FACTS Family Portal), is due to the school by Wednesday, March 15, 2023.*** The application lists the due date as March 25, 2023. However, that is the date that the applications are due to the Diocese of Charleston and since they require your pastor's signature as well as the signature of Principal Yarnall, we need to receive them in time to obtain signatures and mail to Charleston. Please note that the application will not be accepted by the Diocese of Charleston unless you have completed the online FACTS financial aid application as well.

If the financial aspect of your child's education becomes a concern at any time, please contact the school office to discuss your situation with me (Mr. Yarnall). If you have any questions about the process, please contact me (Mr. Yarnall) at 803-254-6736 or Dyarnall@stjosdevine.com

Personal Electronic Devices: Please talk with your student(s) and be mindful of the following Essential Rule on page 20 of the Parent-Student Handbook. *“Students are expected to keep non-school related electronic devices, such as games and toys at home. Cell phones, handheld games, etc., are NOT permitted on campus. Students may not wear smart electronic devices that connect to the internet via cellular or Wi-Fi during the school day and/or at Extended Care. This policy includes, but is not limited to, devices such as watches that receive and transmit text or email, Fitbits, and digital eye-wear. Students may wear Fitbits if the sole function is to monitor the wearer’s health and fitness. Health/fitness monitoring devices may not transmit warnings, alerts, or acknowledgements. Violations will be handled as a cell phone violation.”*

Saint Patrick's Day Parade: Save the date and please join SJCS for the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 18, 2023 at 9:30 am. We need students and families to help represent the school in the parade. Students should wear their dress uniform (ties optional) and the PTO will provide fun St. Pats accessories. Our start location is still to be determined, so please be on the lookout for an email with where to meet our group. Please use this link to sign up so we know how many families to expect- you are welcome to join us for some of the parade and leave early if needed. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c4baaa723a4f58-stpats#/> Contact Cheryl Munro (cheryl.munro2@gmail.com) with any questions."

Mother-Son Baseball: Please save the date for our Mother-Son Baseball Game! Join fellow St. Joe's moms and sons at Segra Park on Sunday, April 23, at 5:00 pm. It will be a fun night watching the Columbia Fireflies! See you at the ball field!

Important Upcoming Dates: Below are some important events to be aware of in the coming days:

February 20 th	No School – All Facilities are closed for Presidents Day
February 22 nd	Ash Wednesday – All School Mass 9am
February 24 th	State-wide Rosary for a peaceful end to the conflict in Ukraine - 10:00 am
February 28 th	Financial Aid deadline
March 3 rd	Diocese of Charleston – Teacher Education Conference - No school for students.
March 4 th	Transfiguration Catholic Church Fish Fry. 5:30-8 – fish-fry-announcement
March 6 th	Bishop's Day- No school
March 11 th	Transfiguration Catholic Church Fish Fry. 5:30-8 – fish-fry-announcement
March 14 th	Pi Day Palooza – Math day at SJCS
March 15 th	Dress Down Day 6-Students
March 17 th	Feast of St. Joseph's -School Mass Student dress down Pizza luncheon for the Student body End of the 3 rd quarter
March 18 th	Saint Patrick's Day Parade 9:30

It is the little things we do that show how God is in us, with us, and working through us – *"Serve one another with the gifts you have received"*.

Sincerely,

Donavan F. Yarnall, Ed. S
Principal
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