

November 27, 2022

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the week; Thanksgiving Holidays; Advent Prayer Programs; Sister Maria; Christmas Store; Spirit Night; Medication; Keyboards; and Important Upcoming Dates.

Thoughts for the week: “Gratitude—giving thanks—is a habit we cultivate intentionally, but it is not a mere matter of human will: ‘I *will* give thanks! I *will* be grateful!’ Like any other true virtue, gratitude is ultimately our response to what God is already doing.” —Vinita Hampton Wright, author of *Small Simple Ways* This Thanksgiving season; let us open ourselves to notice what God is doing in our lives so that we may respond in gratitude.

Thanksgiving Holidays: Classes will resume tomorrow, Monday, November 28th at 8:00 am.

Advent Prayer Programs: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. The school will host two prayer programs during this holy season. The first is a special Advent gathering of Mary's Children and will begin tomorrow, Monday, November 28th. This group will meet each day the school is in session during Advent from 7:25-7:45 am. Students will gather each morning in the cafeteria to pray the rosary and prepare their hearts for the coming of Jesus. Starting on Tuesday, November 29th at 8:00a, all students will assemble in the gym for the blessing and lighting of the school Advent wreath. Advent wreath services will continue at 8a each Tuesday and Thursday on which the school is in session during Advent.

Parents and parishioners are welcome to join us for any of these prayer programs.

Sister Maria: Sister Maria a long-time teacher passed away Friday night. What a well-lived life for such a faithful servant! May God rest her soul.

Christmas Store: The SJCS Christmas Store will be open December 5th- 7th. The Christmas Store is a St. Joseph tradition and offers students the opportunity to purchase small gifts for family and friends. Items in the store range from \$1.00 to \$10.00. We will have the store in the cafeteria again this year. Official store hours will be 8:30-2:00 M-T. Wednesday shopping will only be open from 11:00-1:30. Volunteers are needed to help children shop and wrap gifts. Please contact Kaley Wilson at kaleywilson@rocketmail.com

Please look for the Christmas Store form in tomorrow's Monday folder - please complete it. Return the form and money to your child's teacher by Monday, December 5th.

Spirit Night: PTO will host a Moe's night on Tuesday, December 6th. Meals must be pre-ordered using the link below. Your premade Taco Kits (feeds 4-6) for \$39.99, with ground beef, chicken, and FAMOUS QUESO, can be picked up from the front of school starting at 5p on

December 6th. Orders must be placed by Monday, December 5 at 4:00 pm. see the attached flyer. Feed the family and help fund our school! Click the link to pre-order your kit: <https://form.jotform.com/223133554331143>

Medication: Please do not send any medicine, including over-the-counter medications, in your child(ren)'s lunchbox or book bag. This includes cough drops and vitamins. Apart from cough drops, Diocesan paperwork needs to be on file for all medications. We ask that if you send cough drops, please have your child take them to the nurse's office or give them to their teacher so they can monitor when they are consumed (not while playing at recess, PE class, etc.). Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Keyboards: All students in grades 3-6 will need a Bluetooth keyboard by January 17, 2023. The keyboard should be compatible with iPad 8th generation devices. You can pick one up for under 15 dollars.

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

November 28	Classes resume
December 5	2:00 Dismissal
December 5,6,7	Christmas Store
December 6	Spirit Night- Moe's
December 7	Grandparent Dress Down Day Number 3
December 8	Immaculate Conception Holy Day Mass-9am
December 14	SJCS Christmas program - 6:30pm
December 16	12 Noon Dismissal-Christmas Break - No Extended Care

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
dyarnall@stjosdevine.com