

March 13, 2022

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the week; Daylight Saving Time Change; Kidz in Lids Service Project; Feast of Saint Joseph; Saint Patrick's Day Parade; Masks for Schoolwide Gatherings; Financial Aid 2022-23; Food Truck Festival; Extended Care Closing Early; Lenten Prayer Projects; and Local Covid Numbers.

Thoughts for the week: There is no greater thing you can do with your life and your work than follow your passions – in a way that serves the world. -Richard Branson

Daylight Savings Time Change: Last night you should have set your clocks forward one hour. This is also a great time to change batteries in smoke detectors.

Kidz in Lids Service Project: Our 3rd quarter service project is supporting the Kidz in Lids project of the Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas. Kidz in Lids mobilizes students to show concern for other kids who are in a battle with cancer. It's simple – caring kids bring a donation of any amount to school and get to wear their favorite hat throughout the school day. We will have a speaker from the program at our Prayer Service tomorrow. Money will be collected tomorrow and Tuesday and students may wear a hat to school (with their normal daily uniform) on Tuesday, March 15th. For more information on Kidz in Lids, click [HERE](#).

Feast of St. Joseph: We will celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph on Friday, March 18th. The PTO is organizing a pizza luncheon for students - each student will get two slices and a piece of fruit.

We will celebrate Mass, however students will wear normal uniform bottoms with a red top (any plain red top if they don't have a red uniform top) as red is the color for Saint Joseph.

Saint Patrick's Day Parade: Please join SJCS for the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 19, 2022 at 9:30 am. We need students and families to help represent the school in the parade. Students should wear their green PE shirts or green basketball jersey. We will have a float available that some students may ride, however you may want to bring a wagon if you think your tiny saint won't be able to walk the whole parade. Our start location is still to be determined, so please be on the lookout for an email with the location to meet our group. Please click [HERE](#) 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. Contact Carla Goff carlaggoff@gmail.com with any questions!

Masks for Schoolwide Gatherings: Please remember that even though we have moved to "mask optional," **students should come to school every day with a mask**, as they will be required in certain circumstances throughout the day. This is especially important on days we have Mass or Stations of the Cross, as all attendees are still required to wear them. Students may leave a mask in their desk for use whenever it is needed if you don't want to send a new one each morning. Due to the dozens of students who came to the office for a mask this week, our office supply of masks has run out and we do not have any more to give away.

Financial Aid 2022-2023: 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, March 15, 2022.*** To apply, simply log in 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/reenrollment 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 2021 tax documents)
- copies of your 2021 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 link [HERE](#) 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 Friday, March 18th 2022. 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

Feast of Saint Joseph Food Truck Festival: Saint Joseph Catholic School will be hosting a Food Truck Festival in honor of the Feast of Saint Joseph. The event will be held Friday, March 18th from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm on the blacktop behind the school. Food will be available to purchase from Moctezumas, Cafe Strudel, The Haute Dog Lady, and The Chillin Cow. Monsignor Harris has granted a dispensation from the Friday obligation to abstain from meat for this event. We will also have meatless options available. We hope that you will make plans to join us!

Extended Care Closing Early: Extended Care will close at 5:00 pm on Friday, March 18th for the Food Truck Festival. All students must be picked up by this time. We hope you will make plans to stay and join our school community for dinner at the Festival.

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. The 1st Stations of the Cross will be Tuesday, March 8th, and continuing each Tuesday and Wednesday during Lent that school is in session. Each day a different grade level will be leading the stations.

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 14 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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