

March 6, 2022

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the week; Financial Aid 2022-23; Food Truck Festival; Extended Care Closing Early; Lenten Prayer Projects; Saint Patrick's Day Parade; Summer Camp; 2022-23 Major Calendar Dates; and Local Covid Numbers.

Thoughts for the week: "He was lost and has been found." Luke 15:32 Lost keys, lost eyeglasses, lost papers. Finding these things brings a moment's relief. Lost direction, lost passion, lost relationship. Finding these things is a lifelong task. We lose, we find, we lose again. But do not fear; even when we are lost to ourselves, we are always in God's sight. This week talk with your families about things in your life are you hanging on to that are no longer worth keeping. What in your life is not worth losing? Together pray: You seek me constantly, O God. Grace me with a heart that can hold on to your will for me and discard my self-agenda. Amen. The thoughts for the week come from Loyola Press.

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 Monday, 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.

Saint Patrick's Day Parade: Save the date! Our Saint Joseph families will be marching in the Saint Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday morning, March 19th. We are so excited to be participating in this fun event again. Look for more details in next week's Sunday notes.

Summer Camp: We will be holding our Saints Summer Camp again this year. It will begin on June 13th and will run through August 5th. Camp will be closed the week of July 4th. More information will be available soon.

2022-23 Major Calendar Dates: The Columbia Catholic schools have set our academic calendar for the 2022-23 school year. Please see some major dates below. The full calendar will be sent home later this spring.

Aug 12 th	SJCS Meet the teachers – TBA
Aug 15 th	First day of school
Aug 15 th -17 th	12-noon dismissal
Sept 5 th	Labor Day/no school
Sept 19 th	2P dismissal
Oct 7 th	12-noon dismissal - SJCS Grandparents Day - TBA
Oct 10 th	No school/weather make up day if needed
Oct 17 th	2P dismissal
Oct 21 st	No school Teacher Workday
Oct. 28 th	No School Parent-teacher conferences

Nov 22 nd	12-noon dismissal
Nov 23 rd -26 th	Thanksgiving
Dec 5 th	2P dismissal
Dec 14 th	SJCS Christmas Program 6:30
Dec 16 th	12-noon dismissal
Dec 19 th -30 th	Christmas break
Jan 2 nd	No school
Jan 3 rd	No School - Teacher workday
Jan 4 th	Classes resume
Jan 16 th	Martin Luther King, Jr holiday/No school
Jan 23 rd	2P dismissal
Feb 16 th	12-noon dismissal
Feb 17 th	No school/teacher workday
Feb 20 th	No school/weather make-up day, if needed
March 3 rd	No school/teacher workday
March 6 th	Bishop's Day No school- tentative
March 20 th	2P dismissal
April 6 th	12-noon dismissal
April 7 th -14 th	Easter Break
April 17 th	Classes resume
May 15 th	2P dismissal
May 29 th	Memorial Day/no school
May 31 st	All school Awards Day –1:30 6 th -grade Graduation – last day for the class of 2023
June 1 st	12-noon dismissal/last day of school for all grades not graduating

Local Covid Numbers: I am incredibly happy to share that we have had no positive cases in our school community and no quarantined students or staff in the last 7 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
Principal
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