

February 27, 2022

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the week; School Attendance; Read Across America Week; Spirit Night; Ash Wednesday; Lenten Prayer Projects; Last Call for Lost and Found; Food Truck Festival; Saint Patrick's Day Parade; and Local Covid Numbers.

Thoughts for the week: Lent is one of the best times of the year for spiritual renewal. In some ways it can be considered a forty-day retreat lived each year within the context of your daily life. Most Catholics have understood the importance of Lent since childhood because of Lenten practices, such as being marked with ashes, abstaining from meat on Fridays, and giving something up as a sacrifice. All of these practices help to bear spiritual fruit in our lives. One of the most important parts of our Lenten practice is that of engaging the Holy Scriptures in a powerful and personal way. Scripture is the Word of God. Therefore, with the Word of God, we encounter Jesus Himself as we prayerfully reflect upon it. Reading and meditating on the Scriptures is a way of allowing our Divine Lord to speak to us, draw us to Himself and communicate His perfect and all-consuming love. This Lenten season take time to read and meditate on the scripture. The daily reading can be found at <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/022722.cfm>

School Attendance: We have had an increase in families pulling their children out of school for vacations. Please, if at all possible, respect our academic calendar, and keep your children in class unless they are sick.

Read Across America Week: This week February 28th- March 3rd, we will be celebrating the importance of reading with fun-themed days and activities.

Monday: Favorite Book Day: create a bookmark that represents your favorite book.

Tuesday: Teacher Reading Relay: teachers will visit another classroom and share their favorite book!

Wednesday: Reading Picnic: bring a book from your home collection to read/share with your classmates.

Thursday: Character Day: dress as your favorite book character.

Spirit Night: Welcome to Moe's- School Fundraiser! Order your premade Taco Kits at the link below. The Taco Kits (feeds 4-6) are \$34.99 and come with ground beef, chicken, and our FAMOUS QUESO! For each kit sold, \$5 will be donated back to our school! If we get over 51 kits sold then, \$10 per kit, will be given back to St. Joseph Catholic School!"

Deadline to order: Tomorrow, Monday, February 28th by 4 pm

Meal Pickup Date: Tuesday, March 1st at 5 pm

Delivery: St. Joseph Catholic School- the truck will be parked in front of the school. To not interfere with extended care student pickup, we ask that you park on Devine Street and walk up to the truck for meal pick-up.

Feed the family and help fund our school! Click the link to pre-order your kit:

<https://form.jotform.com/220453898182160>

Ash Wednesday: The school will celebrate Ash Wednesday at 9am on Wednesday, March 2nd. Parents are welcome to join us for Mass. Parents are asked to sit in the last 3-5 rows in the back of the Church. All students and parents must wear a mask at school Masses.

Other Ash Wednesday services at SJCS are at 7:30 AM; 12:15 PM; and 6:00 PM; (The 12:15 PM Mass will be livestreamed on the Church's YouTube Channel. Drive-Thru Distribution will be available from 3:30 - 4:30 PM under the overhang of the Ministries & Administration Building for those who viewed our Ash Wednesday Mass via livestream. Traffic cones will be set up to direct cars.) If attending the 7:30 AM Mass, please do NOT park in front of the church on Devine Street, as it will affect carpool for the school. And please note that when parking in the MAB lot please use the crosswalks at the corner intersections. Parking in the school parking lot will ONLY be available for the 6 PM Mass

Lenten Prayer Projects: Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2nd with Ash Wednesday. Daily Mary's Children will start that day and 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.

Last Call for Lost and Found: At the end of the school day tomorrow, we will be cleaning out the Lost and Found, sending home any items with names in them, and moving the rest to storage for the used uniform sale or donating non uniform items to charity. We currently have several water bottles, lunch boxes, a batting helmet, a pair of boots, and a dance bag among the many things in the bin. If you are still missing any items, please tell your child to check the bin **tomorrow** during the school day.

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 is offering a dispensation from the Lenten requirement to abstain from meat on Fridays for all those who attend the event. We will also have meatless options available. We hope that you will make plans to join us!

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.

Local Covid Numbers: We only had one positive student, no positive staff, 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
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