



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John The Baptist Parish

December 7, 2016

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(510) 276-6632 | Fax: (510) 276-5645 | www.StJohnCatholicSchool.org



From the Principal's Desk



Dear SJCS Families,

I invite you to make time for quiet reflection during this second week of Advent. The word "Advent" is originated from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming." It is during these next two and a half weeks that we are invited by God to prepare our hearts, minds, and homes to make room for the love of Jesus. We are called to give of ourselves more fully and to be truly present to those who need us most. The anticipation of Christmas is an exciting time for many, but can also cause some stress within in us. May we not forget what the Advent season is really about, and for whom the preparation and anticipation is intended, for Christ is within us always! I invite you to click the link below to enjoy a mini- Advent retreat.

<http://www.ignatianspirituality.com/18237/arts-faith-advent-second-sunday-imaginative-prayer-exercise>

Blessings,
Ms. Paige Child, Principal
pchild@csdo.org

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Baskets

St. Vincent de Paul is looking for donations of boxed mashed potatoes, gravy, canned cranberries, canned yams, and canned fruit for their Christmas Baskets. Donations are requested to be turned into St. Vincent de Paul by December 16th. Donations can be dropped with St. Vincent de Paul or in the school office.

St. Vincent de Paul is also looking for volunteers to help hand out the baskets on December 17th from 9:30am to 12:00pm.

Calendar Reminders

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass

Thursday, December 8th

PTG Meeting

Thursday, December 8th

8th Grade Group Photo

Friday, December 9th

Christmas Around The World Assembly

Friday, December 9th

Choir Mass

Wednesday, December 14th

6th Grade Bake Sale

Wednesday, December 14th

Christmas Program

Monday, December 19th

Noon Dismissal

NO SEP

Tuesday, December 20th

Christmas Break

Wednesday, December 21st –

Wednesday, January 4th

SJCS School Calendar

The calendar for this year is available on our school website, www.stjohncatholicsschool.org. Please check it out to stay up-to-date.

LAND DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXTENDED PROPERTY

Exciting news!!! The development of the land extension for the school and parish will begin shortly. With this said, work will need to be done with grant writing to obtain funds for the development of the land. Paige Child, Principal of St. John Catholic School, is organizing a Land Development and Grant Writing Team to assist with this ground breaking process. An introductory meeting has been scheduled for **Monday, January 9th at 7:00pm** in the school, to discuss the following:

- * money obtained from the selling of the St. Alphonse's property
- * the current funds with which we have to work
- * what each potential team member could offer as far as skills and/or known contacts regarding grant writing and/or land development

I am eager to begin the process of expanding the land and broadening the opportunities available to the school and various parish ministries. It is my intent to organize a group of leaders who are invested in St. John Catholic School and Parish, and who are committed to helping to plan, organize, and successfully execute the writing and receiving of profitable grants and ultimately plan the development of our extended property. I look forward to working with individuals who can actively serve and offer assistance with this impactful process. Please respond to Paige Child via email if you are knowledgeable or experienced in grant writing and/or land development and can attend the introductory meeting on January 9th at 7:00pm.

Attentively,
Paige Child
pchild@csdo.org

Speaking at Masses on Behalf of the School

St. John Catholic School is an incredible place to learn and grow, so let's spread the news! Ms. Child is seeking volunteers to speak about our school at the conclusion of upcoming masses at St. John Catholic Church. She is inviting parents, alumni, parents of alumni, and parishioners to share what they love most about St. John with the greater parish community. It is Ms. Child's goal to welcome many familiar and prospective families at the SJCS annual Open House on Sunday, January 29th at 10:30am. If you are interested in sharing your sentiments regarding St. John at any of the masses listed below, please email Ms. Child (pchild@csdo.org).

- Saturday's @ 4:30pm & 6:30pm (6:30pm-Spanish Mass: need Spanish speaking volunteers)
 - January 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
- Sunday's @ 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am & 2:00pm (2:00pm-Spanish Mass: need Spanish speaking volunteers)
 - January 8th, 15th, 22nd

SJCS School Board:

We recognize our new Co-Vice Chairpersons: Kelly Lopez and Daisy Visitation!

SJCS School Board Committees:

The SJCS School Board is still accepting committee members for the following committees:

The **Facilities/Strategic Planning Committee** is looking for individuals to provide feedback and assist in both long term and short term strategic planning for St. John Catholic School. This encompasses everything from facilities & land development to business & academic recommendations. Interested individuals may email planning@sjcsedu.org for more information.

If you have a flare for community outreach, a knack for igniting conversation wherever you go or you're a people person by nature or by line of work, we'd love for you to join the **Development Committee**. Our goal is to increase our communities' awareness about our school and build partnerships to help our school community thrive. Interested individuals may email development@sjcsedu.org for more information.

The **Catholic Identity/Mission Effectiveness Committee** is looking for St. John Catholic School parents and parishioners who would like to assist in maintaining, enhancing and publicly proclaiming the Catholic Identity of the school through the creation of programs and strategic planning. Interested individuals may email mission@sjcsedu.org for more information.

Parent-Teacher Group Meeting

Thursday, December 8th 6:30pm -- PTG website is sjcsptg.weebly.com

SHOUT OUT!

All Star Cheerleaders

Congratulations for earning 2nd place at the December 4th Cheer Competition and for qualifying for Nationals in February!

SJCS PTG & Dad's Club

for organizing and running the December 4th pancake breakfast and pictures with Santa!

Many thanks to the people who participated in and supported the 6th grade Holiday Craft Fair fundraiser on December 4th

CONGRATULATIONS!

St. John Annual Christmas Program

The SJCS Christmas program will take place on Monday, December 19th at 6:30pm in the church. Teachers will open their classroom doors at 6:00pm to invite students in so that parents may find seats and get settled in the church. Teachers will escort students to they gym for the performance. Ms. Tripp is asking for formal Christmas attire to be worn by students at the Christmas program -- dress slacks and nice shirts (preferably button ups) for the boys, and dresses/skirts or nice pants for the girls. She also is specifically requesting that no sneakers or jeans be worn to the event.

Student Emergency Kits

Schools customarily ask families to provide an emergency pack for each child at the beginning of the school year, and then the packs are sent home at the end of each school year to be restocked with non-expired products.

Families will be asked to provide an emergency pack for their child(ren) by January 6, 2017. Required supplies will include two 16oz. bottles of water, six high protein bars or one 2400 calorie Datrix food ration bar, and one pair of underwear. All consumable items should not expire before June 2017.

More information regarding these kits will be sent home before Christmas Break. Your child's safety and comfort are our first priority, and your cooperation is much appreciated.

LAST CALL for 2016 SCRIP Orders!!

Order forms attached to this week's newsletter are due back to the school office on **Thursday, December 8th at 10:00am**. Order your holiday grocery shopping and Christmas gift cards today! A percentage of your SCRIP amount goes toward your family's \$300 fundraising obligation. *Did you know there are over 700 retailers to choose from? Visit www.shopwithscrip.com for a complete list of participating vendors!*

Limited time increased profit percentage:

AMC 8% now 13%	JCPenny 5% now 6%	Hallmark 4% now 6%
American Eagle Outfitters 40% now 12%	L.L. Bean 16% now 18%	Journeys 40% now 13%
Bass Pro Shops 9% now 13%	Landry's 9% now 13%	OshKosh B'gosh 40% now 11%
Belk 8% now 10%	Red Robin 9% now 11%	Papa John's Pizza 8% now 10%
CVS/Pharmacy 6% now 7%	Spa & Wellness Gift Card 44% now 18%	Petsmart 4% now 8%
California Pizza Kitchen 8% now 13%	The Home Depot 4% now 7%	See's Candies 9% now 11%
Dave & Buster's 13% now 15%	Under Armor 44% now 16%	Smart & Final 3% now 5%
Del Taco 7% now 8%	Bed Bath & Beyond 7% now 8%	Starbucks 7% now 9%
Groupon 7% now 10%	Carter's 40% now 11%	TGIFridays 9% now 10%

Please Note:

There will be only one SCRIP order placed in December!

St. John Parish Christmas Eve Family Mass

Our Christmas Eve Family Mass will again be celebrated at 4:30 pm on December 24, 2016. Children from kindergarten through 8th grade at St. John School are invited to take an active role in this liturgy. Participation can be in non-speaking acting roles in the Christmas Gospel drama, by singing in the choir, or as readers.

All who wish to participate must attend a required rehearsal on Saturday, December 17, at 9:30 am in the church.

Parents are needed at both the rehearsal and the Mass to help guide the children who will be in the Gospel drama. Some simple costumes will be provided but most children will wear regular clothing.

Mass on Christmas Eve begins at 4:30 pm. All actors, readers and choir members must be in church by 3:45 pm.

Please fill out the form below and return the bottom portion of this page to school by Thursday, December 8.

Keep this upper portion of the page for your own reference.

Christmas Eve Mass Children's Participation Form

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please check only one category for the child's preference:

_____ Actor roles, (non-speaking) The parts of Mary, Joseph, angels and shepherds will be determined on the day of the rehearsal.

_____ Choir

_____ Readers (must be 6th grade or older, with some experience reading at Mass)

_____ Parents - Can you help during the rehearsal and the Mass? _____ Yes _____ No

SCRIP ORDER 2016 - 2017

Family Name _____
 Name & Grade of oldest child _____

******Orders Due by December 8, 2016.**

Entertainment	%	\$	QTY	Net \$
Century Theaters	4%	\$25		
Century Theaters Single Admit	10%	\$9.50		
Gas	%	\$	QTY	Net \$
Arco	1.5%	\$50		
	2.5%	\$250		
Chevron	1%	\$50		
	1%	\$250		
Shell	2.0%	\$50		
		\$100		
Grocery	%	\$	QTY	Net \$
Lucky/Savemart	2%	\$25		
		\$100		
Safeway	4%	\$25		
		\$100		
Smart & Final	3%	\$25		
		\$100		
Target	2.5%	\$25		
		\$100		
Whole Foods	3%	\$25		
		\$100		

Fast Food/Restaurant	%	\$	QTY	Net \$
Applebee's	8%	\$25		
Chipotle	10%	\$10		
IHOP	8%	\$25		
Olive Garden	9%	\$25		
Starbucks Coffee	7%	\$10		
		\$25		
Retail	%	\$	QTY	Net \$
Amazon.com	3%	\$25		
		\$100		
Old Navy	14%	\$25		
		\$100		
Macy's	10%	\$25		
		\$100		
Marshall's/TJ Maxx	7%	\$25		
Ross	8%	\$25		
Dick's Sporting Goods	8%	\$25		
		\$100		
Walgreens	6%	\$25		
		\$100		

Please refer to www.shopwithscrip.com for a complete list of participating vendors.

Write In Orders** (use back side of form if needed)	%	\$	QTY	Net \$

*Payment must be included with this form. Make checks payable to St. John Catholic School
 Turn completed forms to School Office or send back in Wednesday envelope.
 Orders will be ready in about 1 week.*

Cash Check # _____

**Orders Due by THURSDAY, December 8, 2016 10:00 AM.
 DO NOT MISS OUT ON THE LAST ORDER OF 2016!**

TOTAL \$ _____

- I will pick up my Scrip Order at the school office I will pick up my Scrip Order at SEP
 Please send home Scrip Order with eldest child

Purchased By (please print) _____ Phone # _____

I understand that Scrip is like cash and St. John Catholic School is not responsible if your Scrip order is lost or stolen.

Signature _____ Date _____