



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John Parish

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January 6, 2016

Letter from the Principal

Happy New Year! Welcome back after what we hope was a joyous Christmas break.

Today we mark a very important day our Catholic faith as we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. In many predominately Catholic countries, this feast is equally as important as Christmas itself.

Epiphany comes from the Greek word meaning “to reveal” — the solemnity of this feast celebrates Christ’s revelation to mankind.

The story is out; Jesus Christ, Light of the World has been born to dispel the darkness that covers its people. God’s glory appears in human form. Life on earth will never be the same again!

Father God, the star that led the Magi to the stable announced to the world that its Savior was born. Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to the stable door. May our lives reflect your light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us. That we might be the means through which others can encounter Jesus Christ. Amen (From <http://www.faithandworship.com>)

Blessings,

Mrs. Rachel Gonsalves



Pope Francis Declares Year of Mercy

From Advent 2015 to the end of the liturgical year in 2016, the Catholic Church is celebrating a Jubilee Year of Mercy. Pope Francis is encouraging the entire Church to meditate on God’s mercy in their lives and to share that mercy with others. Year of Mercy website (Vatican)

<http://www.im.va/content/gdm/en.html>

A gentle reminder that Friday, January 29 is a noon dismissal so we can prepare our wonderful school to welcome visitors to our annual Open House on Sunday, January 31!

Parking Lot Protocol Reminder

As a courtesy to all of our parents and to avoid traffic backups on Lewelling Blvd., park your car in a designated spot if you and your children require more time, e.g. opening the trunk, being unbuckled from a car seat, zipping jackets, etc. as this will allow vehicles behind you to keep the line moving.

Remember that all families are invited to walk children to the schoolyard and join

us for morning assembly, pledge, and prayer. We look forward to seeing you!

8th Graders Taking the High School Placement Test

We keep our 8th graders in prayer this week. On Saturday, January 9, many of our students will be taking the High School Placement Test to the Catholic high schools in our area. Good luck to all!

Book Fair Volunteers Needed

We welcome Mrs. Monica Gioukaris as the SJCS winter Book Fair coordinator. The Scholastic Book Fair will run from January 28-February 2, and volunteers will be needed to set up, help with sales, and pack up at the end of the fair. Mrs. Gioukaris will have sign ups available on line in early January, but if you're interested in helping, please e-mail her at moni21luv@sbcglobal.net.

Summer Camps at Moreau Catholic

Moreau Catholic High School is once again offering Mariner Explorer Camps for students entering grades 6-8 this fall. Camp runs from June 20-30, every weekday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Choose from classes in filmmaking, robotics, world languages, art, drama, dance, and MakerLab. Register now and get more information by visiting moreaucatholic.org/explorers

For students entering grades 7-9, Mock Trial Camp is now being offered from June 13-17, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Apply now at moreaucatholic.org/mocktrialcamp.

Handbook Policy of the Week

This week we will provide a reminder from section *XIV Student Services: Hot Lunch Program*:

St. John Catholic School expects parents to provide a nutritious and healthy snack for their child to eat during recess each day. Candy, soda, and sugary snacks and

beverages are not allowed for snack or lunch.

Children must have a lunch brought from home or participate in the hot lunch program offered through Children's Choice (ChoiceLunch).

Pre-ordered lunches are offered through Children's Choice. Please visit www.choicelunch.com to register and get more information about the program. Computers can be made available at the school for families who do not have Internet access. Stop by the office and we will be happy to help you with this process.

St John Catholic School does not permit delivery of "forgotten" lunches after 9 a.m. Fast food (McDonalds, Burger King, Taco Bell, Subway, etc.) is not allowed.

Any child who does not have a lunch should notify his/her teacher or yard supervisor. The child will be given an emergency lunch from ChoiceLunch and parents will be billed accordingly. If there are unpaid bills with ChoiceLunch, a lunch will not be provided. In the event a lunch cannot be provided, parents will be called to make arrangements for a meal for their child.

Student Emergency Kits – Due This Month

During the month of January, families will be asked to provide an emergency pack for their child(ren). Required supplies include two 16oz. bottles of water, six high protein bars or one 2400-calorie Datrix food ration bar, and one pair of underwear. A letter to your child is recommended. All consumable items should not expire before June 2016.

For your reference, a sample kit is on display in the front office.

Supply kits can be turned in to your child's teacher now through January 29. These kits will be sent home at the end of the school year and will be collected in August for the 2016-2017 school year.

Thank you for helping keep your child ready and prepared in the event of an emergency.



Opening of Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, January 31 with our annual Pancake Breakfast, Mass at 9:30 a.m., followed by Open House and Scholastic Book Fair in the school. See you there!

San Francisco Boys Choir Auditions

Auditions for the San Francisco Boys Chorus will take place at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland on Saturday, January 9, 2016. Boys 5-12 years old with unchanged voices are encouraged to apply, and no prior music training is necessary.

For more information, contact San Francisco Boys Chorus Office at 415-861-7464 or visit them at sfbcfinance@sfbc.org
Sfbc.org/auditions

Brrr! It's Cold Outside

Students may wear non-uniform jackets to and from school only, and are required to wear uniform sweatshirts, sweaters, and jackets during the school day, including recess and lunch. There are plenty of uniform options to keep you warm during these chilly months.

St. John CYO clothing is not school uniform apparel. It may be worn to and

from school only, not during the school day.

Boots and flats (shoes without a strap across the instep) are not allowed at any time, including non-uniform days.

Remember that **leggings are not allowed**. Girls may wear solid black, solid green, or solid white tights with skirts and jumpers only.

When purchasing shoes for school, please remember to follow our dress code guidelines – shoes must be solid black, brown, or white – no patterns or prints.



Feast of the Epiphany

Wednesday, January 6

6th Gr. Bake Sale

Thursday, January 7

Family Mass - Sponsored by 5th Grade

Sunday, January 10, 9:30 a.m.

8th Gr. Nacho Sale

Wednesday, January 13

MUSE Band Concert

Wednesday, January 13, 4 p.m.

Music Room

Peace Prayer Service

Thursday, January 14, 2:20 p.m.

No School – Elementary Staff Day

Friday, January 15

No School – MLK, Jr. Day

Monday, January 18

**8th Gr. Individual Graduation
Pictures**

Monday, January 25

8th Gr. Nacho Sale

Wednesday, January 27

Coffee Chat

Friday, January 29, 8:05 a.m.

**Noon Dismissal – Open House
Preparation**

Friday, January 29

**Open House, Pancake Breakfast,
Book Fair for the Opening of Catholic
Schools Week**

Sunday, January 31, 2016

8 a.m. Pancake Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Mass

10:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Open
House and Book Fair