



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John The Baptist Parish

www.StJohnCatholicSchool.org

270 E. Lewelling Blvd San Lorenzo, CA. 94580

info@sjcsedu.org - (510) 276-6632

February 25, 2026 Newsletter

Friday, February 27th
\$5 Shamrock Pride Friday

See's Candies Fundraiser Orders
Due before Noon!

2:15 Stations of the cross
TK & 6th Grade

Sunday, March 1st
9:30 Class Mass
TK & 3rd Grade



ST. JOHN COMMUNITY PRAYER CORNER:

Please continue to pray for those close to us, including Grandpa Hartley, The Mccaffrey-Pardee Family, Richard Russell, Salvador Contreras, Beth Stern, the Stern family, the entire St. Felicitas community, Lenora Carroll, Melody Round, the Bannister family, Jim Smith, Jim Fahey, Rudy Catimbang, Martha Lopez, Shanty Gupta, and Jennifer Bliss-Griffin.

If you have anyone you'd like to add to our prayer corner just email info@sjcsedu.org.

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK:

The Virtue of **Self-control** - Also known as: Discipline

Definition of **Self-control**:

Joyful mastery over one's passions and desires

Prayer for **Self-control**:

Dear Jesus, Thank You for all the desires You have given me, because they remind me of the desire in my heart that only You can fill! Help me to control my tongue when I am supposed to be silent; my hands when I am supposed to keep them to myself; my eyes when I am supposed to be focused on a particular person or thing; and my ears to listen to only those things I am supposed to hear.

Announcements

PRAY WITH ME THIS LENT!:

I would like to offer time to pray, reflect and connect this Lent! Meet me in Room 15 on Wednesdays at 4pm. Very informal – just come with an open mind. -Mrs. Babcock

ST. GERARD EASTER BAKE SALE:

Join our Easter Bake Sale on SATURDAY, MARCH 21st FROM 3PM-7PM and on SUNDAY, MARCH 22nd FROM 8AM-1PM at ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, 264 E. LEWELLING BLVD., SAN LORENZO. On SUNDAY there will be a CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AVAILABLE. THERE WILL BE AN ASSORTMENT OF SCRUMPTIOUS BAKED GOODS AS WELL AS RAFFLE PRIZES (need not be present to win), along with TRINKETS & TREASURES. For more information please contact St. John's Church Office at 510-351-5050.

SCHOOL WISH LIST - WE NEED TISSUE:

Hopefully you noticed there were a lot fewer items on student supply lists this year. Missing from that list were essential items like tissues and copy paper. Rather than making it mandatory we're asking families that would like to do so to donate those (and other) items on an as needed basis. Our wish list can be found [HERE](#). Please include your name on any donations sent to the school so we can credit your service hours appropriately. Service hours will be awarded at \$25/hr. So every \$25 spent equals 1 service hour.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TUITION ASSISTANCE:

Applications are now available for FACE (Family Aid – Catholic Education) and The BASIC Fund financial aid.

The BASIC Fund is available for new students whose families meet all the application requirements. The deadline to apply for current and new families is March 27, 2026. For more information, please go to www.basicfund.org or see the link on our website. Current families receiving The BASIC Fund can go to their website to access their renewal application. To apply for a sibling, you must fill out an application through the Existing Family Application Page on their website.

FACE (Family Aid-Catholic Education) applications are available online only at <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3FVYB> or see the link on their website <https://www.oakdiocese.org/face-about/>. This application requires documentation for income received in 2024. Reminders: you must re-apply to F.A.C.E. each year and make sure you check the box for Family Aid-Catholic education under "Other Organizations". The deadline to apply is March 31, 2026.

School Tuition Assistance: If you are currently receiving aid from the school or wish to apply for the 2026-2027 school year, you must first complete a FACTS application and apply for FACE AND complete this application: [St. John Catholic School Tuition Assistance Application](#) before consideration for SJCS tuition assistance

Active Parishioner Scholarship: If you currently receive an Active Parishioner Scholarship (APS) you will be contacted in the coming weeks with instructions on how to reapply. If you are interested in applying for APS more information on how to do so and deadlines will be coming in the next couple weeks.

If you have any questions regarding FACE, BASIC, or SJCS tuition assistance, please contact us. Deadlines established by FACE and BASIC are firm; a missed deadline will mean a missed opportunity.

Reminders

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR:

Registration emails for the 2026-2027 school year were already sent out. Parents should have received an email from Ms. Aimee with instructions on how to complete returning registration for each student. If you have not yet received your student specific email, please contact Ms. Aimee as soon as possible. Additionally, returning registration fees are due by April 30th, after April 30th a \$50 re-enrollment fee per student will be assessed. Please contact Ms. Aimee with any questions.

IN PARISH RATE REQUIREMENTS:

This is just a reminder that to qualify for the In Parish Rate next year (2026-2027 school year) you must have completed the following prior to February 2026:

- Registered with the parish and regularly attend mass
- All age appropriate student sacraments complete
- Contribute a minimum of \$200 to either the school's Annual Fund or the parish through the use of their weekly envelopes/EFT or a combination of both.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

For real-time awesome stuff we do check out our Instagram page!
<https://www.instagram.com/stjohnshamrocks/>
If you're old we have Facebook too!
<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnslz/>
We even have a private group of Facebook. If you're not already a member you can click the link below to join <https://www.facebook.com/groups/119972304755849/>

"The Shamrock Swap"

WELCOME TO THE SHAMROCK SWAP:

Thanks to Mitchell's mom (Jen) we have name for SJCS' version of Marketplace. Welcome to The Shamrock Swap. If you have a business to promote, items to sell, if you're in need of something just let us know and we can post it here in The Shamrock Swap section of our newsletter. Just email Mr. Enos with whatever it is you want or need and we'll post it here! denos@csdo.org

SERVICES OFFERED:

Tutoring:
If you have a child (or know of one) that could benefit from a Tutor here is a great recommendation! Former SJCS teacher
<https://www.trailmarkerteaching.com>

Commercial cleaning business:
Top Tier Office Clean
"The New Standard of Workspace Clean,"
patrickfassino@top-tierclean.net www.top-tierclean.net

Babysitting:
Hey Everyone, Ms. Martinez, our third grade teacher is also a babysitter! She is a 26 year old Hayward native and has been babysitting for kids ages 1-13 years old for the past 8 years. She is currently taking on more work and is looking for the opportunity to babysit for date nights, busy weekdays/weekends, or for whatever you may need! She also can complete light cleaning (laundry, vacuuming/sweeping, cleaning the kitchen, dishes) and help prepare basic meals! She is very flexible and one of our very own so you know you can trust her! If anyone feels interested but wants a reference first, or wants to talk dates and prices, please reach out to Ms. Martinez through phone (510)-940-5436, or email @ jennemartinez12@gmail.com and she can get that information over to you.

Electrician:
Lee Electric corp





Alice in Wonderland Jr. Musical is
in need of supplies for props
Please!!

News papers and/or **brown packaging material**
from Amazon



Can be given to Ms. Russo in the office
Thank you!



SHAMROCK — PRIDE — FRIDAYS

Dress up to cool down!

Want to donate toward our electrical upgrade to install air conditioners in each classroom?

The last Friday of each month students will have the opportunity to donate \$5 and wear their St. John Shamrock clothing rather than their uniform.



\$5.00 Donation



7th Grade Fundraiser

HOT CHOCOLATE SALE

\$2*



Friday
March 6
@ snack time

*CASH ONLY

40-Day WORDS OF HOPE Challenge

40 Days of Kindness, Respect & Peace

Choose Words
that Build Up!

Be Kind

Speak with Love

No Gossip

Words Matter!

Spread Hope



The 40-Day “Words of Hope” Challenge

For the next 40 days, our school community commits to using words that build up, not tear down.

Every student is invited to take part in this challenge to create a culture of kindness, respect, and peace.

1. Disarm Your Language

Pause before you speak.

Ask yourself: Is it true? Is it kind? Is it necessary?

Avoid harsh, sarcastic, or insulting comments — even as a joke.

2. No Gossip Zone

Do not speak negatively about someone who isn't present.

Refuse to spread rumors.

If a conversation turns into gossip, change the subject or walk away.

3. Replace Criticism with Encouragement

Give at least one genuine compliment each day.

Thank classmates, teachers, and staff for what they do.

Use words that build confidence rather than destroy it.

4. Kindness Online

Post, chat and comment with respect.

Do not engage in online arguments, name-calling, or hurtful memes.

If you wouldn't say it face-to-face, don't type it.

5. Avoid Rash Judgments

Don't assume the worst about someone's intentions.

Take time to understand before reacting.

Remember: everyone is fighting battles you may not see.

6. Practice Peace in Every Space

In classrooms, hallways, sports, group projects, and social events:

Speak calmly during disagreements.

Listen without interrupting.

Choose words that solve problems rather than escalate them.

7. Daily Reflection

At the end of each day, ask yourself:

Did my words today bring hope or hurt?

Did I stand up against unkind speech?

How can I do better tomorrow?

The Goal

By the end of 40 days, we aim to:

Reduce gossip and negative talk.

Strengthen friendships.

Create a school culture of respect and belonging.

Replace words of anger with words of hope and peace.

Consequences:

Week 1: Gentle Reminder

For minor slips (sarcasm, blurting something unkind, etc.)

Verbal reminder: "Was that building up or tearing down?"

Student restates their comment in a kind way.

Quick reflection question: "How could you say that differently?"

Starting 2/25: Reflection & Repair

Complete the "Word of Hope" reflection sheet:

40-Day Words of Hope Pledge

I choose to use my words to build up, not tear down.

I will speak with kindness and respect.

I will pause before I speak and think about how my words affect those around me.

I will choose peace over conflict and encouragement over criticism.

For the next 40 days, I commit to being a voice of hope in my school community.



**BAY AREA
ADVENTURES (Gr 2-8)**
Daily trips to local treasures
June 15-19



**SCIENCE EXPLORATION
(Gr 2-8)**
Daily trips to science museums
June 29-July 2

PILOT SUMMER PATHWAYS

Explore cool themes, build skills,
have fun—week by week!

- ✓ June 22-26
- ✓ July 6-10
- ✓ July 13-17

GRADES 2-5



GRADES 6-9

Athletics

STEAM
Science, Technology,
Engineering, Art, and
Math

VAPA
Visual and
Performing Arts

**Leadership
& Service**



COOKING + BAKING

For beginners through aspiring future chefs
(Grades 2-8)

- June 22-26** Beginner baking
- July 6-10** Beginner cooking
- July 13-17** Intermediate/advanced cooking & baking

**Add-ons available: Lunch, Morning Care
(8-9am), After Care (3-5pm)**

Early Bird Discount through February 28

Scan the QR code or visit <https://www.sjnd.org/summer>



billy