



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John Parish

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January 20, 2016

Letter from the Principal

We're gearing up for Catholic Schools Week! SJCS alumni continue to tell us that CSW events are some of the best memories of their elementary school years, so get ready to make memories with the St. John Catholic School community beginning this Friday night with the Alumni/8th Grade/Staff basketball night. All are invited to join in the fun (and the good food from the snack bar!)

While the Pope's declaration of the Year of Mercy has been shared with Catholics worldwide, our local diocese has set up a website with information about the Year of Mercy right here in the East Bay. Log on to see videos from the Mercy Project. How can you and your family bring about mercy and hope to others?

The Mercy Project is a Video Series that follows 14 stories in the Diocese of Oakland, from Richmond to Walnut Creek, to West Oakland and beyond. Each video tells a story of someone who exemplifies a Work of Mercy. The people in these videos are from all walks of life, in different parishes and life situations, but they have found a way to let God's Mercy shine through their actions. We hope you will be inspired to join them.

<http://jubileeofmercy-eb.org/page/mercy-project-diocese-of-oakland/>

Blessings,

Mrs. Rachel Gonzales

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

Student Emergency Kits – Due January 29

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.

Catholic Schools Week: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service

Look for a full schedule of Catholic Schools Week events and celebrations at St. John Catholic School in next week's newsletter!

Handbook Policy of the Week

This week we will provide a reminder from VIII. B. 2. Tuition Assistance:

All applicants must complete a Private School Aid Service (PSAS) profile to qualify for tuition assistance. Applications are generally due by mid-March. Notification dates vary.

The diocesan Elementary School Family Aid for Catholic Education (FACE) program assists families through tuition grants. FACE analyzes the financial need of each family and awards grants accordingly. For more information, contact the FACE office at 510-628-2156.

The BASIC Fund provides tuition assistance to families moving their children from public schools to private/parochial schools. For more information about this program, call BASIC Fund at 415-986-5650.

Families who are not awarded FACE or BASIC Fund grants may apply to the Principal and the Finance Committee for school assistance *after* applying to FACE and/or BASIC. A completed PSAS application is required. All financial applications are reviewed in strict confidence.

Much of the school assistance funding comes from generous donors and parishioners. Recipients of school tuition assistance are expected to fully support school and parish fundraising, including the annual parish festival. Regular mass attendance and liturgical participation are also expected.

Volunteers needed!

The Knights of Columbus are in need of volunteers to sell tickets at the door of the wonderful pancake breakfast they are hosting on January 31. The shifts are anywhere from 7:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Service hours will be given for those

parents that volunteer their time. Please contact the front office (510) 276-6632 or email dserrano@csdo.org if you are interested.

St John Alumni Night Basketball Extravaganza!

Please come and join us Friday, January 22nd for St. John's first-ever Staff vs. 8th Grade and Alumni Basketball game. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. and there will be a full snack bar, cheer performances, and more. Adults \$2 and Children \$1. If you are interested in volunteering or playing in the Alumni game please email info@sjcsedu.org or sign up at <http://goo.gl/forms/xJJchgTCYx>.

CYO Crab Feed

CYO's annual crab feed is coming up Saturday, February 6. Don't forget to order your all-you-can-eat crab feed tickets today, they are first-come, first-serve! Please see the flyer included in this week's envelope.

For Parents: What Technology is Appropriate for Your Children

Our Lady of Grace School in Castro Valley is hosting an information night about appropriate technology for your children. All families are encouraged to attend this free program!

When: Monday, February 1, 7 p.m.

Where: Stack Center @ Our Lady of Grace Parish

Who: Michael Dreyfus-Pai from the Diocese of Oakland and OLG Parent Aaron Edens

Come hear how technology can enhance your child's learning and what apps may seem appropriate but in fact are very dangerous for your child!

SCRIP Orders!

Order forms are included in this week's envelope and due back to the school office on Thursday, January 28. Don't

forget that a percentage of your SCRIP amount goes toward your family's \$300 fundraising obligation. Please note the upcoming bonuses on the back of the order form.



Parent Club Invitation

The SJCS Parent Club will be hosting our next Coffee Chat Friday, January 29th, at 8:05am. Our theme will be Catholic Schools Week. Please stop by our Parent Club information table at Catholic Schools Week open house and save the date for our next general Parent Club meeting: Thursday, February 11th, at 6:30pm. We will be planning for our Spring Social/Auction.

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.

Jubilee of Mercy Enrichment Night

Friday, January 22, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
St. John Parish, 264 E Lewelling Blvd.,
San Lorenzo

Be enriched by Pope Francis's vision for the Jubilee Year of Mercy through an inspiring presentation. Encounter Christ and embark on a journey of spiritual renewal, transformation and compassionate outreach on Friday, January 22 at St. John, San Lorenzo. This free event will include two tracks, one in English and one in Spanish.

The English talk will be led by Patti Collyer, and the Spanish talks will be led by Mary Ann Wiesinger and Hector Medina.

6th gr. Bake Sale

Thursday, January 21

Alumni Basketball Game

Friday, January 22 5:30pm

8th Gr. Individual Graduation Pictures

Monday, January 25

8th Gr. Nacho Sale

Wednesday, January 27

Science Fair

Thursday, January 28, 6:30 p.m.

Coffee Chat

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

Noon Dismissal – Open House Preparation

Friday, January 29

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

Social Media

Don't forget to like us on Facebook, follow us on twitter, and tag us in your Instagram photos.



: St. John Catholic School



: StJohnShamrocks



: StJohnShamrocks