



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John Parish

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September 23, 2015

Letter from the Principal

Dear SJCS Families,

This week we keep our 8th grade students in prayer as they celebrate their faith community and experiential learning opportunities at Caritas Creek at CYO Camp in Occidental. They left with much fanfare on Monday morning, and will be home mid-day on Friday. Keep our students and their chaperones and teachers in prayer.

Did you get the chance to go to the Village Carnival this past weekend? We extend thanks to our staff who volunteered to work the St. John Catholic School booth to promote village spirit and community! We thank **Ms. Jen, Mrs. Flynn, Mrs. Babcock, Mrs. Elliott, Ms. Child and Mr. Enos!** Thank you for helping spread the good news about SJCS in our community!

Don't forget to sign up to volunteer at our Fall Festival! Go to SignUpGenius at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094FA5AB2FA0F49-sjcs>

Remember that class booths are in number order (so you'll find Kindergarten and PreK at the bottom!)

Blessings,

Mrs. Rachel Gonsalves

Principal

Pope Francis' Visit to the United States



This week we welcome Pope Francis to the United States for his first-ever visit to our country. Teachers will be sharing information about his visit with the classes, and you can stay informed as well. To follow the news:

www.facebook.com/TheCatholicVoice
www.CatholicVoiceOakland.org
www.catholicnews.com
www.catholicnewsagency.com
www.ewtn.com
www.worldmeeting2015.org

*"The family is the greatest treasure
of any country.
Let us all work to protect
and strengthen this,
the cornerstone of society."
--Pope Francis*

Say Cheese!

It's Picture Day Tomorrow!

This Thursday is Picture Day! Please make sure that your child comes to school in a clean and complete uniform. Teachers have sent order forms home so you can order photos of your child.

URGENT!

Student Pick Up on October 2

Parents are reminded that our parish and school Fall Festival begins on Friday, October 2. The lot between the church and the rectory (Area 2) will *not* be accessible that day. Those who pick up students at the end of the day must use the entrance and exits on the west side of the church near the Maryknoll offices (former convent).

We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.



Fall Festival

St. John's Harvest Fall Festival

Friday, October 2, and

Saturday, October 3, 2015

Free Entertainment Live Music!!

Raffle Great Food!!

Pancake Breakfast on Sunday!!

For information regarding sponsorship or volunteering please call (510) 688-0669 or sjcsfallfestival@gmail.com

Wristband Presale!

If you'd like to purchase a wristband for Friday, October 2 at the price of \$15, pick up your order form in the office or on our SJCS website. The festival is open at 3 p.m. on Friday for our SJCS students and family.

Festival Help Needed!

Lumpia Wrapping Event

Saturday, September 26, 10 a.m.

The Filipino Booth has always been a big contributor to the festival, and this year is no exception! You are welcome to join the Filipino Food Booth for their annual Lumpia Wrapping Day on

Saturday, September 26 at 10 a.m. in the Community Meeting Room in the gym.

Never rolled a lumpia? No worries! We have folks that will show you how! Please sign up now on the festival's SignUpGenius link.

NEW! Festival Donations and Services!

Each family is required to complete at least two (2) of their total required service hours at the festival either in time or in qualifying donations (see below).

Beverages

- 1 service hour for 5 cases of water or 6 cases (12pk) of soda.

Baked Goods

- 1 service hour for 2 cakes, 2 pies, or 2 dozen cupcakes or treats

Dish Pitch

- 1 service hour for 1 box (approx. 25 items) of glasses, cups, mugs, bowls, and dishes

Hidden Treasures

- 1 service hour for a large box of costume jewelry, purses, bags, beads, earrings, scarves, craft and unique items. (No large furniture or clothes please)

Donations may be dropped off at the school beginning the afternoon of September 29th. Baked goods may only be dropped off on Friday, October 2nd. To make special arrangements for donations please email sjcsfallfestival@gmail.com.

Note: Additional volunteers are needed for parking control and janitorial. If you are able to volunteer in this capacity please email sjcsfallfestival@gmail.com.

Fingerprinting for Volunteers

October 8, 2015 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. @ SJCS. The cost is \$34. Bring payment and a photo I.D. with you. Volunteers must make an appointment. To sign up, go to:
www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0D4CA4AA2BAAF58-parent

Blessing of the Animals

Wednesday, September 30, 2015
2 p.m. in Area 1 (School grounds)

All animals and their owners are welcome to come and be blessed in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. All animals must be in an appropriate and safe cage, or on a leash.

Handbook Reminder of the Week

Each week, look for a gentle reminder from our 2015-2016 Parent/Student Handbook. This week we will focus on the St. John Catholic School **Reporting Absences:**

When a student is absent, the parent/guardian must notify the office by 8:30 a.m. each day of the absence. If the office does not receive a phone call by this time, the school will contact the parent/guardian for verification of the absence. At that time, requests for homework should be made. If a parent does not request homework, it will not be prepared for the student. If a parent requests homework in the morning, it will be placed on the Homework Table next to the school office at the end of the school day to be picked up before 3:30 p.m.

A student who has been absent from school is required upon return to present a written excuse stating the reason for the absence, and the letter must be signed by the student's parent/guardian. These letters are required to be kept on file by each teacher until the end of the school year.

Alert from the Catholic Schools **Department of the Diocese of Oakland**

Dear school families,
We are excited to launch a new service that will enhance communication by allowing us to deliver important information to you via SMS text messaging. The service is powered by [SchoolMessenger](#). In order to receive announcements and emergency communications via text, you must "opt-in" to receive these messages.

On Wednesday evening [tonight] you will receive an SMS text message asking if you are willing to receiving texts from the Diocese of Oakland Catholic Schools. Although all Diocese schools share this system, you will only receive messages from our school except in the case of a regional emergency.

Please note, although there is no charge for this service, it does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by you for sending or receiving text messages. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges. You may opt-out of this service at any time by texting STOP to 68453.

SJCS School Calendar

The calendar for this year will be available on our school website, www.stjohncatholicschool.org. Please check it out to stay up-to-date!



Calendar Reminders

Picture Day

Thursday, September 24

Blessing of the Animals

Wednesday, September 30
2 p.m., Area 1

Student of the Month Assembly

Tuesday, October 6

Diocesan Fingerprinting at SJCS

Thursday, October 8
5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Parent Club Meeting

Thursday, October 8
6:30 p.m.

First Filipino Saint: St. Lorenzo Ruiz Feast Day – Monday, Sept. 28

This Monday is the feast day for the first Filipino saint, St. Lorenzo Ruiz.

St. John the Baptist will mark his feast day with a special liturgy on Saturday, September 26 at the 8:30 a.m. mass. All are welcome to come and learn more about St. Lorenzo Ruiz's faith and commitment to God.



from http://www.catholic.org/saints/fun_facts

We need YOU!

Seeking Parent Club Officers for 2015-2016 School Year!

*A message from Parent Club President
Daisy Visitacion:*

Parents, we have such an exciting year ahead of us and we are hoping to fill open positions for the following for our SJCS Parent Club! As parents, this is OUR CLUB and YOU can make a difference by being involved by becoming an Officer or Class Ambassador. All parents are members of the Parent Club, and are encouraged to be involved, but we need many hands

to help lead a fun, productive and Shamrock-pride filled school year:

Vice President/Volunteer

Coordinator (Responsible for helping coordinate events and oversee the Parent Club with the President and coordinate volunteers for events and fundraisers)

Secretary/Treasurer (Responsible for maintaining a detailed log of all expenses, budgets and to assist with Parent Club Agenda and Meeting Minutes and distribution/posting of same)

Communications/Publicity

Officer (Responsible for promoting the SJCS Parent Club events and meetings through social media, emails, weekly announcements, etc.)

NEW! Class Ambassadors for grades 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th (This is a new program, separate from the established "Room Parent" role. We are hoping to get at 1 parent from each grade to commit to being the main liaison to their child's class to promote school-wide involvement in our Parent Club events and activities and attend monthly meetings)

If you are interested in any of these roles, please email Principal, Mrs. Gonsalves (rgonsalves@csdo.org) and Parent Club President, Daisy Visitacion (dbmorales@gmail.com) by **Wednesday, September 30th** stating the position you are interested in, why you would like to serve in this role, and any special talents or experiences that you can contribute to our Club.

Appointed Officers and Class Ambassadors, upon completion of a successful and productive year, will have his/her required 20 Service Hours fulfilled for the 2015-2016 school year.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact Parent Club President, Daisy Visitacion. (510) 861-6631 or dbmorales@gmail.com