

October 18, 2020

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

**Items in this newsletter:** Thoughts for the Week; Bicentennial Campaign; End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter; Parent Teacher Conferences; Early Dismissal; and Long-Term Sub Needed.

**Thoughts for the Week:** Luke 10:2 He said to them, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest."

Just as Jesus sent his disciples on mission, so too does he send us to proclaim the Good News. We are the laborers and the harvest is all those who cross our path each day. There are so many people still waiting to hear the Good News, from the clerk in the grocery store to the parent waiting in the parking lot, or even the person sitting next to us in the pew. One familiar saying tells us, "You may be the only gospel another person reads." The best way that the Good News is proclaimed is in the way we care for and love others. Who are those that cross my path each day, bearing the image of God, and to whom I am blind? How can I proclaim the Good News through my attitude and actions more faithfully? God, you have written your word on my heart. Give me the grace to share your Good News in all I do.

**Bicentennial Campaign:** The classroom renovations are 100% complete and look fantastic! Landscaping is 90% complete. The final stage of the renovation project will be finished in mid-November when our new monument sign is installed on Devine St.

The parish and school are committed to providing new classrooms, but this project requires the support of our school families. We, as parents, need to support this project with our pledges. Pledges are not due immediately; you may spread your contributions over five years. We ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this important project for our school. Follow the link to donate or a pledge to the Bicentennial campaign <https://www.stjosephcolumbia.org/bicentennial-campaign>.

**End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:** I want to thank each of you for your hard work and dedication helping the school stay open, safe, and healthy. Quarter One ends on Thursday, October 22. Report cards will be emailed Thursday, October 29

**Parent Teacher Conferences:** Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> is Parent/Teacher Conference Day. There will be no school for students. All conferences will be virtual.

Pre-K -4<sup>th</sup> grade families - Parents are encouraged to attend a conference with their child's teacher. Teachers will reach out to some parents for whom a conference is required.

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade families - Conferences are optional for students who currently have all As and Bs. Conferences are required for any student who has a grade of C or lower. Please check FACTS Family Portal to determine if a conference is necessary. The student is required to be part of the conference.

Please use this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C48AFAC23ABFC1-parent> to register for your 15-minute virtual conference. The schedule is set up on a 20-minute rotation –

15 minutes for the conference and 5 minutes for the teacher to prepare for the next conference. The link will close at 12 Noon on Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to meet with a teacher other than your child's homeroom teacher, please also use the link to schedule an appointment.

**Early Dismissal:** As previously announced on September 20<sup>th</sup>, the school will dismiss at 12Noon on Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup>. This change is to allow our faculty and staff time to vote.

**Long-Term Sub Needed:** SJCS is currently seeking a licensed teacher to act as a long-term substitute in third grade. If you are interested, please contact Principal Yarnall at [dyarnall@stjosdevine.com](mailto:dyarnall@stjosdevine.com).

It is the little things we do that show how God is in us, with us, and working through us - "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves"~ Philippians 2:3. Have a blessed week!

Sincerely,

Donavan F. Yarnall, Ed. S  
Principal  
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