

May 10, 2020

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

**Items in this newsletter:** Thoughts for the Week; Mother's Day; Prayer Service/Service Project; No Classes on Memorial Day; Last Days; Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation; 2019-2020 Awards Day; Class of 2020 Diploma and Awards Pickup; Teacher openings for the 2020-21 school year; School/Parish Bicentennial Campaign, Midlands Gives, School Supplies, and Monday Folder Advertising.

**Thoughts for the week:** *"You do not have to make your children into wonderful people. You just have to remind them that they are wonderful people. If you do this consistently from the day they are born they will believe it easily."* ~ William Martin. Take time this week to encourage and support your children ~ Make a difference today.

**Mother's Day:** Mothers are a gift from God! Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers. The school is blessed to have you, but your children are even more blessed to have you in their lives.

**Prayer Service/Service Project:** We will live stream our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter St. Vincent de Paul Prayer Service this **Friday, May 15 at 9:00 am** on St. Joseph Church's Facebook page and YouTube channel - St. Joseph Catholic Church, Columbia, SC. Monsignor Harris will be the celebrant for the service. We would like all St. Joseph School families to join us as we pray for those who are in need at this time, especially the hungry. During the prayer service, we will hear from one of the St. Vincent de Paul volunteers about their ministry, its history at St. Joseph Church, its purpose, and whom it serves. Mark your calendars and plan to attend our last St. Joseph School Community Prayer Service for this school year!

**No Classes:** The school will observe Memorial Day on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Students will not have homebound lessons.

**Last Days:** The last day of homebound studies for the class of 2020 will be Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The last day for 4K-5<sup>th</sup> grades will be Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will arrange to collect all school-owned resources on either Monday June 1<sup>st</sup> or Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please look for communication from your homeroom teacher about when your collection day is scheduled.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation:** The class of 2020 will graduate on Friday May 29<sup>th</sup>. The school and parish will hold a virtual Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. The Baccalaureate Mass will be streaming on St. Joseph Church's Facebook page and YouTube channel - St. Joseph Catholic Church, Columbia, SC.

**2019-2020 Awards Day:** The faculty and staff will hold a virtual Awards Day on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:30, streaming on St. Joseph Church's Facebook page and YouTube channel - St. Joseph Catholic Church, Columbia, SC. I encourage all students and families to tune in to watch the 2020 Awards Day program and then join us as we celebrate the 2020 Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation.

**Class of 2020 Diploma and Awards Pickup:** Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduates are invited to a special pickup event to receive their diplomas and any awards won. We invite each sixth grade family to use this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F44A8AE2DA0F85-diploma> to sign up for a time on Monday, June 1, and Tuesday, June 2, when they will visit the church lawn to pickup items, say goodbye to their teachers, and have a professional photographer take a photo in front of the fountain. Sixth grade parents, please watch your email for more details.

**Teacher openings for the 2020-21 school year:** The school is actively searching to fill the Technology position and still has an opening for a part time Spanish teacher. If you know of qualified candidates, please refer them to our website's employment page.

**School/Parish Bicentennial Campaign:** Classroom renovations will begin May 18. We ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this important project for our school.

**Midlands Gives:** Thank you to everyone who participated in our Midlands Gives campaign this week! We are overwhelmed by the support from our parish and school community. Thank you to our Matching Gift Angels - generous Saint Joseph supporters who matched \$17,600 in donations. Thank you to everyone who gave during our Power Hour – we won! That means an extra \$2000 for our Saints Fund! Thank you to Aflac for sponsoring the prize. We are thrilled to announce that the combined total of online giving, checks given in the school office, and the Power Hour prize money brings us to a grand total of almost \$43,000 received during Midlands Give!.

**School Supplies:** 2020-2021 school supplies are now available at [www.schooltoolbox.com](http://www.schooltoolbox.com). Orders placed before June 14 will ship to the school and be delivered to your classroom for Open House. Orders placed after June 14 will ship to your home. Please see the flyer on our website for more information as well as supply lists by grade level.

**Monday folder advertising:** Each school year parents and the local business community generously advertise in our school's Homework Assignment Books and Monday Folders. If you are a business owner interested in continuing to advertise or would like to do so for the first time, please contact Diane Grathwohl, BG Enterprises. Diane is our ad representative and has been working with schools in the Diocese of Charleston for over 35 years. You may reach her at 386-405-1849 or [bgenterprises@cfl.rr.com](mailto:bgenterprises@cfl.rr.com).

Our faculty, staff, and administrators will continue to pray for you and your children during these challenging days. We ask that you keep us and our entire school community in your prayers.

It is the little things we do that show how God is in us, with us, and working through us - "Faith to Move Mountains" Matthew 17:20. Have a blessed week!

Sincerely,

Donavan F. Yarnall, Ed. S  
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