

November 15, 2020

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the Week; Parent Survey; Spirit Night; Book Fair; Carpool Reminders; Women's Society Sale; and Thanksgiving Break.

Thoughts for the Week: Imagine opening a bag of jelly beans and discovering they are all exactly the same. It wouldn't seem right. We expect differences. *"There is but one body and one Spirit, just as there is but one hope given all of you by your call"* Ephesians 4:4. In this passage from Saint Paul, he stresses the point that we are one in unity with Christ and one another. This unity does not mean that we are like the identical jelly beans. The Holy Spirit calls each of us in a unique way to serve the community. The members of the Church serve God through different vocations, but the purpose is the same-to serve the Kingdom of God. ~ Your 3-Minute Retreat for October 28, 2020.

Parent Survey: The school is preparing for our April 2021 Cognia (AdvancEd) accreditation visit. As part of our accreditation, the school is required to survey our stakeholders annually. This year's survey is to help us determine our Catholic Identity characteristics.

Thank you to those who have already taken the time to complete the survey.

If you have not yet completed the survey, we value your opinion and ask that you take the time to complete one survey per household by Monday, November 16th at 11:59pm. To complete the survey, please go to:

<https://eprovesurveys.advanc-ed.org/surveys/#/action/147430/28783>

Be assured, your response to this survey is anonymous. Your honest opinion is appreciated. **We need 60% or more of our households to complete the survey.** Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. The school will use the data to help us prepare for our upcoming accreditation visit.

Spirit Night: We will host another Spirit Night on Thursday, November 19! Please mark your calendars for our **all-day** fundraiser at Marco's Pizza on Rosewood Drive. Students in the homeroom with the highest sales will receive a FREE pizza party for their class! Please mention St. Joseph Catholic School and your homeroom teacher's name when placing your order. Congratulations to Mrs. Walker's class as the winner for October! Also, be sure to save the date for our future Spirit Night at Marco's Pizza [December 17](#). Thanks for supporting our fantastic school! A flyer will come home tomorrow with additional information.

Scholastic Book Fair: You are invited to shop our online Scholastic Book Fair from November 9-20, 2020. All purchases benefit our school and connect your student with new books, favorite characters, complete series, and more. There are over 6,000 items, including new releases, best sellers, and value packs. All orders ship directly to home, and there is FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25. All purchases support our school and earn 25% in rewards. Visit our

Book Fair Homepage and click “Shop Now” to get started:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stjosephsch55>

Carpool Reminders: A few friendly reminders regarding morning and afternoon carpool: Please have students enter and exit your car only from the passenger side. Please move student car seats to the passenger side of the car or teach your child to climb over in order to exit on the passenger side. Please do not get out of your car if at all possible. Teach younger students to buckle and unbuckle their own car seats. Per Diocesan policy, faculty and staff are not allowed to assist in this. Please exit front carpool onto Devine Street at the first available opportunity, even if it is not possible to cross all the way over and turn left onto Kilbourne. It may be necessary to go up a couple blocks before you can turn left- waiting causes our line to backup.

Women’s Society Sale: The Saint Joseph Church Women’s Society presents From the Devine Kitchens: casseroles, baked goods, Saint Joseph School ornaments, Advent Wreaths, cookbooks and much more! Online ordering is open until Monday, November 16 at 5 pm through this link <https://www.stjosephcolumbia.org/from-the-devine-kitchens-menu>. Please consider supporting this fundraiser - all proceeds from the sale go to benefit many outreach programs in our community and parish.

Thanksgiving Break: The school will be closed for Thanksgiving break Wednesday, November 25th – Friday November 27th. Classes will resume Monday, November 30th.

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,

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