

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

December 7, 2017

NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents,

As we begin this Advent season, we remember everything that we're thankful for. We spend these cold December weeks pulling our families close, cherishing those we love and celebrating everything that really matters. We work to prepare ourselves for Christmas, remembering the real reason for the hustle and bustle of this fast-paced, hectic time of year.

I look forward for another opportunity to spend some time with our families celebrating Sunday Mass with our parish. This Sunday, December 10th, is another school Mass. Our students and families will gather in the first few pews. Our students will be responsible for the readings and the collections. We look forward to the opportunity to worship together with our friends and our families each month in this way.

Everyone at St. Joseph Catholic School wishes you and your family all the best in this holiday season. May the joy you find with your loved ones fill you with the light of Christ, and bring you closer to the peace that this world so desperately needs. Merry Christmas to all of our St. Joseph families.

Many Blessings,

Deb Dewar, Principal
St. Joseph Catholic School

Masquerade Ball Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets are now on sale!! We have 475 tickets to sell and are asking each family to assist with selling them. Tickets are only \$20.00 each with fantastic prizes to be won. Winner will be announced at the Gala on April 28, 2018.



Lucky winners need not be present to win.

1st Prize: Wild Pear catered dinner for 8, with server (value \$500)

2nd Prize: One night stay at the Oregon Garden (value \$250)

3rd Prize: Samsung 3 Chromebook (value \$159)

Raffle tickets make great stocking stuffers!



Masquerade Gala—Procurement Challenge

We are in need of great items to assist in making this year's auction a huge success for our school. This week I would like to offer a challenge to all of you. Bring in a gift certificate to one of the following restaurants for \$50.00 or more by **December 15th** and be entered into a drawing for a **\$25.00 Fred Meyer gift card**:

Davincis, Orupa, Rafns, Table 508, Nagoya Steak House, Rudy's Steak House, Andaluz, Bari, Kitchen on Court, Ritters, Archive Coffee & Bar, Tap Root, Bentleys, Roberts Crossing, Fairway or Amadeus.



Facebook



If you have not yet had a chance to visit St. Joseph School on Facebook, please do! We post school happenings to it multiple times a week. It's a great way to see what our students are doing in their classes, along with all the great moments we, the staff, get to see and enjoy on a daily basis with your children. When visiting our page, please also share the page with your friends. This is a great way to assist in marketing our school to show our community how wonderful St. Joseph is! Find us at St. Joseph School—Salem, Oregon.

Clothing and Food Drive

Student council will be wrapping up their warm clothing, tuna and mac & cheese drive next Friday, December 15th. The students are hopeful that they will be able to deliver many of the items needed to



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keep those in need in our community fed and warmly clothed through these rough winter months. All of the collected items will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul. For

those students that bring in tuna or mac & cheese, they will be able to wear a Christmas sweater on Friday, December 15th. The student council thanks you in advance for supporting this worthy cause.



Christmas Program

Mrs. Serex has once again put together a lovely Christmas program for the students and their families. We wish to extend an invitation to all of our families and their guests to join us on Thursday, December 14th at 5:30 p.m. in the gym for an evening of delightful Christmas singing.



Boys' Basketball



Our boys' basketball team will soon be starting. Basketball is open to all 5th through 8th grade boys. Cost of the program per student is \$65.00, with financial assistance available if needed. Practice for the 7th and 8th grade boys will be as follows:

December 12th, 13th and 15th from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

December 18th, 19th, 20th, 28th and 29th from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

The 5th and 6th grade boys will begin practice on January 2nd. Practices will run from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The 7th and 8th grade boys will continue their practices beginning on January 2nd. Practices will run from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Our 7th and 8th grade boys will also have the opportunity to play in several tournaments this season, with the first being on January 6th and 7th. More information will follow soon.

Registration forms are available in the school office. We ask that these be completed and into Mrs. Bartholomew by Monday, December 11th.

If you have any questions regarding games or practices, please contact our volunteer boys basketball coach, Spencer Taylor, at

Christmas Singing at the Capitol Rotunda

Students in grades 4, 5, and 6 will have an opportunity to join with students from St. Vincent, Queen of Peace and Blanchet to sing in the Capitol Rotunda on Monday, December 11th from 12:30 to 1:30. Students will need to wear a red polo style shirt (short or long sleeves with a collar) and tan or dark blue pants. Girls who choose to wear a skirt or jumper must also wear leggings, tights or knee high stockings. The weather will probably be cold, so appropriate shoes and warm outerwear will be needed for our walk to the Capitol building. When elementary schools are finished singing, they will move to the audience side of the rotunda to enjoy listening to Blanchet's choirs before walking back to St. Joe's where they will return to their normal class schedule. Please join us!



Strategic Planning Meetings Update

I would like to say thank you to all of the parents who helped us focus our plan for the future of our school. We spent five evenings in the past two weeks beginning this process, going through goals from the last strategic plan, and determining whether or not they were still important to us. We also spent considerable time going through the current goals, refining and reshaping them into the SMART goals that they need to be. The second meeting for these five committees will take place in January, where we will finalize the new goals and work on the strategies needed to accomplish these. The dates for all the January meetings will be posted in the "school" section of SchoolSpeak. Check there for updates in January as we finalize the goals and strategies from each committee. If you didn't have a chance to join us, it's not too late! Your voice is important!

Family Prayer Corner

As your children grow, to help strengthen our Catholic faith and the values of our traditions, we would like to offer a weekly family activity to build in your understanding and practices together. This week's activity: Before or after Mass, count how many images of angels and saints you can find in your church. Explain that those images remind us of the angels and saints present at every Mass.



SLE of the Week: Displays curiosity and a love of truth through the eyes of faith

What does this look like in a student?

- Asks questions in class
- Tackles inquiry problems with vigor
- Shows resilience when learning something difficult
- Is honest and supportive with friends

Please talk with your child this week about what this means to you, and how your child can grow through this learning opportunity.