

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God. Then, because you belong to Christ Jesus, God will bless you with peace that no one can completely understand. And this peace will control the way you think and feel. –Philippians 4:6-7



Gratitude Corner

Thank you to the members of the PTG board for helping with the Special Person lunch and In-N-Out truck. A special thank you to Mrs. Straite for organizing the sales and distribution of tickets.

Kudos to Mr. Esser, Mr. Lopez, Mr. Guerrero, and Mr. Fitzpatrick for meeting with administration to review Emergency Response options and plans. Their insight and support is greatly appreciated!

Our 8th graders and Mr. B did a fantastic job cleaning up after the Special Person lunch. Thank you for making it easier on our custodial staff.

Thank you to our 6th grade families for putting on a beautiful faculty luncheon last Friday.



We are grateful to Fr. Tim and Fr. Carlos for their continued support of our school. The students always enjoy when they visit.

Thanks to the generosity of families, parishioners, alumni, and friends, we raised over \$3,000 through the Many Gifts One Nation campaign to help improve the internet infrastructure and add more Chromebooks to our classrooms. We appreciate the ongoing support to help us deliver a quality education and prepare our students for the world beyond their time at St. Joseph School.



Celebrating Our School



Over the past few weeks, St. Joseph School has been buzzing with excitement. As the dust settles in the days following Catholic Schools Week, I can't help but feel pride and joy for the work displayed by our students, and the commitment of our teachers to ensure we are working together to live out the theme for this year- **Learn. Serve.**



Lead. Succeed. The weeklong celebration began with gathering for Mass as a school and parish community. Strong Catholic identities and mastery of oral language skills were evident in the students who led us in the Liturgy of the Word. From our altar servers who are always an example of service to their community, to the angelic voices and talents of our choir, we bear witness to our school mission present in the world.



Students and teachers were proud to showcase some of the beautiful learning projects and student work for Open House. Families, friends, parishioners, and prospective parents were thrilled to see just how thoughtful, dedicated, creative, and effective our students are at communicating their stories and ideas. Then on Tuesday, the teachers' lounge never looked so good! There was pizza, music, and laughs enjoyed by all. This jumpstarted a week filled with spirit points, sports awards, fundraising, a food and diaper drive, friendly game of kickball, and spending quality time with special people in our lives. While the line for In-N-Out looked like BestBuy on Black Friday, there were plenty of smiles and conversations to go around while waiting for the delicious meal. Finally, we ended the week by honoring Mr. Grant for his 24 years as our Athletic Director and Mrs. Grant for her 18 years of service to St. Joseph School. Check the St. Joseph School business page @stjosephvikings for more pictures and highlights from Catholic Schools Week.

A few weeks ago, our seventh and eighth graders attended the Diocesan Jr. High Mass at Sacred Heart in Rancho Cucamonga.



I ask that we keep all the teenagers who filled the church that Friday morning in our prayers. These formative years and transition into high school are crucial. May we actively model, teach, and live out the values of our Catholic identity and journey alongside our youth in growing closer to God through encounter and kinship with them.



Can you believe we have been in school for 100 days? Kindergarten was busy counting to 100 on Monday when a special guest visited them- Zero the Hero! His tasty zero shaped sprinkled donuts were a nice treat for all their hard work counting to 100.



Prayer

Matthew 22:37

He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."



Salvation is not reserved for the clever. God made the rules simple enough

that all people might have the opportunity to be saved. Jesus makes the Ten Commandments even more concise. In response to a test posed by the intellectual elite, Jesus summarizes all of the law as love of God and love of neighbor. Living a moral life is about living in a loving way. Jesus not only spoke about love, he lived it, embracing sinners and giving his life for our salvation.

What can I do today to live more like Jesus in the way I love God and neighbor?

How have I made growing in love of God more complicated than it needs to be?

God of abundant love, cultivate in me a heart committed to loving you and my neighbor. May my words and actions reflect your grace alive in the world.

- Reflection by LoyolaPress

Heart Healthy

Thursday, February 15th will be our school Jump Rope for Heart event.

Please help raise money for the American Heart Association as students learn how to make healthy choices for themselves and help others with "special" hearts. Mrs. Bechtel will award students their "scare away heart disease" monster awards as donations are made. We look forward to a great healthy heart event!



More Math News! On January 27th many of our sixth through eighth grade students represented St. Joseph School at the Bishop Amat Math Competition. We are so proud of all our students who participated and congratulate those that placed individually and as a team. Keep up the great work!

Our graduates come back time and time again and share just how well prepared they were for high school, college, and the real world. This is a wonderful time to celebrate our students for their hard work and accomplishments no matter how big or small. A study by Ericsson, Krampe, and Tesch-Romer (1993) highlights the importance of deliberate practice in strengthening the neuropathways in the brain, known as myelin, leading to improved recall of information and performance. One of the core values our students learn in their time at St. Joseph is that hard work and dedicated practice across all academic subjects do lead to success. The well-known psychologist Carol Dweck studied the positive impact of a growth mindset. She concluded that when students understand individuals are not necessarily born smart, but rather can work hard and exercise the brain to increase knowledge, their motivation and productivity increases. We have high expectations of all our students, and it is my goal St. Joseph School continues to be a place where we guide our students through any challenges they may face in a supportive, faith-filled environment. May our legacy continue to be our students learning, serving, leading, and succeeding wherever life takes them, bringing the light of Christ's love to all they meet.

Many blessings,
Mrs. Alamo-Ng

GALA School Fundraiser

The annual GALA is just around the corner!

Please join us in the **Emerald City on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 6:00pm at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario, CA.** The success of this event rests on the participation and support of all our St. Joseph School families and friends. Room parents will be reaching out to every family for a donation to the class auction basket.

Do you have a great item to be auctioned off?

Money raised on the item goes towards your

obligation. Still need to fulfill PIP hours? We need you as a fabulous GALA

volunteer. Please reach out to Sophia Robles, our GALA Chair, to find out how you can help at sophia_roman@hotmail.com or (626) 393-5135.

We thank you for supporting the largest fundraiser of the year.



SAINT JOSEPH ANNUAL
EMERALD CITY GALA

Mark Your Calendars...

Please check the school website for the most up-to-date school events.

Kindergarten Applications for the 2018-2019 school year are NOW available! If you have a younger sibling or know a family that is interested in enrolling a child, please let them know they can pick up an application in the school office. Kindergarten Readiness Testing Date is Saturday, February 17th.

Thursday, February 8th from 6-8:30pm- Skate Express Night

Friday, February 9th - NO SCHOOL Diocesan In-service

Sunday, February 11th from 12:30-2:30pm- 2nd Grade Reconciliation Meeting for Parents



School Safety

Each month we practice safety drills for natural disasters and emergency response situations. In light of recent incidents in the media regarding violent crimes committed on school grounds, we ask that ALL parents sign in and wear a visitor sticker during the school day. Please do not walk through the office without checking in. Parents should not walk up to classrooms without a teacher being made aware. Notes and messages should be dropped off in the office or sent in with your child. Teachers will return your message in a timely manner. If an appointment needs to be scheduled with a teacher, an office staff member will help you schedule it. Always make the school aware if there is someone on the school grounds that looks suspicious and we will follow up. Thank you for your cooperation to help ensure we maintain a safe environment for all our students. Please drive CAREFULLY during the busy drop-off and pick-up times. The safety of our children and volunteers are important!



Tuesday, February 13th- Valentine's Day celebrations and ADD pink and red to your uniform (not free dress). Lollipops will be sold for 50 cents each.

Wednesday, February 14th at 12:15pm- Ash Wednesday School Mass; SCHOOL DISMISSAL will begin at 2:45pm due to parish Mass at 3pm.

Thursday, February 15th -Jump Rope for Heart Event will take place after lunch

Friday, February 16th – 8th Grade Retreat in the Parish Hall

Saturday, February 17th- Kindergarten Readiness Testing

Monday, February 19th – NO SCHOOL in observance of Presidents' Day

Thursday, February 22nd- Water Conservation School Presentation

Friday, February 23rd- CJSF Trip to Knott's Berry Farm from 7pm-12am

The end of the second trimester is Friday, February 23rd. Report cards will be sent home the following week.

SAVE THE DATE



On **Friday, March 23rd** at 6pm our 2nd trimester seventh and eighth grade music students will be performing the Stations of the Cross in the Church. Students have been hard at work writing and planning this beautiful display of faith and fine arts for the whole St. Joseph Community. We hope you will join us in prayer and support our students in their representation of the paschal mystery. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Fish Fry dinner immediately following. More detailed information will follow.

Don't forget to check our website for current events and updated school information at www.stjosephupland.org.