

Thank you to the parents and volunteers who serve on the School Board, Finance Committee, Information Technology Committee, and PTG. You spend countless hours preparing for productive conversations and meetings focused on ensuring the success of St. Joseph School. Your time, support and contributions are greatly appreciated!

Thank you to our 7th grade families for putting on a beautiful faculty luncheon on March 2nd.

Thank you, Mr. Varela, for your handy work in some of the classrooms.

Prayer

St. Patrick's Breastplate (390-461 A.D.)



Christ be with me, Christ
within me,
Christ behind me, Christ
before me,
Christ beside me, Christ
within me,
Christ to comfort me and
restore me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend or stranger.

St. Joseph Parish Children's Choir

"Make a Joyful Noise" New Children's Choir at St. Joseph's Church

Just two more rehearsals before the "Make a Joyful Noise" choir sings at the **Saturday, April 14th 4:00 PM** English liturgy! Our next practices will be held on March 15th and April 5th at 3:15 - 4:30 pm and will be held in the St. Cecilia Choir Room. The choir room is on the second floor, with the entrance door near the south back patio door to the church.

Some info about the choir: The goals are to teach the love of Christ through music and give our next generation a way to worship and praise through song. No auditions are required, but the ability to read music will be a plus. We will focus on singing and hand bell instruction, but those who can play and bring their own instruments are also welcome! The choir will be open to 1st through 8th grade students. We will provide those in 6-8th grade an opportunity to train as cantors.

If you are interested in leading or assisting the leadership of this new choir, please email our Music Ministry Director Daniella at Daniella.amusic@gmail.com or call (909)997-1165.

For questions or more info, you may also contact Paula Mendoza (909)985-9305 / gsg@pahresko.com or Joan Hamm (909)982-0875 / joan.hamm@ymail.com.

line with best practices. We also agreed the collective vigilance of faculty, parents, and students on campus and the importance of taking action to report anyone/anything that might look suspicious helps maintain a safe school campus. Together we identified the next step would be to work with Upland Police Department to review any updates being made to local public elementary schools.

Just last week, I was in contact with an Upland police officer that invited me to a training for public elementary schools in Upland Unified School District the second week of April. The officer shared he has received similar phone calls from other private schools in the area. Following the meeting in April, I will work with the Upland Police Department to identify any adaptations to our school's safety plan that could increase the chances of survival for our students, if we were ever to encounter a situation that required it.

No plan will ever prevent tragedies from occurring, but I assure you planning and preparing for emergencies is a responsibility I do not take lightly. The safety of our students is always in my thoughts and prayers. A parent recently shared an article which outlined ideas for how to prevent school shootings. The one that stood out is the quality of relationships between students and teachers. It is a true blessing to be able to say the faculty and staff of St. Joseph School care deeply about our students. Social and emotional learning is viewed as an important part of our curriculum, supporting our mission to educate the whole child. Conversations on respect and treating others with kindness are had as often as necessary, reminding students that we need to truly see our brothers and sisters in the light of God's eyes. When someone is joyful, we share in their excitement. Just as important is noticing when someone is withdrawn, feeling sad, or upset. I witness and hear teachers checking in with students, parents, and other colleagues to try to understand what may be going on with a child who is experiencing challenges, either academic, emotional, or social. We are committed to helping each student reach their fullest potential which also means helping them flourish in their relationships with others.

Many blessings,
Mrs. Alamo-Ng

Growing a Sense of Community

In the last month, several events have taken place that demonstrate just how brightly the lantern of love, service, and learning shines in our students. The 4th grade students studied the lives of historical figures who made positive contributions to the world and their communities. A wonderful way to learn Catholic values is through the study of saints and historical figures' lives. The confidence and poise displayed by the students in front of their peers, teachers, and families was a great example of how they are living out our SLE of being effective communicators.



This Lenten season, I invited students in grades 1-8 to join me one recess a week to pray, reflect, and work on becoming better versions of ourselves. Three weeks ago, I delivered cards to a group of patients at the Upland Rehabilitation Center made by students, letting them know we are praying for them. The smiles on their faces upon receiving the beautiful cards filled with good wishes, prayers, and even some jokes, were priceless! The group

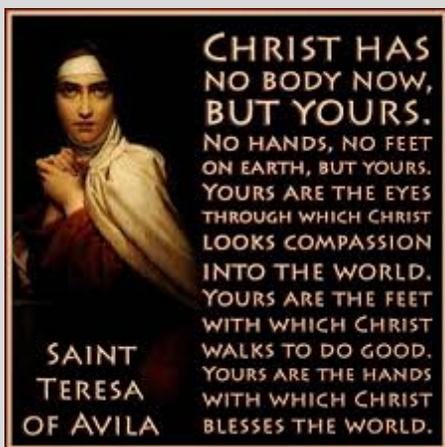
also collected food items for homeless bags distributed at the His Hands Food Pantry. Mrs. Hite helped us understand how much food is given out and the dietary considerations they need to think about when handing out the food. These are the hands of God at work in our school.



Forgiveness and mercy are key cornerstones of our faith. We are extremely blessed to have priests in our parish who set aside three mornings so that all students in

NCEA Parent News

The National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) has put together information regarding education savings opportunities for Catholic school families. We have attached their newsletter regarding IRS Code Section 529 accounts to the email this newsletter was sent in.



grades 2-8 could receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. The sacraments strengthen, nourish, and express our trust in God. Through our participation we build community and a stronger sense of who we are, not only for ourselves but for the Church.



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. The evening will begin at 5pm with the rosary, followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the altar until 5:50pm. If you arrive before 6pm, please enter the Church in silence out of respect for those meditating and praying before the Lord. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Fish Fry dinner immediately following. We hope you will join us in prayer and support our students in their representation of the paschal mystery.

Mark Your Calendars...

Wednesday, March 14th

- PTG Meeting in Library at 8AM
- Student Prayer Service in amphitheater at 9:30AM
- 5th Grade Mission Sale- Popcorn for \$1

Thursday, March 15th

- Add **GREEN** to your uniform
- Annual Shamrock Hunt- 25¢ to participate

Friday, March 16th- NO SCHOOL due to Religious Education Congress

Saturday, March 17th- G.A.L.A. at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario, CA at 6PM

Monday, March 19th- Mass at 5:30PM Honoring the Feast of St. Joseph

Friday, March 23rd

- All School Mass at 8:30AM
- Rosary and Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 5PM
- Stations of the Cross 6PM

Monday, March 26th - Hearing Screening for Grades K, 2, 5, and 8.

Tuesday, March 27th – Vision Screening for Grades K, 2, 5, and 8.

Wednesday, March 28th

- Lenten Prayer Service at 11AM
- Noon Dismissal
- NO ESC

Thursday, March 29th- Friday, April 6th – Easter Break

Monday, April 9th – School Resumes

Wednesday, April 11th – Talent Show auditions begin

Friday, April 13th- All School Mass, Flag, and Noon Dismissal

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

