

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

I will listen for the Word of God; surely the Lord will proclaim peace to His people, to the faithful, to those who trust in Him. –Psalm 85:9



Gratitude Corner

The St. Joseph School faculty and staff would like to express our sincere gratitude for all the thoughtful and generous gifts received during the Christmas season. We are humbled by your kindness and feel extremely blessed.

To all the families who contributed to the food and toy drive for His Hands- THANK YOU! You truly made a difference in the lives of so many individuals in our community.

Thanks to the Agustin Family for donating our new mascot costume. Victor Viking made his first appearance at the January Flag and the students look forward to the positive energy he will bring to future school events!



We appreciate Mr. Cortes for volunteering to be our Damien Robotics Competition Coach!

Thank you to our Kindergarten families for putting on a beautiful faculty luncheon last Friday.

Our yearbook committee is hard at work to ensure a beautiful keepsake from this school year!

St. Joseph School

Peace in Our Hearts

Happy New Year! 2018 is here! What does the start of a new year mean for you? Maybe it's a time for putting the challenges of the past year behind and waking up to a fresh start. It can be a time of great excitement, renewal, or even anxiety. Some take time to write intentions or goals they hope to accomplish for various reasons- improving health, professional growth, managing stress, and nurturing positive relationships. While others don't even bother because they have tried it before and failed to follow through. There are also those who are amidst great pain or sorrow. To them a different number in the date doesn't mean much of a difference in their day to day life.

In education, there is a cycle to the school year that has a clear beginning, middle, and end. The start of a new school year is filled with great hope and excitement (and some nerves too) for what is to come. Each teacher welcomes a new group of students they look forward to mentoring and teaching through the shared journey of the next ten months. But the start of a new calendar year pales in comparison. As the clock struck midnight on January 1st, life continued much in the same way as the moments before. For those that were up celebrating, they continued on, while others were fast asleep and were not fazed by the fireworks, horns, and party hats. Some were busy getting through their shift at work, while others were up worrying about the recent news they had received about a loved one's health.

Instead of reflecting on what a new year means, a more meaningful question to ask might be, "Do I feel peace in my heart?" We hear the word peace all the time and it often seems that many things work to disrupt our sense of peace. It might be the argument we had with a spouse, parent, or child, or the cancer diagnosis of a loved one that quickly reminds us of our humanness. On a deeper level, it can be the sin we see around us and in our own hearts. The psalm "I will listen for the Word of God; surely the Lord will proclaim peace to His people, to the faithful, to those who trust in Him" reminds us we must look to God and listen for what he desires for us to ultimately find peace in our hearts. Without trust in our Lord, we will continue to feel lost and hopeless. Our Blessed Mother Mary must have felt tremendous peace in her heart as she trusted in God's message to give birth to His Son Jesus Christ and later watch



Prayer

Lord of peace,
my heart yearns
to hear your
word. Give me
the grace to listen for the peace
that is found in you alone and to
share it with others.
Amen.



PTG Fundraising



Ontario Reign
Game is this
Saturday!
Tickets are still

available in the school office.
This is a great fundraiser to
enjoy with St. Joseph School
families!



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.
**Catholic Schools Week will be
January 28-February 2, 2018.**
All are invited to attend an **All-
School Mass on Sunday,
January 28th at 9:00am,**
followed by an **Open House
from 10am-12pm.** Stop by to
visit classrooms and see what
our students have been up to.
Information about daily events
will be sent home with students
and in reminder emails.

NEW THIS YEAR

On **Tuesday, January 30,** we
will host a **24 hour online
giving campaign.** The goal is
to add more Chromebooks to
our classrooms and improve the
internet infrastructure. We will
be sending out the link the week
before Catholic Schools Week
for you **to share with all your
family and friends** who are
interesting in supporting
Catholic Schools and St. Joseph
School in particular.

Him die for our salvation. Her loving example to make peace with the life God set out for her is a beautiful example for us to remember through the ups and downs of our own lives.

The new year can be the opportunity to recognize how to connect more deeply with the rich traditions of our faith in order to feel more at peace with ourselves, family, and God. Maybe it will mean finding time to pray and reflect on Scripture daily, attending Mass more regularly with the family, or truly listening for the voice of God in the people we encounter each day. As we pray for the area in our life that is in greatest need of peace, may we also find the path, love, and support that will help us find the peace in our hearts that leads us to believe it will all be okay because we have the Lord by our side and the promise of eternal life.

I look forward to sharing the new year, and the middle and end of our school year, with all of you. May God bless you and your families with peace in your homes and hearts.

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.** Look for your invitation being sent home with your child this week. 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

Bishop's Endowment Fund

The Bishop's Endowment Fund applications are available in the school office for families in need of tuition assistance. **Please be aware there are strict guidelines regarding documentation and deadlines.** Applications are due into the school office by **January 30th.**

Mark Your Calendars...

After-school clubs and STEM enrollment forms will be accepted through Friday, January 12th, 2018. **Classes begin the week of January 15th.** We will have Drama and Master Builders on Tuesdays and STEM on Thursdays.





Parish News

The annual His Hands gift event for families in need was a GREAT success due to the countless parishioners who volunteered to organize and set up the hall for families to shop for their children. We are part of an amazing community doing wonderful things to give back in Christ's name.

Please remember to leave handicapped and physically disabled parking spaces available for the elderly and handicapped during drop-off and pick-up times.

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. Applications should be turned in before Thursday, February 8th so that we can schedule Kindergarten Readiness Testing appointments.

STAR Testing January 12-31, 2018.

NO SCHOOL- Monday, January 15th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Friday, January 19th at 10am- Diocesan Jr. High Mass at Sacred Heart in Rancho Cucamonga. 7th and 8th graders must turn in permission slips for this event since they will be going on a bus.

Bishop Amat Math Competition for 6th-8th graders on Saturday, January 27th from 8am-12pm.

All-School Mass Sunday, January 28th at 9:00am.

Open House Sunday, January 28th from 10:00am-12:00pm.

Fall Sports Award Pep Rally is Wednesday, January 31st at 1:30pm.

Special Person Luncheon with the In-N-Out truck Thursday, February 1st.

First Friday Mass, Flag, and Noon Dismissal, Friday, February 2nd.

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