



# St. Joseph School

1961 Plum Street  
Pinole, CA • 94564  
510-724-0242  
[www.stjosephpinole.com](http://www.stjosephpinole.com)

Catholic Schools – Faith, Academics, Service

January 27, 2012

“Catholic education is about an investment in a vision that comes from the Gospel that creates the values by which a Catholic school is known and identified, and that makes the values real and alive and applicable to life. Catholic schools are places where faith and knowledge meet, but unless that meeting inspires, unless that meeting engages, unless that meeting lights a fire, unless that meeting changes lives, our schools are simply that . . . schools.” (Bishop David O’Connell, Diocese of Trenton)

Here at St. Joseph School we are proud to offer an education that is distinctive among educational institutions in our area. We are excited to have the opportunity during Catholic Schools Week to share what our students are learning and what they have accomplished. We hope to see you and your family at some of our events. Please bring your friends and neighbors, particularly those who may be considering Catholic education for their own children.

Please join me in thanking those who help make St. Joseph School a great success: our teachers, staff, administrators, PTG, School Board members, parents, volunteers and alumni. Due to their dedication, motivation, inspiration, and commitment, our students are learning in a culture of faith, academics and service. We are preparing them for a full life in their families, communities, and the Catholic Church.

## Thank You

To Mr. Barton and the Fifth Grade class for their beautiful Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Service. We are always so proud and moved to see our children stand up in front of the school community sharing their talents and expertise while showing great confidence and composure.

To our teachers and parents who came to support the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance. You need true “dedication” to be on campus for over two hours wandering through middle school students, and listening to their very loud music. ☺

To the K-8 teachers and students who prepared the readings and intentions for their grade level Masses last week. We are confident that our children are building a strong faith commitment, and understand why our school community is so special. Next to loving care and providing the necessities for life, you can’t offer your child a greater preparation for life than to provide them with a faith-based relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Your child will need to navigate through life’s storms. Children have important transitions in their lives and we need to help them build a decision making process based on more than rules and regulations. We need to offer them a faith-based decision making process—one based on a God that loves them and has set up strong values, and offers them the right way to live based on His Love.

To Camille B., Destany B., Blake W., Riana T., and Elizabeth S. for volunteering to go to the Souper Kitchen last week. Your help is always appreciated. ☺

To all of the folks who had anything to do with planning and executing the Crab Feed. I have heard nothing but fabulous comments about the appetizers, the salad, the pasta, the crab, and the service provided by our Seventh and Eighth Grade students. It was a wonderful and delicious way to bring together a small part of our school and parish communities. Next year, watch out, our gym will be packed! I am so grateful to you all, and was sorry I had to miss it.

To the parent volunteers who helped put up pictures and wall graffiti for Open House on Sunday. It looks great!

### Tuition Assistance

We have recently updated the tuition assistance information on the web site. Information can be located by following this path:

- \* on home page, click on general information
- \* next page, click on tuition and admissions
- \* next page, click on tuition assistance
- \* next page, click on tuition assistance programs
- \*\*\* Please read through the information very carefully \*\*\*

Don't forget that we have scheduled a workshop on Thursday, February 9, from 3:00 – 7:00 PM for those people who may have questions, concerns, or need additional support with filling out the forms. Please call the office to set up an appointment for that evening. We are here to assist as much as we can with your efforts to secure funds for next year's tuition. \*\*\* Be sure to bring all your paperwork with you. \*\*\*

### Bricks

Please consider purchasing a brick to honor your graduating student or your First Communicant. What a special way to always remember the day. ☺ Enclosed you will find an order form for your convenience. All monies collected are still going into the dream fund for building a new facility for Extended Care.

### From the Bookkeeper

We still have a few families who have not yet turned in their Auction Donation. If you have received an invoice, please pay this as soon as possible. We are sure our shoppers have been out and about purchasing many wonderful and useful items for us to bid on during our upcoming spectacular annual event.

Some families have not started on their SCRIP requirement. You will end up owing the buy out amount come May. As a reminder, if you own \$2000, you are able to buy it out at \$200/\$1000 owed, the buy out is \$100.

Also, there are some families who have not turned in any hours sheets. On May 1, you will be billed for any incomplete hours at \$25.00 per hour. Please do not assume that we know that you are the chairperson of a particular event, that you are a CYO volleyball or basketball coach, etc. Those hours must be placed on one of the forms and turned into the office.

### From our Youth Minister

\* A coach or parent must always be on site before any CYO team members are allowed into the gym. Continually, children are being dropped off by their parents to be left alone in the gym. They walk in unsupervised and remain so until a parent happens to come or the coach arrives. We have had to ask them to remain seated in the bleachers and not play on the court at all. Oftentimes, Faith Formation/Youth Directors must go out to the lobby to (a) try to watch them from the door as they forget to stay seated and then play ball, and (b) watch our students from the door to be picked up.

\* When there are school meetings after hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays during Faith Formation, we want to keep all families, drivers and children safe. We need everyone to use the back gate on Prune Street to enter and park at the middle school or in front of the gym. It is too dangerous to enter through the front gate, especially with Faith Formation traffic using Plum Street to exit. We also ask that parents walk on the gym sidewalk behind the yellow chains when making their way to the middle school so that car traffic does not put them in danger.

### SOUPER BOWL 2012:

The Souper Bowl is a national and annual effort that takes place in parishes during Super Bowl weekend in support of needy charities.

During the weekend Masses of February 4 and 5, youth from the Peer Ministry,

Confirmation and Youth Ministry programs will collect monetary and non perishable food donations, and we will have barrels from the Food Bank in the church vestibules. The Food Bank will pick up the full barrels on February 6.

Non perishable food items are:

Canned meats such as: spam, tuna, chicken, crab, ham, anything meaty in a can

Peanut Butter in plastic jars

Cereals- both hot and cold

Canned fruits

Soups

Anything that has a pop-top lid

Top Ramen

We hope that the parish exceeds the amount of \$3090.00 from last year's drive. All Souper Bowl proceeds will be given to the Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano Counties, and San Francisco's St. Anthony's Dining Room. Please consider being generous to support those who are less fortunate.

### Spelling Bee

The St. Joseph Spelling Bee will be held on Wednesday, February 15, at 1:00 PM in the school gym. Three top spellers are selected from each of the Grades 5 through 8 to compete in the Spelling Bee. The winners are selected from the top spellers based on the written test administered in the classrooms in January. The students get very enthusiastic, cheering on their classmates during the spelling bee. Come and join the fun. The school winner competes in the Regional written and oral Spelling Bee in Walnut Creek in March for a chance to go to the National Spelling Bee in Washington DC.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need two or three volunteers to help administer the Bee. The teachers do some parts, but a few parents are needed to help set up. And one or two people to help with checking the rules, keeping track of the students participating, recording the selected words, and recording the winners.

Please contact the Spelling Bee coordinator, Elyse Heilshorn at 510-703 5407 or [cheils5@gmail.com](mailto:cheils5@gmail.com).

### WANT TO EARN HOURS AND HAVE FUN?

Volunteer to coordinate the Spelling Bee next year. Guidelines, timelines and templates are all prepared and ready to use. A fun, fast job. Give our students the opportunity to excel in spelling!

Contact the current coordinator, Elyse Heilshorn to learn more or volunteer, at 510-703 5407 or [cheils5@gmail.com](mailto:cheils5@gmail.com).

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AUCTION MERCHANDISING ROOM

Volunteer to help track, sort and distribute purchased items at the Auction March 17. About 5 fundraising hours can be earned working from 7 pm to midnight.

Please contact the merchandising room coordinator, Elyse Heilshorn at 510-703 5407 or [cheils5@gmail.com](mailto:cheils5@gmail.com) to volunteer.

### Calendar:

\*\*\* Please refer to your Catholic Schools Week calendar that was sent home last week. There are many "fun-filled" events going on throughout the week. \*\*\*

- 1/29 Opening of Catholic Schools Week with Mass at 10:30 AM, followed by Open House beginning at 11:45 AM. See you there!
- 1/30 Special Persons' Luncheon
- 1/31 Faith Families Lunch, 11:30 – 12:30 PM  
Faculty/Staff vs. Student Council "blind" volleyball game, 2:00 PM
- 2/1 "When I Grow Up Day"
- 2/2 100<sup>th</sup> Day celebrations for Grades K-2  
"Dance of Faith" after Morning Assembly
- 2/3 Minimum Day  
Support Cancer Awareness by wearing PJ's to school.- please see more information in the Monday envelope  
Buddy Bingo, Song/Spirit Rally  
Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
- 2/4 Father/Daughter Dance, 5:30 – 8:30 PM

\*\*\* Due to unforeseen circumstances, Bingo has been canceled for the remainder of the year. Please remove it from your calendar. \*\*\*

Blessings,

Mrs. Marseille

Mission Statement: St. Joseph School is a Christ-centered community of life-long learners. Each child is valued and respected as a unique individual and as a member of God's family. St. Joseph School is committed to providing a well-rounded education for our students. We promote the Christian growth of each child as he/she develops spiritually, morally, intellectually, socially, culturally, and physically.

Fully accredited by the Western Catholic Education Association and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

