



St. Joseph School

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Catholic Schools – Learn • Serve • Lead • Succeed
Rooted in Faith, Rooted in Mission, Rooted in Hope and Joy

*** Don't forget . . . the Christmas Program will be presented in the church on Thursday, December 13th, at 6:45 PM ***

*** Second Grade Parents . . . there is a mandatory meeting on Saturday, December 15th at 10:00 AM in the church for all families who plan on receiving First Holy Communion in April ***

December 11, 2018

This third week of Advent, let us remember that the good news of Jesus' birth has the power to bring us great joy this **Christmas** season. Our joy isn't dependent on what is going on in our life, in our world, or the people that we are with. It doesn't depend on the gifts we give or the gifts we find under the tree. No earthly thing can ever give us complete joy. Our joy comes from you. That joy that flooded the hearts of the shepherds, the angels, the wise men, the hosts of heaven, and Mary and Joseph is the joy that still has the power to overwhelm our hearts with rejoicing.

Those who gathered around the new baby were blessed because they believed that you had fulfilled your promises. Mary and Joseph believed and were able to feel the joy of holding baby Jesus in their arms. The shepherds and wise men believed the angels and the signs and experienced the great gladness of worshipping their Messiah.

Those who knew him and recognized him were overjoyed at the coming of Jesus. They saw the prophecies fulfilled and their fear was replaced with happiness as they gazed on the face of the one who would be their Savior. They trusted in your promises and their hearts were filled with gladness as they watched your loving-kindness manifested in the face of a tiny baby in a lowly manger.

Father, you offer that same joy to us now if we know you and recognize Jesus as our Savior and Lord. You gave us a reason to celebrate when you gave us the unspeakable gift of Jesus Christ. You came to dwell among us. You went to Calvary's cross for us. You overcame death and rose from the dead for us. You forgive our sin and give us eternal life when we believe in you.

Our joy doesn't come from our jobs, our family, our relationships, our finances, or our success. Our joy doesn't come from what we have on earth or whom we are with. Our joy is a gift. It is the gift that you gave us that first Christmas in Jesus Christ. Our joy is encompassed in our Savior, King Jesus. Flood our heart with joy this Advent season as we reflect on the good news of Jesus' birth.

In Jesus' precious name we pray.

Thank You

To Rodette, PTG and School Board members, and our other parents who came to our joy-filled Christmas gathering. We shared the camaraderie of friends, delicious food and treats, lots of laughter and a lively ornament exchange. Our dedicated and hard working PTG and School Board are greatly appreciated for all that they do for the students and the families of St. Joseph School. Happy 2019!

Remember

The Art Club will not be meeting until after the holiday break.

Second Grade Parents

Parents . . . this is what I know about the mandatory First Holy Communion meetings –

There is one this Saturday, December 15th at 10:00 AM in the church * one scheduled for January 12th at 10:00 AM in the church * another on March 9th at 10:00 AM in the church * and one more on April 6th at 10:00 AM in the church. First Holy Communion rehearsal will take place on April 15th at 5:30 PM in the church with First Holy Communion on April 27th at 10:00 AM. Our all school First Communion Mass is on May 7th . . . Mrs. Eastwood Falls has not experienced this before, and so we may need additional parent assistance for this event.

Request

Does your company toss their paper products as a new logo and brand come into play? If so, we can use the outdated paper for scratch paper, note paper, and such. Please send it to the office, if your company will be experiencing a change over. Thanks.

Minimum Day

A minimum day has been added to the December calendar on the 20th. As the calendar was created at the beginning of the year, we left two minimum days yet to be assigned, and now, because we are going to have a WCEA midterm review in February, we are allotted two more minimum days from the diocese to be used as prep days.

Oh, Christmas Tree

We will be taking off the ornaments and decorations on the tree on December 20th. If you think your family, or another family you may know, needs a beautifully shaped tree for the holidays, please email, come by, or call the office to claim it.

Calendar

12/12	If your child is celebrating a birthday while we are away on vacation, we will be singing our birthday song to him/her on Wednesday at Morning Assembly. Free, appropriate dress may be worn. Pizza Fundraising for Caritas
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12/13	<p>Mrs. Marseille at a Principals' meeting</p> <p>Our Christmas Program is tonight in the church beginning at 6:45 PM. Plan to come a bit early to get a seat. Please refer to your child's weekly newsletters to find out what time he/she needs to be there.</p>
12/14	<p>Principal's Movie Day. Your child may bring a smaller sized blanket to keep him/her cozy and a snack to eat during the performance. Grades TK-4 will be watching Incredibles 2 from 8:30-10:30 AM, and Grades 5-8 will see The Christmas Chronicles from 12:45- approx. 2:30 PM. Both are rated PG.</p> <p>Grades TK & K will be going to the Leshner Theater in Walnut Creek at 11:00 AM</p> <p>SLE certificates to be passed out at Morning Assembly for those nominated by the teachers as "Active Persons of Faith/Being a Growing Child of God."</p>
12/16	Third Sunday of Advent
12/18	Our representative from World's Finest Chocolate will be at Morning Assembly today to pass out the prizes earned from this fundraiser. We await the numbers to see if we can purchase a Chrome book cart with 36 devices.
12/19	<p>TK/K is celebrating their daddies with donuts beginning at 7:30 AM in the classroom</p> <p>Vision Screening at 8:15 AM in the Extended Care Building, Grades K, 2, 4, 8 and new students and referrals</p>
12/20	<p>Minimum Day, noon dismissal, Extended Care is available</p> <p>TK/K, Polar Express Day, come in jammies</p>
12/21	Minimum Day, noon dismissal and there will be no Extended Care available. The faculty and staff will be going out together to celebrate the holidays.
12/23	Fourth Sunday of Advent
12/16-22, 23 & 24	Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition and church will be using our gym area for a gathering place after the 5:00 AM Masses on those days. The gym will be closed the remainder of our vacation days for gym and classroom cleaning.

The Mission of Catholic Schools

"Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Oakland educate children in the Catholic faith and nurture their minds, bodies, and souls, inspiring them to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, achieve their highest potential, and actively serve and enrich the community."

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