



# St. Joseph School

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

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

**Important Message for Second Grade Parents \* The Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, meeting with Father Geoffrey in the church at 10:00 AM has been cancelled.**

January 8, 2019

Dear God,

“Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you’ve allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you’ve said “no,” “not yet,” or “wait.” We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you’ve put within our hearts.

We ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you.

We pray that you’d keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations. That you would whisper in our ear when we need to run, and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

We pray for your protection over our families and friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we’d be safe in your hands. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways.

We ask that you would keep our footsteps firm, on solid ground, helping us to be consistent and faithful. Give us supernatural endurance to stay the course, not swerving to the right or to the left, or being too easily distracted by other things that would seek to call us away from a close walk with you.

Forgive us for the times we have worked so hard to be self-sufficient, forgetting our need for you, living independent of your spirit. Forgive us for letting fear and worry control our minds, and for allowing pride and selfishness wreak havoc over our lives. Forgive us for not following your ways and for living distant from your presence.

We confess our need for you...fresh...new...again. We ask that you make all things new, in our hearts, in our minds, in our lives, for this coming year. We pray for your refreshing over us.

Keep your words of truth planted firm within us, help us to keep focused on what is pure and right, give us the power to be obedient to your word. And when the enemy reminds us where we have been, hissing his lies and attacks our way, we trust that your voice speaks louder and stronger, as you remind us we are safe with you and your purposes and plans will not fail. We ask that you will be our defense and rear guard, keeping our way clear, removing the obstacles, and covering the pitfalls. Lord, lead us on your level ground.

We ask that you would provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor. We pray for your blessings to cover us, we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed. We pray that others would take notice of your goodness and could not help but to say, "These are the ones that the Lord has blessed."

Help us to be known as great givers, help us to be generous and kind, help us to look to the needs of others and not be consumed by only our own.

May we be lovers of truth, may the fruits of your spirit be evident in our lives - your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed. We may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing.

To you be glory and honor, in this New Year, and forever.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

## Thank you

To all of our parents, grandparents, and friends who put together such fabulous Christmas festivities and food for the students. Your goodies and "happy ho-ho's" set just the right tone to begin our Christmas holidays. I hope you had a wonderful time with your children and families.

To all of the parents and grandparents who brought in great treats to share with faculty and staff. We were so appreciative of the candy, cookies, fudge, peppermint bark, and so much more, that filled our table that last week of school. You made sure we were in the holiday spirit!

To our parents who were so generous in their gift giving. I know, personally, I had the best time discovering what was in each and every package. Every sentiment and gift reminded me of how special this community is to my life. I treasure you all, and depend on your support and friendship to brighten my day. I hope I can do the same for you.

## Partners in Faith

Our January "Partners in Faith" newsletter will be in your envelopes next week. Please find the following information:

- Making families better, stronger, and more harmonious may not require an overall, but rather a few strategic tweaks. Readers can try the tips to ensure that 2019 is a happier and healthier New Year (see page 1).

- Strong Catholic families strengthen our neighborhoods, communities and the entire Church. The main article on page 2 gives families practical ideas to become stronger, Catholic families.
- Catholics forget that we can't keep Christ to ourselves. We must proclaim Him. The popular "Why Do Catholics Do That?" feature explains.

### Upcoming Fundraiser Reminders

Our Crab Feed is scheduled for **Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM** on . . . dinner includes salad, bread, garlic noodles and dessert. Come out and help support the children with purchasing a ticket, tickets or table for 10. Tickets are \$50.00 per person or a table of 10 for \$450.00. There will be a 50/50 raffle, raffle prizes and a live DJ. Come have "tons of fun."

Do you have our Auction Fundraiser on your calendar? **March 2** is the date for this event. This is one of our biggest fundraisers for the year. You'll be guaranteed a great evening! Early Bird tickets are available until January 11<sup>th</sup>, (Thursday of this week).

Buy your tickets in groups of 10 to save on the price of admission. Let's see who has the most in attendance from the particular grade levels.

Please visit the school website at [www.stjosephpinole.com](http://www.stjosephpinole.com) for more information on buying tickets, buying a sponsorship, putting an ad in the Auction catalog, previewing Auction items, and learn more about bidding . . . please come out in full force to support this event.

### Spelling Bee

#### **STUDY WORDS (WRITTEN SPELLING BEE):**

The Written Spelling Bee will be held Tuesday, January 15, 2019 in classrooms. Study words were sent home before the holidays.

Please contact Kim Wright at [kimberlyawright@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlyawright@gmail.com) if you need a replacement copy.

#### **2 VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED (ORAL SPELLING BEE):**

We still need 2 volunteers to assist with the Oral Spelling Bee on Tuesday, February 12, 2019.

General participation hours will be earned.

Please sign up via Signup.com at: <http://signup.com/go/zAywDTv>

### Is Your Child Getting Enough Sleep?

#### A Good Night of Sleep

Ever wonder how much sleep your student should be getting a night? It's understood that students sometimes have busy schedules (sports, homework, extra curricular, etc.) and it's often hard to accomplish the appropriate amount of sleep. For improved attention, learning and behavior, American Academy of Pediatrics (2016) recommends:

AAP Recommendations for hours of sleep	
Age Range	Recommended hours of sleep
Children 3 - 5 years	10 - 13 hours per 24 hours (including naps)
Children 6 - 12 years	9 - 12 hours per 24 hours
Teenagers 13 - 18 years	8 - 10 hours per 24 hours

Read more

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/pages/American-Academy-of-Pediatrics-Supports-Childhood-Sleep-Guidelines.aspx>

### Calendar

1/8	Family "Intent to Return" Forms went home in the envelope today. Please return them to school as soon as possible
1/9	PTG meeting, 6:30 PM in the Sixth Grade classroom
1/12	High School Placement tests
1/13	Gym in use from 9:45 AM until 5:00 PM
1/15	SCRIP orders due "Intent to Return" Forms due to the office Written Spelling Bee (Grades 1-8) in the classrooms Eighth Grade graduation pictures. <b>** We need one parent helper, please. ** Call Mrs. Winter if you are available to help.</b> Fourth Grade on a field trip to the mission in Sonoma, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM
1/16	Pizza fundraiser 9:00 AM Mass for Grades 3-5. Come join us.
1/17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Service
1/18	Elementary Staff Day, no school for the students
1/21	Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday
1/22	Progress Reports due home to the parents/guardians

Happy 2019, and welcome back.

### 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."

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