



St. John

REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL



1 8 2 9

Dear SJRCS Parents and Guardians,

The next few weeks bring the Thanksgiving holiday to Americans and the start of Advent to the worldwide Church. It is hard to believe that when we return from the Thanksgiving break, it will already be December 2nd and we will have observed the first Sunday in Advent.

During the Advent season, our faculty and staff are using a book study called *Rejoice!* This is a book of meditations with Joseph, the person whom God called to be the human Father of His Son.

What will you and your family plan to do during Advent? Do you have an Advent wreath to display in your home? Will you display the manger that reminds us that Christmas is about the birth of the Christ Child?

When I was growing up, my parents would set out the manger scene - everything but the baby Jesus. He did not arrive at the manger until Christmas Eve. Something very small, but it made enough of an impact on me that I still remember it to this day and I have carried on the same tradition with my family. Wherever you are, take time to slow down in gratitude and make plans for your Advent observance.

Another thing that we can instill in our children is the importance of sharing what we have with others. Whether it is through Toys for Tots, the Christmas Shoebox Program, or, collect food for a food bank. I think it is important for our children to learn to give to others, that we are all called to serve those who are less fortunate than we are.

As we look ahead to celebrating Thanksgiving next week, I want to remind you how thankful I am for our SJRCS school community. I am thankful for the faculty and staff I have the pleasure of working with each day. Our parent volunteers are priceless to us. And, on any given day, our students can put a smile on my face. To you and your families, the sincerest wishes for Thanksgiving blessings.

Peace and all good things!
Mrs. Karen Smith



Issue 7, November 22, 2019

November 27-29 Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER

- 2 Coffee with the Principal, 8:30am
 - 6 Mass, 10am
Report Cards go home
 - 7 Tree Lighting Celebration, 7pm
HS Placements tests
 - 9 StoryTime Tots, 8:30am
 - 10 Donations due—Shoebbox Pgm
 - 10-13 Secret Santa Shop
 - 13 BoxTop Dress Down
 - 14 Breakfast w/St. Nicholas
 - 17 Gr. 1-8 Christmas Concert
 - 18 2 Hour Delay
 - 20 PK-K Christmas Program
- NOON DISMISSAL**
- 23-1/1/20 Christmas Break

Our **lost and found** is overflowing! We will be sending all non SJRCS items to a charitable organization on Wednesday December 18th. We would love to give items back to their rightful owner. This can only happen if you put your name on the item! (hint: use a piece of duct tape, with name on, then it can be peeled out before washing!)

Did You Know?

Coca-Cola is currently running a fundraiser for schools. Just head to Coke.com/give to get started with Coca-Cola Give. **You'll donate by signing in and choosing your local school to give to. To donate, select SJRCS on your phone, tap SCAN NOW, and scan by taking a picture of the cap code.** All Coca-Cola Give donations go directly to school administration for use at their discretion. Any donation that a school receives from the program can be used to purchase supplies for extra-curricular activities including sports, technology, art and/or school supplies within your school.



The H.S.A. NYC bus trip was a fun success! Shows, dinners, and shopping for all!!!



Remember to go to MDEnergySaverTools.com (using promo code FEMD1920) or call **1-855-343-6600** to request an Energy Saver Toolbox and credit our school. These energy toolboxes contain items that can be used to save energy around the home. **If our school requests the most energy toolboxes by December 12, we'll win \$2,500. Right now, we have 13 sign-ups.** Please help us make a difference!

Coffee with the Principal

Monday, December 2nd, 8:30, in the Media Center. Come to hear about new projects in the school and things we are looking forward to. Enjoy a cup of coffee with Mrs. Smith!



Community News...

The **U.S. Census** Bureau is committed to making the 2020 Census quick, easy, and safe for all participants. Here are some tips to help you avoid scams and fraud.

Avoiding Scams Online

To protect yourself from phishing and other scams, remember that the 2020 Census will never ask for:

- Your Social Security number.
- Your bank account or credit card number.
- Money or donations.

Staying Safe at Home

If someone visits your home to collect a response for the 2020 Census, you can do the following to verify their identity:

- * Check to make sure that they have a valid ID badge, with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date.
- * If you still have questions about their identity, call [800-923-8282](tel:800-923-8282) to speak with a Census Bureau representative.

Reporting Suspected Fraud

If you suspect fraud, call [800-923-8282](tel:800-923-8282) to speak with a Census Bureau representative. If it is determined that the visitor does not work for the Census Bureau, contact your local police department.

For the past 31 years, Lions Clubs around the world have proudly sponsored the **Lions International Peace Poster Contest** in local schools and youth groups. The theme for the 2019-2020 Peace Poster Contest is "Journey of Peace" 7th grader Marie Smith's poster won for the Chapter and her poster placed 3rd at the Regional Level. Each poster is judged on originality, artistic merit, and expression of the theme.

6th Grade

- Angela Sedlock, First Place Gr. 6
- Caroline Watkins
- Trista Gaydos

7th Grade

Adrian Naylin
Jenncyn Eyler
Marie Smith, First Place for Gr. 7. Her poster advanced to the Regional Competition and she placed 3rd at that level!

8th Grade

- Sarah Roebuck, First Place for Gr. 8
- Molly Rempe
- Ethan Obasohan



Veterans Day Prayer Service. Reed Warner (7th grade) played Taps and Grade 2B led us in the pledge. A special thanks to all our special guests who joined us. It was a beautiful service to honor our military veterans and active duty personnel.



3rd Grade harvested radishes, several lettuces and sugar snap peas from the learning garden. Digging, planting, composting, and harvesting were parts of the lesson. After gathering, there was a feast!

5th Grade Social Studies classes visited Mrs. Price in the Makerspace to cook up *journey cakes*. Students have been learning about some of the staple crops that Native Americans shared with colonists. The journey cake is a good example of a food that was filling and traveled well, hence the name.

