

Saint John the Evangelist School

Weekly e-Bulletin

Saturday, March 24, 2018

The mission of St. John the Evangelist School is to integrate Catholic philosophy with academic excellence.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families and Friends,

On Tuesday evening, I cut a beautiful bouquet of daffodils from those blooming in my front yard. The next day, I was shoveling my sidewalk as I watched my grandson built a snowman! As I write this, I am looking out of the window in my school office at the green grass that only this morning was covered with snow. I know the scriptures tell us, "For everything, there is a season." I just can't figure out which season we are in!

I thank the many in the St. John community who are helping the children experience their faith in such a personal way. Thank you to all who made the confirmation retreat such a success; thank you to all involved in next month's First Communion retreat; thank you to those coordinating, coaching, and directing the Living Stations. You help us all see the face of God in each other.

I wish all of you a relaxing and blessed Easter. May the Risen Lord shine His blessings on you.

Sincerely,
Margaret Durney
Principal

WEEKLY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Sun., 3/25, Palm Sunday

Thurs., 3/29, Holy Thursday, **12:30pm Dismissal**

Fri., 3/30, Good Friday, **School Closed**

Sat., 3/31, Holy Saturday, 10:00am HSA Easter Egg Hunt

Sun., 4/1, Easter Sunday

4/2 – 4/6, Spring Break – **School Closed**

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSA)

Are you interested in getting more involved in the school and helping to coordinate home and school life for our SJE families? HSA is looking for a **new Communications Officer** and this could be the perfect opportunity for you! For more information on the position, please email Rebecca Desrocher at red081002@hotmail.com.

Your HSA Team

EASTER HONEY-BAKED HAM SALE

Make your life easier and spend more time with your family and friends by ordering Easter dinner ahead of time! We now are taking orders for the Honey Baked Hams online and 15% of your order will go toward your school fundraising obligation.

Below is the link and code for online ordering. **This link will only be open until Wednesday March 28th.** Please go to: [https://MyHoneyBakedStore.com/Gaithersburg/2205/EPP/ Index.asp](https://MyHoneyBakedStore.com/Gaithersburg/2205/EPP/Index.asp) and use the employee **Sign-in Code: QALNFB** to access the St. John Evangelist online ordering form.

Any item from the Honey Baked Ham menu can be ordered. Order pickups will be on **Saturday March 31st in the Kennedy Room from 10 – 11 AM.**

Questions? Contact Phil or Kate Droege at pcdroege@yahoo.com.

SJE EASTER EGG HUNT

Save the date for SJE's Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Getty Park! Children through 4th grade are welcome to join in the fun, which will begin at **10am on Saturday, March 31st** at Getty Park. Volunteers are needed to help set up and clean up, and 5th graders are invited to be special "bunny helpers." Contact Ashleigh Manuel to lend a hand:

AshleighManuel@gmail.com.

We need individually wrapped candy for the eggs! Donate one bag or several; collection boxes can be found in the school and in the church.

SPRING PLANT SALE

The weather will soon be warming and that means it's time to start thinking about planting your spring flower boxes and garden! This SJE fundraiser gives you 50% towards your fundraising obligation of whatever you order/sell! **Orders are due by Wednesday, March 28th.** Flower pickup will be in the Kennedy Room on Tuesday, May 1. Flowers will be here in time for First Communion, Mother's Day and graduations! If you have any questions about flower varieties, colors, or growing conditions please don't hesitate to contact Kate Comello at thecomellos@aol.com. Additional details in attached flyer.

***We are also looking for a parent volunteer** to take over the coordination of this sale for next year (since Kate's children will be graduating). This is one of the biggest fundraisers for the school and does not require a lot of time or effort (just a few hours in Feb/March to coordinate w/growers and update order forms, etc. and then a few hours on 2 days of plant distribution to receive the plants & distribute to families).

ART HORIZONS

Art Horizons is pleased to be offering after school art instruction to children in grades 1-8, creating high-quality projects. Taught by St. John's art teacher, Mrs. Stephanie Rico, classes will meet at St. John's School on 6 consecutive Tuesdays beginning **March 20, 2018** from 3:00 p.m.-4:30 pm. **Please note there will be NO CLASS on March 27.** This class is open to beginning artists, as well as more advanced artists, as everyone works at their own pace. There will be a separate section for **Portfolio Building** offered to middle school students who will meet on the same day. Often, art history is tied to a project. The cost of the session is \$85 and all materials are included. Please register your child early to reserve a space as class size is limited. Students who have taken Art Horizons before will create new and different projects.

SAVE THE DATE: FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT

Parent of children who will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion The First Communion Retreat will be on **Friday, April 20** beginning at **9:00am** in the Kennedy Room. Let's all keep these beautiful children in our prayers as they prepare to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

SAVE THE DATE: BINGO!

Family Bingo Night will return this Spring! Please mark your calendars and plan to join us at 7:00pm on **Friday, May 11** in the School Auditorium. Flyers will be sent home closer to the date. Pizza will be available for advanced orders and refreshments will be sold at the event. We hope to see you there! If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Rebecca Desrocher at red081002@hotmail.com.

SJE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS): DATES SET!

Although the cold weather hasn't left us, we know many families make summer plans well in advance. Mark your calendars for this year's Vacation Bible School, which has been confirmed for **July 23-27!**

LENTEN RICE & TEA DINNERS

Join us Wednesdays during Lent in the School Auditorium from 6:00 – 7:00pm for a peaceful fellowship experience with other SJE families. Rice and tea will be served in observance of our willing and joyful sacrifice during this season. Contact Peg Daly if you'd like to come early and help with set up: pegdaly4@gmail.com.

SCRIP

QUESTION: What is Scrip?

ANSWER: An easy program that lets you earn \$\$ toward your fundraising obligation without buying extra products or spending extra money.

QUESTION: What's the catch?

ANSWER: There really isn't one. Over 300 retailers want your business and reward you by giving back to your favorite non-profit. As your favorite non-profit, we think that's a pretty good deal!

BIGGER QUESTION: How do I sign up???

EASY ANSWER: It's easier than you think. We're looking forward to answering your questions and activating your account!

Any questions? Contact Kristin Dukes and Helen Cyr at sjescrips@gmail.com

LUNCH DUTY

Sign up, swap spots, manage your lunch duties – all in one place! Do you have an odd day off, or an extra hour to spare? Check out the calendar and see if there's an opening. \$10 toward your HSA fundraising after satisfying the minimum number days, fun for you and the kids, and a nice break for our beloved teachers.

<http://signup.com/go/JeHSgeA>

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

For the protection of all of our children, SJE policy follows the Archdiocese of Washington Child Protection Program, VIRTUS. Parents and guardians must be cleared through VIRTUS in order to fulfill their Lunch & Recess Duty requirement, serve as chaperones on field trips, attend class parties and functions at school, and volunteer for extracurricular activities such as Scouting and CYO.

If you are a new parent or a returning parent who hasn't completed VIRTUS, please see the instructions here: <http://www.sjte.org/pdf/hsavirtus201617.pdf>

You may also contact Sister Roberta Harding, SJE's Child Protection Compliance Coordinator, at hardingr@sjeparish.org.

FACEBOOK

Check out the latest and greatest happenings at SJE by following our Facebook page. It will be updated with all the daily activities here at school and gives you a chance to share our wonderful school. <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnstheevangelistschool>

You can also follow SJE on Instagram: @sjteschool

PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

New altar servers will be trained to serve at Saturday Vigil and Sunday Mass on April 9, 10, and 11. There is a letter regarding the requirements for altar servers as well as a sign up form (see attachment). Please note, we are excited to be adding a Mass in Spanish every Sunday, at 1:30pm. We especially need altar servers for the Mass in Spanish. The training methods and Mass procedures are the same for the Mass in English and Mass in Spanish. To serve in the Mass at 1:30pm in Spanish, it is not essential that the server understands Spanish or even speaks Spanish. An interest in and a willingness to learn about Spanish customs and culture is all that is needed. Fr. Cusick and another priest will celebrate the Mass in Spanish, and both are bilingual. Thank you for considering this new way of bringing the Lord Jesus to our Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters in our parish. God bless, Father Cusick

Please click here for the parish website: WWW.SJEPARISH.ORG

2017-2018 SJE E-Bulletin - **To submit new items to the e-Bulletin, send an email to news@sjte.org no later than 8 pm TUESDAY of the week you want it posted.** Include flyers, etc. as attachments. Include a brief statement that will be posted in a little box. Be creative but don't be wordy. All submitted items subject to approval by Mrs. Durney. Any questions or comments pertaining to this newsletter should be sent to: Rebecca Desrocher at news@sjte.org.

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