

St. Joseph/St. Robert School Newsletter

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. DURKIN

March 13, 2024

During this busy week, let's remember, "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

Dear SJR Families,

It's a joyful week as we celebrate Confirmation. Yesterday afternoon, the students who are St. Robert's parishioners were confirmed by Bishop Efren Esmilla who was ordained a bishop only last week. This was his first Confirmation! I'm sure he will remember it fondly as the students were so reverent and participated so beautifully. His message that service rooted in prayer results in joy is one I hope those confirmed take with them for the journey. I know I will. I am so looking forward to Confirmation at St. Cyril's this afternoon and St. Joseph's Church tomorrow. I will keep all of our school community in prayer.

Speaking of service, we will be joyfully presenting the money that we raise to The Next Step Program at our Sock Hop on Friday, March 22nd in the afternoon. All students are encouraged to come to school dressed in attire from the 1950s! (No dress down pass is required and no other dress down passes/outfits will be honored that day.) The collection continues until Friday.

We will be celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph on Tuesday, March 19th. When thinking about St. Joseph, I am always inspired by his quiet courage, faith, and persistence. The qualities of a wonderful parent! I will be keeping all of you dads in my prayers in a special way on this feast. The Pre-K will be hosting their dads or other special guest as they honor St. Joseph and his role as Jesus' father here on earth. The rest of the school will attend 9:00a.m. Mass in celebration. All students will receive a soft pretzel at snack time as is our tradition here at SJR. Please be sure to read about the St. Joseph Triduum at St. Joe's Parish later in the newsletter.

Seventh graders will be reporting to an Archdiocesan high school next Thursday, 3/21, for the Universal Visiting Day. If you have a 7th grader, please let the office know where your child is registered to attend that day.

The 7th and 8th grades attended the movie, "Cabrini," on Monday. If you have not had the opportunity to see it yet, please make it a point to do so. You can get tickets and more information at https://www.angel.com/tickets The story of Mother Cabrini, the first American saint, is so inspiring. She is a beautiful model of faith, service, and courage.

Thank you for all you do for SJR! Gratefully, Mrs. Durkin



Home and School Information

Please read below for upcoming events:

Nifty Fifty's Night on Wednesday, March 20th:

Start getting into the right frame of mind for our Sock Hop on Friday, 3/22, by heading to Nifty-Fifty's on Wednesday evening, 3/20. Please see the flyer for more information.

SJR Spirit Night at Urban Air, 4/11:

Please plan to join in the fun at Urban Air on Thursday, April 11th from 5:30–8:30p.m. What a fun way to raise funds for our school and get together the evening before a day off for the students. See the flyer below for details.

SJR 5K RACE/Walk:

Planning has begun for the 12th Annual SJR 5K Race, Fitness Walk, and Kids' Run on Friday, May 10, 2024! If you own a business, can participate in corporate gift matching, or have connections with a business that might be able to sponsor our event this year, please contact the 5K Committee at <u>sjr5krace@gmail.com</u>, or call or message Vince Mandes at 215-510-9672. We are extremely grateful for our business and family sponsors who generously support this event each year. More information on race registration and volunteering opportunities will be coming in early March

St. Joseph St. Robert School April 11th, 2024 // 5:30 - 8 PM

Exclusive Spirit Night pricing: \$30.99 Ultimate Attractions Teletes overlable of the front dark. Must mention Spirit Night at time of partness. Utbon Air socks not included.



of the proceeds are donated back to

your organization

The Next Step Program/SJR Sock Hop

Please continue to gather all the spare change around your house and bring it into school to put it in the S. J. R banks! The change will all be donated to The Next Step Program during our Sock Hop on March 22nd. Parents and other family members can contribute as well. Feel free to send cash or checks to SJR HSA to Mrs. DeGuida c/o Aiden in 3rd grade. Then be sure to get a fifties outfit together for your child to wear to te Sock Hop!



Thanks for all you do for our school!

HSA Board













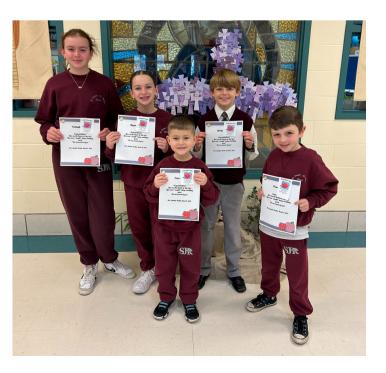




St. Robert's Confirmation







From Around the School

Drama Club:

Tickets are available for purchase! Please come support the cast and crew of "The Little Mermaid, Jr." on Saturday, April 6th! See our website or the flyer below for purchase.

SJR Daisy Troop:

SJR's Daisy Troop donated cookies to the faculty and staff at SJR in gratitude for the school's support to this new group! We are happy to support the girls as they work toward following the Girl Scout Promise:

"I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout."

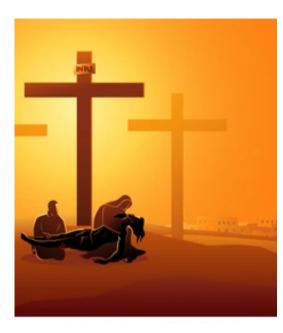
Blessing of the Morning/Afternoon:

Each day of the school year a student leads the Blessing of the Morning and the Blessing of the Afternoon. We began in September with the 8th grade and currently the Pre-K are taking their turns to perform this important service to our school.

Apple of My Eye Winners:

Thank you to Carleigh, Brynn, George, Sean, and Owen for being "caught doing something good!" We are grateful for your kind and helpful works.

Parish News



St. Joe's will be celebrating the annual Triduum to St. Joseph. All are invited to join the community in some special prayers to St. Joseph after the Masses on Sunday, March 17th, Monday, March 18th, and Tuesday, March 19th (the actual feast of St. Joseph). St. Joseph is our awesome patron and it is good to honor him.

Prayer for St. Joseph's Protection

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so prompt, so strong, before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls – pray for me. Amen.



St. Robert's

Consider attending Stations of the Cross as a family on Friday evenings. It is a blessing during this special time of year.

St. Robert's is hosting a Parish Mission, "Our Restless Journey," on Tuesday March 17th - March 19th at 7pm. This will be led by Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A. Sunday. This sounds like a wonderful way to move toward Holy Week. I hope to see you there! I will be re-scheduling the "Tea with Me" to the following week so that I can attend.



Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) BLOCS Tuition Scholarships for 2024-2025

Application for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit BLOCS Scholarship for the 2024-2025 academic year is now **open**. Before applying, please visit: <u>https://www.blocs.org/scholarship-fags</u> and review the FAQ. It is very important that every SJR family review. We recommend that you apply even if you are over the annual income. If available, your family may qualify for other sources of tuition funding. Families can apply who have students enrolling in grades Pre-K through 12th.

The 2024-2025 family income level is \$108,444. The allowance for each child is \$19,088. For example, a family with one child can have an income level of \$127,532 (\$108,444 + \$19,088) or less to qualify. If a family has two children, then the income level would be \$146,620, and the increase of \$19,088 would continue for each dependent. For three children, the income level would be \$165,708 and for four children the income level would be \$184,796.

Applications for tuition scholarships are completed through FACTS by visiting: <u>https://online.factsmqt.com/aid</u>. The application fee is \$30.00 & all submissions are strictly confidential. Once you complete an online application, you will be required to attach your 2023 Federal Tax forms and all supporting tax schedules. Everything must be submitted to FACTS by *May 30, 2024* to determine your family's eligibility for tuition scholarship. If qualified, Mrs. Dorothy Aschenbrenner, SJR Business Manager will notify the family of their award.

Questions about the application process can be directed to FACTS at 866-441-4637. In addition, you may contact Kathy Williamson at: <u>kwilliamson@stjstr.orq</u>



Well Wishes for the Cast and Crew of The Little Mermaid, Jr.

A well wish is a fun way for families and friends to show encouragement and support for all the hard working members of our cast and crew. This is also a nice and easy way to help supplement the costs of running our production. Well wishes are just \$5 a piece and will be printed in the programs that will be handed out on the day of the show. Please feel free to fill up our pages with as many well wishes as you like! Some well wish examples: To the amazing cast and crew, break a leg! Wishing you all the best on your big day!

Please send well wishes and payment to Maryanne Outland % Hannah Outland Grade 7 by Friday, March 8, 2024.

Please email sirdramaclub@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

Well wish intended for:

Please write your well wish exactly as you would like it to appear in the program:

UrbanAir WillowGrove.com

20% of the proceeds are donated back to your organization

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1150 Easton Road // Willow Grove, PA 19090 (215) 902-9330





