

SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

SOURCE AND SUMMIT OF OUR LIVES: THE EUCHARIST



VIRTUE: GENEROSITY

FAITH IN ACTION: KEEPING THE LORD'S DAY HOLY

Saints to follow: All Saints

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

How are you living your faith? What can you do to practice your faith amidst a busy schedule and heavy responsibilities? Here is another idea:

Read about the saint of the day on the EWTN website at www.ewtn.com or Catholic Online at www.catholic.org

Do you recognize the Gift? What would you be willing to do for \$100? What about \$1,000? What if you were offered one million or even one billion? What if all you had to do was show up and stay for one hour to get the money? And it was available every single day? Would you ever miss a day? Would you ever leave early, forfeiting part of the reward?

Money is good and it also happens to be necessary, especially when you have a family to care for. However, there is more to life than money. The warmth of your spouse's hand in yours, the sticky kisses of your children when they are small, the sounds of laughter and conversation over a family meal, and the beauty of nature enjoyed together are

all gifts that money cannot purchase or improve upon. The most valuable gift of all is the love and the grace of God, freely given.

God is all goodness, beauty, and truth, and anything in our soul that is not good, beautiful, or true must be removed before we can be completely united to Him. In order to go heaven, in order to spend eternity united to God, we have to be filled with sanctifying grace. He gave us the amazing gift of the Sacraments so that each and every soul can be prepared to be united to Him in endless joy forever. We received sanctifying grace for the first time at our Baptism. It was strengthened and fortified in Confirmation. When we kill the life of grace in our souls through mortal sin, or weaken it through venial sin, we can be raised from

the dead through the Sacrament of Confession.

If we are living this life of grace, we can receive the greatest gift of love the world has ever known: the Holy Eucharist. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, truly present under the appearances of bread and wine, is waiting to make His home in your heart. He does not want you to clean up your heart like you clean up your house for guests: closing certain doors and chatting politely in the living room. He waits at the door, ready to strengthen you in your weakness, ready to comfort you in your sorrow, ready to heal what seems irretrievably broken, if only you will let Him in. And the gift is free. And the gift is available daily.

ALL SAINTS DAY

It's time for.... Saint of the day!

The St. Joseph school children exuberantly recite this phrase during their morning assembly as they wave their hands in the air hoping to be chosen to share about the day's saint. On November 1st, they will learn about a unique saint celebration: All Saints Day. Instead of honoring a particular saint on this day, the Church gives thanks to God for the graces He gave to *all* of the saints in Heaven; not only those who have been declared

by the Church, but also all those who are *unknown* and *unnamed* saints in Heaven. The graces showered upon the saints during their lifetime on earth led them to practice a life of virtue worthy of imitation. By honoring the saints, we hope to follow their example of virtue and persevere in our own faith to the end of our lives here on this earth.

We rejoice on this day with all the saints in Heaven, both declared and unnamed by the Church, in God's abundant

mercy that He granted to those already enjoying their eternal life with Him in Heaven. We celebrate the reality that He continues to shower graces on those of us still fighting the battle daily against sin, waiting in hope for the day in which we will be able to praise Him for all eternity in His Presence in Heaven.

All you holy men and women... pray for us.

SCHOOL-WIDE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

SLE's (School-Wide Learning Expectations) for Primary Grades:

I am a Student of St. Joseph who:

Spiritual:

- ✚ Loves like Jesus and respects all life.
- ✚ Receives the Sacraments regularly.
- ✚ Shares what I believe as a Catholic.
- ✚ Knows and loves my Faith.

Academic:

- ✚ Shares my thoughts, is a good listener, works independently and in groups.
- ✚ Can read and write.

- ✚ Is a good Christian leader.
- ✚ Uses my gifts to show what I have learned.
- ✚ Follows directions and stays on task.
- ✚ Develops my creativity and enjoys the arts.
- ✚ Uses computers in order to learn.

Intellectual:

- ✚ Accepts challenges and tries my best.
- ✚ Knows what is happening in the world.

Physical:

- ✚ Exercises, eats healthy, and stays clean.
- ✚ Makes good health choices.
- ✚ Plays fairly.

Social:

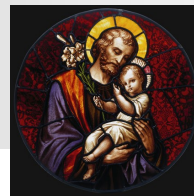
- ✚ Is responsible for my actions in work and in play.
- ✚ Works together.
- ✚ Shows responsibility as a leader.
- ✚ Respects all cultures.
- ✚ Tries to be of service to others.
- ✚ Is a good citizen.
- ✚ Works out disagreements peacefully.
- ✚ Makes good choices in all situations.

ST. JOSEPH ALUMNI GATHERING

Last year afforded such a wonderful opportunity for many St. Joseph School Alumni to reconnect with each other during the 60th anniversary celebration. As many alumni were not able to attend, our Alumni liaison is working on another

gathering for Sunday, November 27. The gathering will begin with 8:15 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church. This will be followed by a potluck brunch and a special 60th anniversary power point. Door

prizes and other fun activities have been scheduled as well. All alumni are welcome. Bring your St. Joseph School pictures. We would love to see them!



Heart to Heart with Mother Luisita
 .May you become a saint, and may Our Lord bless you.
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FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Fourth grade sponsored their family fun night on Friday, October 28. Our families enjoyed great food and played wholesome games with one another.

As families gathered from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m., the students and parents mingled around the room asking one another to sign a spot on

their "ice-breaker" page in order to get to know one another better and to earn a free night of home work. Several of the parents were as excited as their children at the prospect of having the chance to have a "night off from homework."

Parents were also able to view some of the projects their students are working on in class as well as see them in action during a typical day in the classroom through a power point presentation consisting of candid pictures of the students. After a

delicious dinner, the students and parents played relay races with beach balls. They ended their games by working in teams to craft some amazing sculptures out of paper and tape.

Thank you to all of the families who made the evening memorable!

Saint Joseph School

St. Joseph's Corner

UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Fun Night will be held on Friday, November 4th, and sponsored by 1st grade. All family members are invited. Parents of our 1st grade students, please mark your calendars and plan on a great evening with your child!

Veterans' Day

There will be no school of Friday, November 11th, in observance of Veterans' Day.

Faith Formation, for parents of students who are receiving their first communion this coming spring, will hold their

second meeting on Saturday, November 12th from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and Tuesday, November 15th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. All are invited to attend these meetings and future meetings in this series. For more information, please call the school office (626)336-2821.

Thanksgiving

There will be 12:30 p.m. early dismissal on Wednesday, November 23rd in preparation for the Thanksgiving holiday. No school on Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th

in celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday. Let us give thanks to God for all of His abundant blessings. May your holiday be truly filled with joy.

St. Joseph's Alumni committee will host a gathering open to all of St. Joseph's alumni on Sunday, November 27th. The event will begin with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the 8:15 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Joseph's Church, followed by a brunch and activities in the parish hall. All are welcome!

In St. Joseph's Corner this month I have the great privilege of introducing you to St. André Bessette (A.K.A. Brother André). Renowned for his deep devotion to St. Joseph, St. André was responsible for the building of the largest basilica in the world dedicated to St. Joseph. St. Joseph's Oratory, located in Montreal, Canada, has the largest number of pilgrims visit it each year, second only to Vatican City and Lourdes, France.

Living his life in Canada, St. André entered the Congregation of the Holy Cross, a religious order of men. Uneducated, Brother André was put in charge of the humblest, lowliest position in the community: that of door keeper. In his simplicity, Brother André welcomed many people; some were sick and he advised them to pray to St. Joseph for a cure. And they were cured!

Thousands and thousands of people have been miraculously cured by the hands of Brother André... there is even a wall in the crypt of St. Joseph's Oratory with thousands of crutches as proof of the miracles.

It is recorded that on June 6, 1937, the day Brother André died, over one million people went to the Oratory to pay their respects to the Miracle Man of St. Joseph.

"Go to St. Joseph" –St. André

Meet Our Staff

St. Joseph School welcomed a special new member to its staff this past month. Sister Marie Andre, O.C.D., a novice with the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles, is spending the months of October and November with our school to learn about daily life as a teacher. She has already visited several of the classrooms as an assistant for the day. In conversations with our staff members, Sister Marie Andre has often reiterated what the sisters and staff already know: we are truly blessed to work with incredible children at St. Joseph.

Sister Marie Andre has spent the past two years in the formation program for becoming a Carmelite Sister. In addition to living the daily life of prayer, central to Carmelite spirituality, Sister has participated in assisting with various duties at the Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra, California. Each day, the sisters in the novitiate have a period of time devoted to study of the Carmelite charism, Catholic doctrine, and the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. At the end of November, Sister Marie Andre will return to the novitiate house in Alhambra to complete her studies as a novice with the Carmelite Sisters. She asks for each of your prayers as she continues to seek God's will and prepares to make her vows as a sister.

