

# SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## SALVETE OMNES!

SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

VIRTUE: KINDNESS

SKILLS: RESPONDING WITH CHARITY

Saints to follow: St. Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney, Saint Teresa Benedicta, Saint Lawrence

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We pray that everyone had a beautiful and safe summer. This month is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The virtue we will be working on at school is the virtue of kindness. Let us model to everyone whom we come in contact with the kindness of our Lady especially in speech. The social skill is

responding with charity. A good rule of thumb for practicing the virtue of kindness is to think before we speak, write, text, or email and ask ourselves 3 simple questions. Is it

1. Kind?
2. True?
3. Necessary?

If we fail in any one of these three, we sin

against charity. "A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, ... for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." (Lk 6:46)

Let us ask our Lady to help us guard our hearts and our tongues from acts against charity and to think and say those things that draw us closer to God.

### QUEENSHIP OF MARY

Mary was Jesus' first and best disciple. She did what she told the steward at the Wedding Feast of Cana to do: Listen to Him. Jesus said that those who hear the word of God and keep it are blessed. Mary is highly blessed because she heard His word and kept it perfectly. August 22, the Church celebrates the Queenship of Mary.

This celebration her more than we ever could.

Let us draw near to her trusting that she will not only love us, but unfailingly lead us to her Son. She knows the way.



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

We have the joy of announcing to all of you, our *Family Faith Formation Nights*. These privileged times will be given to fellowship and discussion on the tremendous treasures of our Catholic faith. Stay tuned for upcoming dates as we celebrate our faith in our communion of minds and hearts.

## DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART

While, early on, of course, the Church Fathers wrote of Mary's blessedness, purity, and sorrows, and our Saints -- Dominic, Gertrude, Thomas Becket, Bridget, Bernardine of Siena, Louis de Montfort -- have always had deep Marian devotions, it was after the [apparitions of Mary](#) experienced by St. Catherine Labouré at Rue Du Bac, Paris in 1830 that devotions specifically to Mary's Immaculate Heart became formalized.

Mary appeared to St. Catherine Labouré standing on a globe, rays of light streaming from her fingers, enframed in an oval frame inscribed with the words, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." The whole vision "turned" showing the back of the oval inscribed with the letter "M" entwined with a Cross, and the hearts of Jesus and Mary, the former surrounded with thorns, the latter pierced with a sword. 12 stars circled this oval frame. Mary told her to strike a medal in this form -- a medal now known as the "[Miraculous Medal](#)" -- and that all who wore it properly after having it blessed would receive graces. The wearing of the Miraculous Medal has become one of the most common devotions to the Immaculate Heart.

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart became even more popularized after Mary's appearing to the three young shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal in 1917 (before the Russian Revolution), when she asked that Russia be consecrated to her Immaculate Heart to prevent the spread of "the errors of Russia." Eight years later, in 1925, Mary appeared to one of the visionaries -- Lucia, who'd since become a nun -- and requested reparations for the various ways in which her Immaculate Heart was offended -- such as attacks against her Immaculate Conception, virginity and divine maternity, and for those who teach their children contempt of Mary or who insult her by desecrating her [images](#).

To make these reparations, she asked that we do 5 things, all with the intention of making reparation to her Immaculate Heart:

1. recite at least Five Decades of the [Rosary](#) every day
2. wear the Brown [Scapular](#)
3. offer our daily duty to God as an act of sacrifice (ie., make the [Morning Offering](#))
4. make Five First Saturdays of Reparation to Her Immaculate Heart (see below)
5. the Pope, in union with all the bishops of the world, must consecrate Russia to Her Immaculate Heart. Russia would be converted through this means, and a period of peace to be given to the world. If this is not done (and it hasn't been done), Russia will "spread her errors throughout the world." This consecration must be of *Russia* -- not "the world," but *Russia* by name.

The "First Saturdays of Reparation" was not a new devotion, but it was even more popularized after Our Lady appeared at Fatima. It consists of, on the first Saturday of each month for five consecutive months: 1) going to [Confession](#) (may be 8 days before the Saturday as long as one stays in a state of grace) 2) receiving [the Eucharist](#) 3) praying 5 decades of the [Rosary](#), including the Fatima Prayer while meditating on all of the Mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation to her. This can be done by reading Scripture or other writings relevant to the Mysteries, meditating on pictures of the Mysteries, or simple meditation.

The promise given by Mary to those who make the First Saturday devotion is her assistance at the hour of their death.



**S**aint John Vianney, Priest (Patron of priests) Feast day - August 4. Universally known as the "Cure of Ars)," Saint John Mary Vianney was ordained a priest in 1815. Three years later he was made parish priest of Ars, a remote French hamlet, where his reputation as

a confessor and director of souls made him known throughout the Christian world. His life was one of extreme mortification. Accustomed to the most severe austerities, beleaguered by swarms of penitents, and besieged by the devil, this great mystic manifested an imperturbable patience. He was a wonderworker loved by the crowds, but he retained a childlike sim-

plicity, and he remains to this day the living image of the priest after the heart of Christ. He heard confessions of people from all over the world for the sixteen hours each day. His life was filled with works of charity and love. It is recorded that even the staunchest of sinners were converted at his mere word. He died August 4, 1859, and was canonized May 31, 1925. ([www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org))

## HOT LUNCHES, SUPERVISION, ETC.



Hot lunches will be available the first full week of school. Hot lunch will begin on Wednesday, August 16. See the August calen-

dar online for the menu selections. Remember that all money must be in on Tuesday for the whole week (unless the first day of the week is Tuesday then the money can come in on Wednesday). You cannot buy lunch on the specific day. Please send a check or exact change.

Supervision begins at

7:30 a.m. Please make arrangements accordingly. However, you may wish to avail yourself of our early morning care at 7:00am. Please pay \$2.00 at the door in Room 5 or 6 daily if you choose to utilize the early morning care.

Also, please **do not** park or drop off your children on the **red zone** anywhere on

Glendora Avenue. We have had near accidents because parents have been in a great rush.. Your child's safety is too important to risk.



## PLANNERS, EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS, SCHOOL PICTURES

Student Planners needed by each child in grades 3-8 are available from the classroom teacher. Please send \$5.00 as soon as possible so your child can begin to use this planner. Please use only the one we are providing so that every child has the same information as it will be used as a resource by the

teacher.



Earthquake Preparedness must be kept in mind. In

order to be prepared with supplies, please send in \$10.00 and we will purchase the supplies needed for your child.



School pictures will be taken Monday, September 26. Kindly

make sure that your child comes in complete uniform by carefully reviewing the school uniform policy. Students not in compliance will be asked to retake the pic-

## EMERGENCY CARDS & WORLD'S FINEST

The Emergency Card is very important. Fill this out completely, front and back. Also, please make sure of the following:

They are returned promptly and have all the people who are allowed to pick up your child on the card.

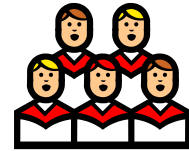
All telephone numbers are current and correct. This is urgent in case there is an emergency and we need to get a hold of you or a member of your family. Thank you for your help with this important document.

2011-12 fundraiser will be

the World's Finest Chocolates. We will be selling the \$2.00 bars again this year. The kick-off day will be **Friday, August 19** in the morning and the end of the drive will be September 9. This gives you three weeks to sell candy. The candy will come on

Friday, August 19. Remember that you have already paid for three (3) boxes so these are for you to keep. When you want more please send ia note to the office with the number of extra boxes you want. May God reward you!

# Welcome to our new families!



## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Bingo** – Thank you to all who helped during the summer months. We are assigning new families beginning with the eighth grade families. It is important to keep bingo going because it really helps us with the overall maintenance of the school and the emergencies that arise throughout the year. If you are unable to make it, kindly ask another family member (18 years of age or older) to cover for you. You may call Liz Fitzgerald (626) 392-3060 who schedules the bingo.

Please check the bingo calendar online for your as-

signed times.

**Back to School Night** will be Tuesday, August 16 for grades K-4 at 7:00 p.m. and on Thursday, August 18 at 7:00 p.m. for grades 5-8. Each will be in its respective classrooms. This opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher and hear about the expectations for this school year is invaluable.

**Our PTC Meeting** will be Tuesday, August 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hall. It is a good way to meet other parents, socialize, and to receive information about school events as well as hear from guest speakers who share their knowledge on various

subjects and issues. For this first meeting, we will again have Eileen Sheppard share with us the new directives on government programs that are available to help receive resources for our children. These meetings are **mandatory** for parents. If unable to attend, please send an adult to take notes for you. A \$30 fee is paid by those who do not attend.

**Parent Survey for Government Programs:** In order to know which children qualify for government programs, we will send out a parent survey. Please fill it out completely and return it to the office in a timely manner. You do not need to put your name, **but address and zip code are very important.**

**Choir Sunday** The school choir sings at the 8:15 Mass. For the first Choir Sunday, August 21, we will also have the commissioning of the PTC Officers and the Teachers and Staff members. Please come and join us for the celebration of the Mass and meet the PTC officers and the teachers and staff.

**Medications:** Any child coming to school with medication needs to have a doctor's note before the medication can be given. Please bring this before school begins.

**First Graders** need to have their physical examinations completed before entering school. Please make sure we have the form on or before the first day of school.

## VIOLENT VIDEO GAMES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON PLAYERS A TOPIC OF DEBATE

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- With a case involving violent video gaming set to get a hearing at the U.S. Supreme Court in the fall, psychologists and a priest-anthropologist talked to [Catholic News Service](#) about whether youths' exposure to violent games should be cause for concern. The case came about in 2005 when the Video Software Dealers Association sued to strike down a newly signed law that would require a label on games to flag violent content. The

law made it illegal to sell violent video and computer games to youths under 18. The association won its suit two years later when a federal judge granted a permanent injunction to the law. In response, the state of California filed an appeal with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which upheld the lower court, and California asked the Supreme Court to review the ruling, which in April it agreed to do. Hal Halpin, president of Entertain-

ment Consumers Association, said that this might be the most important case gaming has faced. "Gaming itself is at stake of being differentiated from entertainment media like music and movies," Halpin told a reporter at Game Culture, a blog owned by the association. In his message for World Communications Day in 2007, Pope Benedict XVI included video games as being among the media products that must keep human dignity intact. "Any trend to produce

-- which in the name of entertainment exalt violence and portray anti-social behavior or the trivialization of human sexuality is a perversion, all the more repulsive when these programs are directed at children and adolescents," Pope Benedict said.

