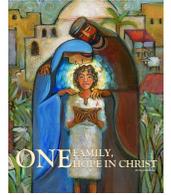




St. Joseph the Worker School March 2022 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Guardians,

A blessed Lenten Season to each of you! As a school community, we still managed to begin our Lenten observance with various versions of “at home” Pancake Breakfasts on Shrove Tuesday. We then solemnly observed Ash Wednesday with an in-person school morning mass. Each one of these rituals was a beautiful witness by both families in their homes, as well as by the school and parish, to model our connectedness. We are truly blessed to be part of such a community.

Lent is a great season to step back and examine the balance in our lives. During these challenging times, it is more important than ever to remember to strive to do better and find ways to (re)connect with God. When we return after Spring Break, our students will also have a chance to take a step back and reflect on the Lenten message during our annual Holy Thursday in-class Retreat. This reflection will happen on the afternoon of Holy Thursday and will assist in preparing the students of St. Joe’s for the Paschal Triduum.

As we look for opportunities to observe Lent by fasting, praying and almsgiving, let us also reflect on fasting from the negativity that seems to overwhelm us during challenging times:

Fast from discontent; focus on gratitude.

Fast from anger; focus on patience.

Fast from pessimism; focus on optimism.

Fast from complaining; focus on appreciation.

Fast from worry; focus on trust that God has a plan

On behalf of our parish school staff, I hope all of our school families enjoy a safe and holy Lenten Season of preparation, reflection and patience.

In Christ,

Paul Fraser, Principal

Virtual Shrove Tuesday Pancakes- Great Pictures!

Sadly, we couldn't do our annual Pancake Breakfast celebration on Shrove Tuesday for a second year. However, we received some great pictures from many of our families who sent in pancake feasts from their kitchen tables! Thanks again to all who kept our pancake tradition going, and we look forward to having next year's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Feast in person!



Results for February's Spirit Day

Our February Spirit Day was our refugee family arriving soon to St. Joe's. The school community raised **\$407** for this worthy cause. March's Spirit Day is for Water First, which helps to ensure our First Nations communities have clean and accessible drinking water.

Spring Break – Last Day of Classes March 11

Please remember that on this day, there is a 3:00pm dismissal, which signifies the start of Spring Break. Classes will resume on Monday, March 28.

Lenten Reconciliation

Our Lenten season confessions are happening this week for all students in Grades 3-7. As part of our safety protocols, we have partitions placed between our Friars and students, and masks are worn by everyone.

Holy Thursday Retreat

To prepare the students for the upcoming Paschal Triduum, the school will hold an in-school retreat for Grades K-7 on Thursday, April 14 (Holy Thursday). The retreat will begin after recess and will wrap up at noon for 12:00 dismissal for Easter Weekend.

COVID UPDATE- Quarantine Restrictions Lifted

With spring break occurring soon, it's a good time to review the recent changes to the entry requirements for those that return to Canada after travelling abroad. Effective February 28th, there was a change to the requirement restricting student school attendance for 14 days after their return to Canada:

“Children under 12 years old, travelling with fully vaccinated adults, will continue to be exempt from quarantine, without any prescribed conditions limiting their activities. This means, for example, they no longer need to wait 14 days before attending school, camp or daycare.”