



ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL



SJB SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER 11.02.18

Dear SJB Families,

Gala is here! Thank you to the Gala Committee for all of their hard work and preparation for this event. The family gems are beautiful! Thank you all for taking the time to create them. *If your family created one, your child(ren) may wear their spirit wear on Monday, November 5th!* Note: we are not distributing passes for this- your child can simply wear their



spirit wear on Monday. Please visit our website for more information about the Gala, and to bid on auction items. You can also follow this link:

<https://one.bidpal.net/sjbgala2018/welcome>

We are “Pouncing” for STEM equipment this year! What if your child could create an actual model of the human brain, or create parts of an engine through 3D programming and printing? What if your child could build and then program an actual robot using LEGOs? What if your child could begin to apply the concepts of coding through play? We are very excited about continuing our STEM program with 21st century tools!

Please call or email our office when your child is absent at office@sjbschool.org

Students are not supervised in the morning until 8:05. They should not be in the PMC in the morning, as that area is NOT supervised and is open to the public. Extended day is available for use.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Blessings,

Dr. Maloney

Principal

Dear Parishioners,

The Feasts of All Saints and All Souls help us to look to the exemplary people of faith who have helped us understand what Christian spirituality means and how to apply it to our daily lives. The great intellects, the people of deep mystical prayer, and the ones who brought people together in community despite hatred and bigotry witness the spiritual non-negotiables.

The spiritual non-negotiables – the importance of community worship, the imperatives surrounding social action, and the centrality of our belief that God became one of us to set us free to serve, were made manifest by this cloud of witnesses, human beings like ourselves. The canonized saints and even our respected deceased relatives help us answer the question that haunts us all, “What is spirituality?” In the lives of the people we admire, we see how we are to channel that inner restlessness, those deep desires that

gnaw at us all, into a healthy spirituality.

The great men and women of our faith push us to move beyond a private faith concerned with only our family and close friends to one that challenges us to put our faith into action by helping those in need and building solidarity and peace among all. Christ calls us to justice beyond private charity. Christ's merciful love enables us to seek an increasing engagement with the broader society in order to bring Him into the world.

Private charity responds to the homeless and the wounded, which is good and noble, but it does not try to get at the reasons that created the homeless, the wounded, and very sadly at times, death. Social justice asks us to go up stream to find out the systems and structures which perpetuate these injustices.

Perhaps in the distant past good people focused on their own simple lives, but today we know more about these atrocities with our 24-hour news cycle. Today, we can travel and understand with clarity the political, economic, and social systems that are unfair and wounding to many across the globe. Today we know and see for ourselves, sometimes on live TV, the starving skeletal bodies of innocent refugee men, women, and children, the bullet riddled so called "dissident," or even the gruesome beheading and dismemberment of a captured journalist. Yes, today, we know more.

Because we know more, because we can see with our own eyes, we are to awaken to the call to social justice. This profound awareness forces us to be people of truth and transformative energy. As people of truth, we look to shape our worldview and more importantly our daily choices in line with the Gospel message. Money, power, personal and political gain are not the ultimate factors in making our decisions -- rather, we put our energy into making the world a little better for those who have no voice.

Father Ronald Rolheiser reminds us, "In the world's schema of things, survival of the fittest is the rule. In God's schema of things, survival of the weakest is the rule. God always stands on the side of the weak and it is there, among the weak, that we find God." Please reflect on the candidates running for elected office. Please pray over your choices and then vote with the mind and heart of Jesus.

Father Mike Meany

The Shooting response letter

Pittsburgh Grieves, We Grieve with our Brothers and Sisters in Faith.

Tree Of Life Synagogue Anti-Semitic Shooting

We mourn the death of the 11 people who were members of the Tree of Life Synagogue, Pittsburgh, PA, last Saturday, October 27. The victims, ages ranged from 54 to 97 years old -- brothers, an elderly couple, people with family and friends -- Richard Gottfried, 65, Rose Malinger, 97, Joyce Fienberg, 75, Jerry Rabinowitz, 66, Cecil and David Rosenthal, 59 and 54, Bernice and Sylvan Simon, 84 and 86, Daniel Stein, 71, Melvin Wax, 88, Irving Younger, 69.

People very much like us, believers in God and community, dedicated to living in right relationship with everyone.

Please pray for their families, pray for the Jewish community around the globe and all those touched by this tragedy. Pray for the first responders, the doctors, psychologists, family and friends, neighbors, and coworkers who are filled with sadness and confusion.

Remember, Jesus was a Jew, as were Mary and Joseph and all Jesus' first followers. We call ourselves Judeo Christian. Jesus was killed by individuals motivated by political, cultural, and religious beliefs who felt threatened and had a bias against him and not by the Jewish religion per-se or its people as a whole. While in the past, the church contributed to this hatred by saying the "Jews killed Jesus," since Vatican II this is no longer the case and what I stated is official church teaching.

Hate has no place in our conversations and practices. Anti-Semitic sentiments and racial prejudice against African Americans, Asians, Hispanics, refugees, immigrants, or any kind of discrimination is just plain evil.

We all know better, there is no excuse. When a person keeps quiet or when someone makes a so called "joke" or "comment," that person is part of the problem. When someone makes statements that are incendiary and they are encouraged by others as if the behavior doesn't matter, the people who could have denounced the statement are guilty, too.

It's not a matter of political correctness; it is about obeying the command to "love thy neighbor as thyself." When you say nothing as hatred comes forth from a person's lips, you allow the spark of hatred to ignite. When an individual plays on the fears of others

and leads them along the path of falsehood, that individual has to share in the culpability when the flame of hatred spreads.

It's plain wrong, let's not fool ourselves. Hate is hate, lying and manipulation is evil and promotes evil.

Do we need a safety plan and some common sense security? Yes, but let's be clear. The right ideology, or more guns, in the end will not eradicate these problems. We need hope, personal integrity, charity, and prayer. Plenty of prayer.

Please pray for our country.

Father Mike Meany

To view this week's parish bulletin, which contains the annual report, please click here: <http://www.sjbrebeuf.org/bulletins>

Events:

Saturday, 11/03 -- 25th Annual St. John Brebeuf Gala. 6:00 pm in the Parish Ministry Center

Monday, 11/05 -- School Advisory Board meeting in Room 2

Wednesday, 11/07 -- P/SA General meeting in Room 2

Thursday, 11/08 -- 8:30 All-School mass

-- 8:30 - 9:30: Jumping Jaguars Program for 2 & 3 year old children.

Friday, 11/09 -- Donate \$1.00 to Uncle Pete's Ministry and come to school dressed in Red, White, and/or Blue

Announcements:

Box Tops Bonanza! It's that time please send in your Box Tops by the end of the month!



Join the Booster Club -- An email went out inviting all families to join the SJB Athletic Board Booster Club. Please consider joining!

Do you have a child who is 2 or 3 years old? Our Jumping Jaguars program for young children will begin soon. This year the program will be on Thursdays from 8:30-9:30 am in the school. Please share the news with your friends and neighbors!

From SJB Youth Ministry – ATTENTION 7th AND 8th GRADERS:

SJB Youth Ministry is changing leadership. Krystyna Sobocinska has joined us this past week. Please join us in welcoming her to our staff. Meanwhile, if you have questions about Youth Ministry, please contact our Parish Office at 847-966-8145.