

SJB School Parent Newsletter 9.28.18

Dear SJB Families,

What a great week! We were blessed to have so many grandparents and special adult friends attend the Grandparents Day Mass and the reception yesterday. Thank you to the many P/SA volunteers who helped make this event a success, and even more who dropped off goodies. It was a wonderful event!

Our 25th Annual Gala is coming up on November 3, and our committee is hard at work planning a memorable evening. In the coming weeks you will hear more about this event, but I encourage all of our families to save the date, get tickets, and attend. Not only is this a great way to raise money for our school, but it is also a way to meet new friends and have a really fun evening. If you can, please also consider volunteering to help -- even the smallest amount of time spent helping can have a big impact.

Finally, our parent-teacher conferences will be held next Thursday and Friday, October 4 and 5. This is an important opportunity for you to have individual meetings with your child's teachers. If you have questions about conferences, please reach out to your child's teachers or to the school office.

Blessings,
Dr. Maloney
Principal

Dear Parishioners,

As we enter another busy fall, I thank you for all your support! We had a wonderful 65th Anniversary Celebration last weekend. The Anniversary Mass and Dinner Dance was attended by 307 people from all segments of our parish family. It was an evening we will long remember! Thanks to all who worked behind the scenes to make it such a success.

Today we begin a five-week Season of Stewardship, a time of thanksgiving, prayer, and generosity. I ask each of you to reflect on what St. John Brebeuf Parish means to you. Many have answered the question, and their dedication to our vital faith community is reflected in our active ministries, beautiful grounds, prayerful liturgies, and our vibrant school and religious education communities. Your continued commitment to our parish

strengthens our foundations so we can continue to fulfill the spiritual and educational needs of our members.

Our hospitality under the tents after Masses earlier this month was our first step in engaging the parish family, and it was a success! Over 150 people signed up to participate in the “Wrapped In God's Love Blanket Project” for the sick and hurting. The blankets will be collected at all Masses on October 20-21 and October 27-28, so there is still time to join in this effort. When we put our faith into action we are at our best!

Today, we reflect on the meaning of Stewardship. Stewardship is defined as “the job of supervising or taking care of something, such as an organization or property.” In Catholicism, Stewardship occurs personally, with others, and with the entire congregation in the form of prayer, service, and gifts.

You can be a good steward by praying, providing service through ministry and volunteering, and giving financial support to our mission. We want to celebrate all forms of stewardship.

Stewardship need not be complicated. When I was in grade school my dear mother, Charlotte, encouraged us to make a “Spiritual Bouquet” for those we love at the time of a birthday or any other special occasion. The Meany's took this activity to heart! Even at Christmas and Easter, we were making homemade cards and listing the number of prayers and acts of kindness performed for friends and family.

A Spiritual Bouquet is a form of stewardship. I remember writing a card on Mother's Day, telling my mom that I loved her very much and that I was going to say two rosaries, say I was sorry four times, do five acts of kindness, and make three visits to the church -- all for her. My prayers and actions were graces I willingly shared with her.

The idea is that you intentionally pray and do acts of kindness in the name of a person you love. Stewardship is concrete and transforming for both the person remembered and the person who desires to express their love.

Thank you again for your sacrificial support. As a family expresses their love and plans for the future, we as a parish strive to do the same. Over the coming weeks we will talk about many ways to create your own “Spiritual Bouquet,” and we will also talk about ways we can use resources like GiveCentral and Text-To-Give in this electronic age with computers and cell phones. Stay tuned! More next week!

Peace,
Father Mike Meany
Pastor

PS: The SJB Parish Staff and the SJB Pastoral Council feel that during these difficult times it is important to listen to each other without judgement. On Wednesday, October

3, Father Meany will host a Listening Session from 7:00-8:15 pm in Room C of the Parish Ministry Center. This will be an opportunity to ask questions and hear concerns about the sexual abuse issues within the Church and the recent increased awareness of sexual assault within the workplace. All are invited.

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

To read the parish "Weekender" email, please click here:
<https://mailchi.mp/9d16ae4a9e41/sjb-parish-weekender-for-august-31-224515>

Events:

Monday, 10/1 -- School Advisory Board Meeting, 7 pm

Wednesday, 10/3 -- P/SA General Meeting, 7 pm

Thursday, 10/4 -- All School Mass, 8:30 am; Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3:30-6:30 pm

Friday, 10/5 -- Spirit Wear Day; 12 pm dismissal, Parent-Teacher Conferences, 1-4 pm

Monday, 10/8 -- Columbus Day, No School

Tuesday, 10/9 -- Coffee with the Principal, 8:15 am - 9:00 am

Wednesday, 10/10 -- Shadow Day for 8th Grade students at Notre Dame & Resurrection

Thursday, 10/11 -- All School Mass, 8:30 am; Picture Day

Friday, 10/12 -- Walkathon with Pizza Day

Saturday, 10/13 -- Trunk-or-Treat

Sunday, 10/14 -- Scout Mass, 9 am

Announcements

Trunk-or-Treat is coming! See the flyer and details here: www.sjbrebeuf.org/psa

Walkathon -- All the forms for Walkathon can be found here: www.sjbrebeuf.org/athletics. Our goal is 100% participation, so please sign up today!

Gala -- Would your employer, or perhaps a business you love, like to donate to Gala? Letters to local businesses are hot off the press, and we would love to give you one. Also, Gala volunteers are still needed. If interested, please contact Alison Selivon at designsbyalison@yahoo.com.

Choir has begun, and you can still sign up! Please see the updated information on the website. This year there is a new choir for Polish-speaking children as well! Forms are available from Mrs. Fair, the choir director. <http://www.sjbschool.org/music>

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

- 1) The next LifeTeen Mass/Life Night is coming up on Sunday, Oct. 7. All 7th and 8th graders are invited to attend the LifeTeen Mass at 6:00 pm in church, followed by Life Night fun from 7-9 pm in the Youth Ministry Office. Please contact our Parish Office or Fr. Przemek if you have questions, przemyslaw.tomczyk88@gmail.com.
- 2) SJB YOUTH MINISTRY is changing leadership. Mrs. Perez retired at the end of August. There will be a transition team, and Mrs. Perez will be involved with a smooth transition. Please contact our Parish Office at 847-966-8145 if you have any questions.

Questions? Contact our Parish Office at 847-966-8145.