



# Weekly Newsletter

November 20, 2016

From the Principal's Desk

## **Wishing You a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!**

This year is going by so quickly it is hard to believe we are ready to celebrate Thanksgiving, and Advent is just around the corner! The Thanksgiving holiday is a wonderful time to focus on faith, family, and food, both in our homes and in the wider community.

Gratitude is creative. People bound together by gratitude are always discovering and awakening abundant sources of strength. The more thankful a person is, the richer he or she is within. Thankful people store up in their grateful memory all the good experiences of the past, just as a French proverb states: "Gratitude is the heart's memory." Thanksgiving Day is surely a time for giving thanks to God for all that we have: the gift of life, the blessings of a loving family, the security of food, clothing and a place to live, but it is just as surely a time for thinking of, and resolving to act on behalf of, those who lack those same gifts and blessings.

Thankfulness is much more than saying "Thank you" because we have to. Thankfulness is a way to experience the world, a way to perceive, and a way to be surprised. Thankfulness is having open eyes and a short distance between the eyes and the heart.

On behalf of our parish and school, I wish all of our Saint Joseph Catholic School families, and our extended families and friends, a most blessed and heartfelt Thanksgiving.

For those of you on the road during the Thanksgiving break, I wish you safe travels and safe returns. I am forever grateful to our hardworking school staff, to our dedicated and experienced faculty, to our generous parishioners, our supportive and generous parents and guardians, and finally to the most precious gifts of our community, our children. SJCS is a very special place to serve and I am most grateful to be a part of it. May the God continue to bless us, keeping our spirit strong, our faith steadfast and always, in His guiding light.

May each of you enjoy the Thanksgiving break. May it be a restful and prayerful time for all, as we give thanks for all of God's blessings.

I thank each you for your dedication and support and ask you to continue to be ambassadors for SJCS by projecting a positive, Christian spirit throughout our community.

Blessings and peace during this Holiday Season.  
Deborah Suddarth, Ed.S.

## Canned Fruit Collection

Don't forget our canned fruit drive for our local Food Pantry. Canned items of fruit, cranberries, and pumpkin will be used in food baskets distributed to needed families in our area. The canned items may be brought to the office or sent with your child to the homeroom teacher. Thank you for your support! We will be delivering the fruit to the food pantry on Tuesday morning.



## Christmas Cards

All Christmas card orders are due Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, by noon.

All checks are made out to "Kids Are Stars".

We had many amazing Christmas card designs by our young artists.



**Thanksgiving Vacation  
Begins on Tuesday at Noon  
No Aftercare**



## Hot Lunch

21	22	23	24	25
<b>Three Cheese Penne Primavera</b> Vegetable Medley Garlic Bread Fruit Salad	<b>Noon Dismissal</b>	<b>No School</b>	<b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>	<b>No School</b>

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## After School Programs

### Monday

Violin/Strings Class

3:00 – 3:45 pm in the Music Room

Legion of Mary (Grades 3 – 8)

3:00 – 4:00 pm (Parish Center)

Intermediate Guitar 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Church Choir Room

Garden Club (Grades 4 – 8)

3:00 – 4:00 pm

Grade 6 Math Help

3:00 – 4:00 pm

## Carnival Survey

Thank you to everyone who has completed the online Carnival Survey. Our Carnival Committee will be meeting on Monday evening and this is important data as we plan for next year. Our Carnival Committee did an outstanding job, and we are eager to review how we can make our Carnival even more Spectacular!

Survey Link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SJSCarnival>

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## Kindergarten – Charlie Brown Thanksgiving



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PreK Pow Wow and Learning About Native Americans  
in Preparation for Thanksgiving



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Mark Your Calendar!  
Christmas Program  
December 7<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM  
Parish Center

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## Jesse Tree Project

Advent begins on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, and our students prepared the Jesse Tree ornaments for this year's Giving Tree. The preschool students came to the office and helped decorate by hanging the ornaments. Once again, we will be assisting four social agencies in our community: Hope Family Services, Palmetto Migrant School, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Samoset Elementary School. Each ornament on the tree has the name of the agency and a gift. If you are able to support this project, please stop by the school office to pick up an ornament, prepare your gift, and return the gift to the school office. Student Council and Honor Society members will be delivering the gifts.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> I will spend a few extra minutes in prayer today.	<b>28</b> I will do my work well today and with joy for God.	<b>29</b> I will secretly do a kind act for someone.	<b>30</b> <i>St. Andrew</i> I will obey my parents, my teachers, and others in charge of me.	<b>1</b> I will try to show special love for someone who seems unhappy or lonely.	<b>2</b> I will work hard today and do my best.	<b>3</b> <i>St. Francis Xavier</i> I will eat more of what is good for me today and less of what is not.
<b>4</b> <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> I will try to be more thoughtful of others.	<b>5</b> I will be a peacemaker today in school and at home.	<b>6</b> <i>St. Nicholas</i> I will donate like-new toys and books I've outgrown to needy families.	<b>7</b> <i>St. Ambrose</i> I will make a special effort to be kind to those I find it hard to like.	<b>8</b> <i>Immaculate Conception of Mary</i> I will honor Mary in a very special way today by being cheerful.	<b>9</b> <i>St. Juan Diego</i> I will be kind in a special way to someone I do not like much.	<b>10</b> I will try to be patient today.
<b>11</b> <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> I will find a quiet place and sit for a few minutes, just letting God love me.	<b>12</b> <i>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> I will ask Mary to help me make room for Jesus in my heart.	<b>13</b> <i>St. Lucy</i> I will keep calm and not lose my temper when I am pushed or treated rudely.	<b>14</b> <i>St. John of the Cross</i> I will do some work for my parents to help them rest after a day of work.	<b>15</b> I will do what I can to please my parents and family in a special way today.	<b>16</b> I will not complain today, even if I must do things I do not want to do.	<b>17</b> I will do a kind act for each member of my family.
<b>18</b> <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> I will be grateful and thank God today for all the food I have.	<b>19</b> I will be satisfied with the things I have instead of asking my family for more.	<b>20</b> I will be helpful at home these last days before Jesus' birthday.	<b>21</b> <i>St. Peter Canisius</i> I will speak kindly to all I meet today.	<b>22</b> I will thank God for all he gives to me.	<b>23</b> I will give a smile to all I meet today.	<b>24</b> I welcome Jesus with great love and offer him all the good acts I have performed and the prayers I have said during Advent.
<b>25</b> Merry Christmas!	<b>ADVENT</b> <h1>2016</h1>				<i>May Christ our Savior bring light into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming.</i>	