



SAINT RAPHAEL PRESCHOOL

Weekly Memo | March 6, 2018



Lent is about becoming, doing, and changing, whatever it is that is blocking the fullness of life in us right now.

Sister Joan Chittister, OSB

Important Upcoming Dates

March 7, 8, 23: Picture Days

Students will have individual and class photos taken on these days. Please see below for the class schedule and ordering information.

March 9: Preschool Closed

There will be no classes for students on Friday, March 9th, as all employees of St. Raphael will attend an Parish All-Staff Retreat.

March 29-April 8: Preschool Closed for Easter Break

There will be no classes for students from Holy Thursday through April 8. Classes resume on Monday, April 9

Dear Parents,

Each week during Lent I visit all the music classes to do a short presentation. We read a portion of the Easter story from my favorite book, The Easter Story by Brian Wildsmith. The book is filled with beautiful, brightly colored illustrations and on every page there is at least one angel with Jesus. We point this out so the children understand that even during the saddest times, Jesus was never alone. This week we read about Jesus washing his friends' feet and blessing and sharing bread and wine at the Last Supper. Knowing that these actions of caring are done for them by their parents helps the children better understand how Jesus was showing great love in this way. Just like the angel was always with Jesus in the book, Jesus is always with us.

*Many blessings,
Molly DeAngelo*

Preschool News and Announcements



Picture Days

Class and individual photos days are scheduled for March 7, 8, and 23. Please note that all class photo purchases must be prepaid; however, families will receive proofs of individual student photos before deciding whether or not to make a purchase. Last week we sent home flyers with more information from Lifetouch.

Please contact the office with questions!

Wednesday, March 7: Eagles, Bunnies, Yellow Puppies, Cubs, Pandas

Thursday, March 8: Frogs, Turtles, Red Puppies, Otters, Owls

Friday, March 23: Spotted Puppies and Dolphins

Safety Update

As we all know, safety is very important when working with young children. From the very beginning of the year we teach our students about "safe" people who can help them while at school. Classes read a book with photos and names of Preschool and Parish staff they might see here. We conduct monthly fire drills and during the month of March we also practice tornado drills. Each classroom has an emergency bag filled with items like a first aid kit, parent contact information, and a Crisis Planning Manual, which includes our procedures for any type of evacuation, shelter in place, or lock down situation that could arise. Staff members review these procedures frequently throughout the year to ensure preparedness in case one of our crisis plans should need to be followed.

Parents can help with this effort by not opening the door to unknown people as well as alerting us to any suspicious activity seen around campus. Preschool age is the perfect time to talk at home about strangers, staying close to a trusted adult, and home plans if severe weather or a fire were to occur. Feel free to stop by the office with any questions or concerns you may have about this topic.

Interest Survey: 2nd Hallway Sale to Benefit the Ignatius Fund

Some families have asked if we were planning a second hallway "sale" to benefit the Ignatius Fund. There was a lot of positive feedback from the January sale and we raised over \$250 for the IF! Please click on the link below to let us know your interest level for a possible additional sale in the spring. Thanks for your input!

<https://form.jotform.com/80603509799164>

Soccer Shots

It's not too late to join the fun! Soccer Shots has opened registration for their 9 week spring session. Follow this link for more information.

<https://rdu.ssreg.org/register.html?classID=213684>

If you signed up in January there is no need to re-enroll, as your child's is already signed up for the spring session.

Stewardship Forms Due ASAP

If you are parishioner of St. Raphael parish and you would like to apply for the stewardship tuition rate, please fill out and return a Stewardship Form as soon as possible. This form needs to be resubmitted every year. **The deadline to turn in this form is March 16th.** Copies are available in the Preschool office and by clicking [HERE](#) to access the form on the Admissions page of our website. Please see Ms. BJ with questions.

Preschool T-shirt and Sweatshirt Orders

Looking for an Easter gift? On-line ordering for St. Raphael Preschool t-shirts and sweatshirts is here! New this spring- adult sizes are also available! Products are available from children's size XS all the way to adult size XXXL.

<https://www.kustomkoozies.com/st-raphael-t-shirts-sweatshirts/>

The link will be active from March 1-15. All ordered items will be delivered to the Preschool on March 22nd. We do have a few colors and sizes currently in stock, which can be purchased at the office immediately.

Please see Ms. BJ with questions!

Ignatius Fund Update



Thank you to all who have already contributed to the Ignatius Fund! By making a tax deductible donation, you are directly impacting the lives of St. Raphael Catholic School and Preschool students and faculty while pledging your support to Catholic education. Learn more about the Ignatius Fund and donate on-line through

our website: <http://straphaelpreschool.org/ignatius-fund/>

Goal: \$80,000 with 100% participation

Raised to date: \$51,487

News from St. Raphael Catholic School



2018-19 School Year

Applications are being accepted at Saint Raphael Catholic School for the upcoming school year. To apply, please go to our school website, www.saintraphaelschool.org and click on "admissions".

Anyone interested in learning about scholarships and tuition assistance is welcome to contact Erin Boretti, SRCS business services coordinator, at [919-865-5753](tel:919-865-5753) for more information.

Deadline to apply for scholarships through FACTS Management is April 1. Details and application are at www.factsmgmt.com

Contact Erin Boretti for more details at eboretti@saintraphael.org or [919-865-5753](tel:919-865-5753)

Ryan O'Connell Memorial Golf Tournament

Calling all golfers! Join St. Raphael Catholic School on Monday, May 7, 2018 at North Ridge Country Club for a great afternoon of golf and philanthropy. All proceeds benefit the Ryan O'Connell Scholarship Fund, which provides assistance to K-8 school families experiencing hardship and other unexpected needs. For more information, click [HERE](#).

News from Around Our Parish



An Invitation from Mothers in Faith

Come join moms of all ages in community, faith, and service. Take some time out for you while connecting to other moms and learning more about our Catholic faith.

Next meeting is Thursday, March 8th from 9:00am until 12:00 noon in Room 112. Childcare is available in the nursery for \$5/child.

February Meeting: End of Life It's never easy thinking about our last days but did you know our Catholic Faith can help us prepare spiritually and physically for our last days and for after we are gone? Should I be cremated or buried? What does the Catholic Faith say about dispersing ashes? From the Sacrament of the sick to preparing last wishes, come learn stress free ways to take care of a sick loved one and make sure loved ones know your wishes.

Contact Debbie at mothersinfaithsr@yahoo.com with any questions or for more information.

Blessing of the St. Joseph Table in the Atrium

Come celebrate the **Feast Day of St. Joseph**, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on **Monday, March 19** with a **blessing** of the table in the Atrium immediately following the 11 am mass in the Mary Chapel. After the blessing, we will have a traditional Italian Tupa/Tupa followed by a procession to the Lewis Room.

Come enjoy a pot luck gathering, while celebrating Joseph as a worker, protector, father and husband through hands on activities. Fun for the whole family, including preschool activities for the little ones! Feel free to bring a pot luck dish to share! We invite all parishioners to join us at any point in the festivities!

According to legend, when drought and famine came to Sicily, the people prayed to St. Joseph for intercession. Through his intercession, God provided life giving rain. To honor and give thanks to St. Joseph, the Sicilians made an altar filled with food that was Blessed and distributed to the less fortunate. This tradition is continued around the world today.

Please contact Debbie Johnson at mothersinfaithsr@yahoo.com for more information or to sign up to help or bring items.

Respect Life Group

Please join us the first Wednesday of the month at 9:15 AM in the Nursery to promote the sanctity of life in our parish and community. We are a group of parents who want to provide information, resources and support for a culture of life. Feel free to bring your children! Our next meeting is on March 7th. Please contact Lisa Higgins (mother to a current Preschool "Frog") with any questions [619-851-2546](tel:619-851-2546) or SRDays4Life@gmail.com