

STAFF UPDATE

March 16 - 20

Please see the communication that was sent to parents in this week's newsletter. Also, each of you should have received emails on Friday that were forwarded from the diocese. I am grateful that we have an incredible staff at SJCS, and now is the time for all us to support one another and work together.

During Lent, we can all plan our sacrifices and how we are going to deepen our relationship with God, but sometimes God smiles and fine tunes those plans. This week is going to one of those experiences.

Many years ago, I worked with a little German Sister who always started each day saying, "All for Jesus". When there was a challenging situation, she would state with her heavy German accent, "All for Jesus and it's terrible, but He will see us through."

I don't think our current situation is terrible, but it is going to challenge us to think differently when it comes to providing a strong Catholic education for our children without the walls of our classrooms. This will be a chance to broaden our creativity and share the greatness that makes us such an amazing school for our students and families.

We are still waiting for clarification from the diocese, and a conference call for administrators has been scheduled for 4:00 pm tomorrow afternoon. At this point there are only a few things that I do know:

- We will be moving to online learning for our students. We will share tomorrow what this will look like for our students.
- Our learning has to be interactive with evidence of student participation. This will allow us to take "attendance" each day. This will be important if we are going to be eligible for a waiver that will allow us to count the days. If not, we may be required to make up the days in June.
- Student work will need to be assessed each day and grades will be entered into your Teacher Portal. This will allow parents to track and follow student progress.
- We do not know how long schools will be closed in Florida. Right now, the plan is to reopen on March 30th, but there is no guarantee. This means we need to plan our online teaching strategies with the possibility of continuing for several weeks, if necessary.

I know many of us have questions. We will need to be patient as the diocese prepares directives that we will follow in the days ahead.

We will plan to meet tomorrow morning in the St. Joseph Room. Be prepared to bring positive energy and all of your creative ideas. We want this to be a creative experience for all of us. St. Joseph Catholic School has a reputation as a school that is very family-centered in faith. Let's continue to build on that spirit in the days ahead.

Monday, March 16

9:00 am Meet in the St. Joseph Room for Opening Prayer

Discussion:

1. Making online learning engaging for our students
2. Teaching to the Standards
3. Planning for online learning based on grade levels and student skills
4. Creative ideas for student interaction – staying engaged with SJCS

11:30 am Webinar with Sophia Institute

12:30 pm Soup and Salad from Panera Bread

Afternoon: Time to continue planning

Calendar Dates

Totally in God's Hands!

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| March 16 | Staff Development Day for Teachers |
| March 16 | Report Card grades due at the end of the day |
| March 17 | St. Patrick Day |
| March 19 | St. Joseph's Day |
| March 20 | Report Cards – Available online in the Parent Portal |
| March 22 | 8th Grade Fundraiser – Painting with a Twist |
| March 27 | March Birthday Celebrations During Lunch |
| April 1 | 9:00 am Penance Service – Grades 2 – 8 |
| April 3 | Spirit Day & Kona Ice |
| April 3 | Franciscan Mini Retreat – Grades 3 & 4 |
| April 6 | 8 th Grade Cap and Gown Pictures |
| April 7 | 8 th Grade – Attend Chrism Mass at the Cathedral |
| April 8 | Early Dismissal – Easter Break – 11:30 am |
| April 9 – April 19 | Easter Break. (may need to be adjusted) |
| April 22 | Earth Day |
| April 24 | Elementary Sports Day |
| April 24 | April Birthday Celebrations During Lunch |
| April 25 | 6:00 pm Paul Todd Benefit Concert and \$10,000 Raffle |
| April 26 | 8 th Grade Fundraiser – Painting with a Twist |

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| April 30 – May 1 | 6:30 pm Spring Musical - <i>Godspell</i> |
| May 6 – 8 | 8 th Grade Trip |
| May 13 | Sports Banquet |
| May 15 | May Birthday Celebrations During Lunch |
| May 21 | 8 th Grade Graduation Mass & Brunch |
| May 25 | Memorial Day – No School |
| May 29 | 8:00 am School Mass – Last Day – 11:30 am Early |
| Dismissal | |