

SSJ School News

September 16, 2021 — Issue #3



— Saints Simon and Jude Mission Statement —

Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary we at Saints Simon and Jude School, commit ourselves to learning, proclaiming and living the Good News of Jesus Christ. We strive to educate and develop all for Catholic leadership in the church and community, enabling one another to serve with Compassion, Courage and Competence.

Letter from Sister Regina

It was so nice to see so many parents and children at our Welcome Back Ice Cream Social last Thursday evening. It truly was a wonderful, fun evening. I am grateful to Mrs. Melissa Cloeter and Mrs. Alex DeVescovo for all their planning and preparation and for the many volunteers who helped to make this a memorable event.

What a great celebration we enjoyed this past Sunday “Under the Tent”! It was nice to see so many families present for the Mass and enjoying the food, fun, and fellowship afterwards as we celebrated the 60th anniversary of Saints Simon and Jude Parish. I am grateful to our students who helped with set-up and clean up and for those who helped in various ways during the event.

Tomorrow will be our first School Mass of the 2021-2022 school year. Mass will be at 10:30AM. Children in grades 3-8 will attend in-person. Children in grades K-2 will attend virtually via live-stream. You are welcome to pray with us via live-stream by going on the Saints Simon and Jude School Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/simonandjudeschool>.

May Our Mother of Perpetual Help be with us and keep us all safe and healthy.

New Information

- Our school librarian is in need of weekly volunteers to help the children and to shelve books. [Click here](#) for a SignUpGenius for specific days and times needed. Remember that to volunteer you must be in compliance with PA State Law and Archdiocesan Policy. If you have any questions regarding your compliance status, please contact Candy Savarese in the Rectory Office at csavarese@simonandjude.org. We also ask that you wear a mask while in the school building.
- We are thrilled to announce that Science Explorers after-school clubs are back for students in grades K to 5! The first session, Wacky World of Science, begins the first week of October. Registration closes 1 to 2 weeks before the first date and spots are limited so it's recommend that families sign up as soon as possible to reserve their spot in the “lab”. As a bonus, families who sign up for 3 or more clubs in the same order automatically get 5% off their order (no code needed)! [Click here](#) for more information and a registration form.

From SSJ's Home & School Association

- Thank you to Melissa Cloeter, Alex DeVescovo and the entire SSJ Peace Committee for planning the Welcome Back Ice Cream Social! It was a wonderful way to kick off the new school year. Students and parents had a great time reconnecting and we are grateful for the hard work and effort that went into making this a successful event.
- Annual Fundraising Raffle – Help support SSJ by purchasing raffle tickets and possibly win \$250! Tickets are going home next week with the youngest child in each family, so check their backpacks! The raffle tickets are \$50 each this year. The drawings for \$250 will be held twice a month from October through June during morning announcements. Please return your completed tickets with cash or check (made payable to SSJ Home and School Assn.) or [click here](#) to use the PayPal link. (You do not need a PayPal account to use the link). If you have any questions, contact Jennifer Miley at Jennifer2908@gmail.com. More information is included on the flyer with the tickets.
- Please watch your email for a survey. We would like to ask school parents if you prefer that general home and school meetings be virtual or in person.
- SSJ logowear has a limited supply of maroon and gray hoodies (\$30) and t-shirts (\$15). Both are approved for students to wear as part of their gym uniform. If you are interested, please email ssjlogowear@gmail.com.

From SSJ's Guidance Office

In honor of Bully Prevention Month this October, Mrs. Coulter is going to provide school-wide guidance lessons on bully prevention. We will promote a school-wide initiative called, "Be the 'I' in KIND". When teachers and staff recognize kind deeds done by students, they will write it down on an "I" and the students will have their pictures taken at the school's "Be the 'I' in KIND" bulletin board.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

Harmonious and interdependent children have:

- Parental love and involvement
- Well defined limits on acceptable behaviors
- Use of non-physical methods of child rearing
- Parents who handle their own conflicts privately

Help their child build self-confidence, have a greater independence, and assert themselves among peers.

Communicate with the school and let them intervene if your child has an issue. There have been countless times when parents have either not communicated to the school or have communicated, but requested that no action be taken.

From SSJ's CYO

SAVE THE DATE! 2021 SSJ CYO Homecoming will take place on Saturday, October 16th. All games will be played at Glen Mills School. Here is the lineup for the day:

8am - JR Flag Football vs. Trinity

8am - SR Flag Football vs. St. Thomas

9am - JV Soccer vs. St. Agnes

10am - Varsity Football vs. St. Thomas

10:30am - Varsity Soccer vs. St. Aloysius

11:45am - JV Football vs. St. Thomas

We are planning an outdoor Homecoming Social that night (adults only). More details to come.

We hope to see all of our SSJ families, friends, and alums out in full force on 10/16!
GO EXPLORERS!



SSJ Football Homecoming T-shirts are for sale. Show your SSJ spirit in a custom T-shirt for Homecoming. [Click here](#) to purchase through the secure link through Tuesday, 9/21. Shirts will be distributed on 10/14 and 10/15 through school. All proceeds benefit the SSJ CYO football teams. Any questions please contact Kristen Cline at KristenRcline@gmail.com.

Please note that although this t-shirt may be worn on dress-down days, it is not part of the regulation gym uniform and should not be worn in place of the gym uniform t-shirt.

Repeated Information

- SSJ's Annual Peanut Butter & Jelly Drive has begun! The Community Food Program needs you to join together with your teachers, classmates, family, and friends to start collecting as much PB&J as you possibly can! Fortunately, this drive stocks over 40 food cupboards for a whole year! Help us by donating between September 9 and October 8, so we can beat last year's total! Thank you for your support. Students should bring donations into their classrooms.
- Villa Maria Academy High School is holding a number of admissions events for 8th grade girls. Please [click here](#) for more details on open houses, entrance exams, and much more.
- Merion Mercy is holding an open house and entrance exams for 8th grade girls. Please [click here](#) for more details.

Prayer Requests

- For Austin Trout, brother of Sophia (room 5), who is recovering from an injury. May Christ's healing hand grant him a complete and speedy recovery.
- For Mrs. Lori Colgan, mother of Jimmy (room 17), who is ill. May Christ's healing hand grant her a complete and speedy recovery.

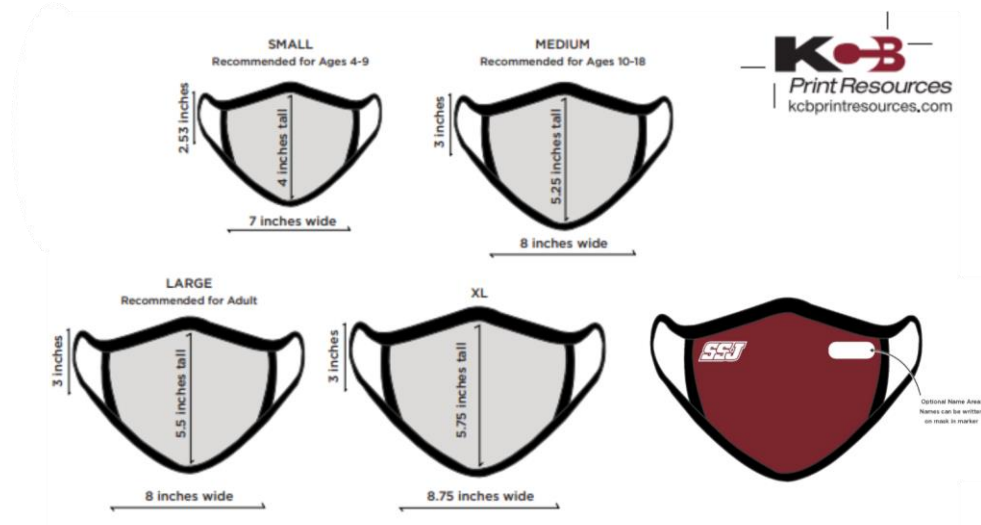
- For Mrs. Nicole DiDomenico, mother of Tyler (room 15) and Nolan Leonhard (room 2), who is recovering from surgery. May Christ's healing hand comfort her and grant her a complete recovery.

We are happy to pray for the needs of our school family. If any family has a prayer request please send it to srelinich@simonandjude.org.

Glimpse at the Days Ahead

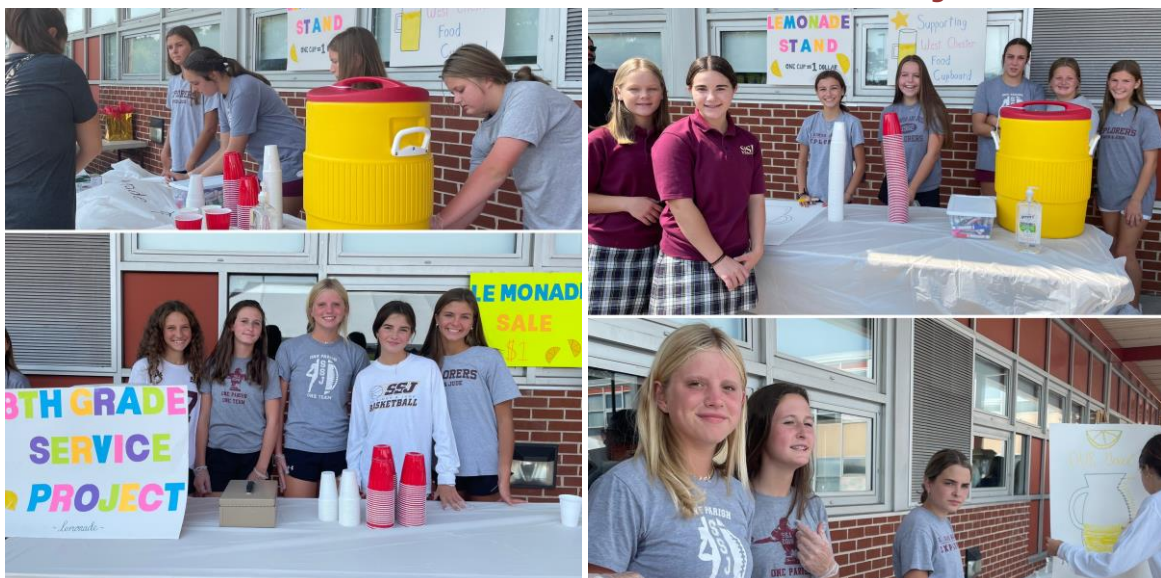
- 9/17 Opening School Liturgy, 10:30 AM, Grades 3-8 Attend, Grades K-2 Livestream
- 9/27 Student Council Installation, 2:15 PM, Church
- 9/28 School Pictures, All Grades (Uniforms Worn)
- 10/1 School Liturgy, 10:30 AM, Church & Livestream

Limited Supply of SSJ Masks for Sale



There are a total of 30 SSJ logo masks in stock in various sizes from small to extra-large. They are \$10 each. If you are interested in purchasing a mask, email your requested size to Jenn Appaneal at advancement@simonandjude.org.

8th Grade Lemonade Stand Service Project



During Sunday's parish celebration, SSJ's 8th grade students raised \$366 for the West Chester Food Bank!

Welcome Back Ice Cream Social



Parish 60th Anniversary Celebration

