

Portae

THE NEWSLETTER FOR
JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

1 November 2011



PROUD TO BE A GUARDIAN!

Dear JP II Community –

I wanted to share my thanks and gratitude and pride in what I observed this past weekend. I am proud to serve alongside all of you as principal, and hope you feel the same pride to be a Guardian.

Here's just some of what I saw:

- A cheerleading squad that cheered the whole game, kept their focused throughout, and represented Guardian virtues well.
- A football team that battled hard, and pushed a team with a solid record (a likely play-off team – they beat Summit Park by 42 pts.) to the end of the game. They did not quit, they did not give up – I am proud of how we see our core virtues in their efforts.
- A nice crowd gathered to cheer on our Guardians (despite the frigid temperatures!).
- A wonderful night pep rally, led by our cheerleaders, complete with LCD bonfire and community fellowship.
- Incredible hallway decorations, designed, led, and completed by students. Hope you got to see them.
- A great chili cook-off – a great spirit to the day. AND many pitched in to work the event, and clean up afterwards – it was great to see. Thanks to all who helped!
- A fun dance, led by student government – just like the chili cook-off, many were involved in helping, and all Guardians ended the dance by helping with clean-up. We had 85% participation among students.

Thanks! We look forward to the 3rd Annual Chili Cook-off during 2012 Founders Weekend.

For those on the committee, and anyone in the JP II Community, the FW Committee is having a follow-up meeting this Thursday, 3 November 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the teacher workroom.



ACCREDITATION VISIT

We are excited to announce that a visiting pair from TCCED will be here on Thursday, 10 November 2011 for a daylong visit. They will be meeting with teachers, parents, school council members, and reviewing our application and paperwork. This visit is a part of the process for our application for accreditation through TCCED.

Though on this kind of visit the pair does not have a lot of time to mingle, we would ask for as many parents as possible to attend the morning coffee that day. That will make it possible, if they wanted, to meet more than a few parents, to get a feeling for our school and our charism. Thanks!



FIRST QUARTER CONFERENCES

We have set conferences for Thursday, 3 November 2011 from 3:45 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. We will have teachers available that day from 3:45-7:15 p.m. There is a binder on the front counter to sign-up for time slots with teachers.

HONOR PINS ASSEMBLY AT MASS NEXT WEEK – 9 November 2011 – 9:15 a.m.



CATHOLIC LIFE RAFFLE

Congratulations for earning \$1,885.00 in the first two weeks of the sweepstakes fundraiser! Our goal is \$20,000.00 by January 10th, and we were 9% of the way there last Tuesday! Congratulations to JP Feider for winning two FREE DRESS PASSES. Remember that a free dress pass is won for every 10 tickets sold above your original 40. Check the Catholic Life bulletin board by Dr. Foster's room for individual, Solidarity group and overall school incentives. Every dollar earned goes straight into our John Paul II checking account! Good luck in your sales, and thank you for the great start!

COLLEGE VISIT – TEXAS STATE

Texas State University Admissions representative will be on campus Friday, 11 November during the morning to present to juniors and during lunch time to talk with any other students. That morning, Dr. Garcia and a group of Texas State science and physiology students will be on campus to work with our juniors in health class and all students during their science classes.

COLLEGE VISIT - UIW

University of the Incarnate Word will be on campus on Thursday, 1 December 2011, for juniors during Solidarity time, and at lunch for all students.

JOHN PAUL II CLASS RINGS

Thursday, October 27, 2011 from 10:30-11:00 a.m. in the school cafeteria.

- On Thursday, November 3rd, Mr. Grochett will be here to take orders, and size the students who choose to purchase a ring. In Spring 2012, there will be a ring ceremony and blessing at a Mass. This date has not been set, but will be an evening event to allow families and friends to attend. This will become a JPII tradition.

REMINDER: Junior Class Parents PotLuck Supper Meeting – Wednesday, 2 November – 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Mr. Grochett will be here to take ring orders and to answer questions. Important topics of the potluck include: *Graduation and Baccalaureate Mass in 2013!*

JOHN PAUL II LETTER JACKET FITTING

Wednesday, 2 November 2011, from 2:55 p.m. in the media center.

In the web today is an order form from Meca Sports, the letter jacket provider for the school. They will be taking orders and measurements. For students who lettered last year, but did not buy a jacket, this is the time to order. For freshmen and new students who have lettered already this fall in a sport or activity, this is a chance to order the jacket. For students who are new, and plan to participate in an activity/sport later this school year, the jacket can be ordered, and then the jacket returned later in the year to Meca Sports to put the letter activity on the jacket.

Meca's representatives are always available by phone to answer questions: 210-651-6592.

PRO-LIFE T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

Pro-Life T-shirt: We've finally got our t-shirt completed! Each shirt is \$15 and youth sizes are available. The sign-up sheet is at the front office. Our goal is to sell at least 100 t-shirts with a profit of \$500 which we will donate to the Gabriel Project in New Braunfels. Please order your shirt by Friday, November 4. Show your Guardian Spirit and help us exceed our goal!

40-days for Life: We're planning on taking a group of students to pray in front of Planned Parenthood in San Antonio from 12-1 on November 5. We will go to lunch afterwards. We hope to take a big enough group to take the bus. We'll meet at school at 11 am so we can get there in plenty of time. If you are interested, the sign-up sheet is at the front office. Parent chaperones are welcome.

Pro-Life Rosary: Two weeks ago we said our first pro-life rosary during Friday's afternoon study hall. We've decided that every Friday during study hall we'll hold a pro-life rosary open to any students available. We realize that many clubs meet during that time, but even if two or three people come, it's very important that we keep this up. If any student is interested in saying a pro-life rosary on other days of the week, please come and see Clare or Mary Grace. They'll provide you with the materials.

JPII'S ONLY UNDEFEATED SPORTS TEAM IS...

... our swim team! Our swimmers finished first in their division once again; they are now 3-0! Freshmen Daniel Van Sciver & JP Feider combined to score 29 points against Somerset High School's 14 points. Daniel Van Sciver finished first in the 200 Free (1:49.79) and first in the 50 Free (23.12). JP Feider finished third in the 50 Free (27.12) and first in the 100 Breaststroke (1:30.23). Come on out and cheer for the team at the next event on 12 November. Swimmers in the other meets so far include: Will McKinley and Frances MacDonald. Congratulations, Guardians! *St. Adjutor, patron saint of swimmers, pray for us!*