

2 Pastoral Letter

Well hello summer, we see you there, so close we can almost reach out and touch you! What a year this has been for all of us, but especially our young people! Talk about a year of challenge for all students, no matter what school or grade. At St. Joseph Catholic School we started out the year with such uncertainty and fear, but quickly found our comfort in having students back on campus and slowly getting back to somewhat of a “normal” year. As we end the school year and reflect back on all the challenges we faced, it is beautiful to know that we faced each challenge as a community of faith together, and truly came out stronger on what we hope is the other side of this pandemic.

Today’s gospel reading tells the story of how Jesus instructed his disciples to find the room where the last supper would be celebrated. Although the instructions were somewhat vague, the disciples found just what Jesus was describing. I’m sure none of them could even imagine what would happen that evening as they celebrated the Passover in that upper room, or what the next few days would hold for them all. As we head into graduation week for the SJS Class of 2021, the message of following God’s instructions resonates so clearly to me.

We have taught and guided these young men and women, some of them all the way since preschool, preparing them for the next step in life...high school. They have certainly learned measurable lessons in the subjects of Math, English, Science, and History, many to great academic success. However, alongside the academics, we have encouraged and helped foster each student’s personal relationship with Christ in the fullness of our Catholic faith. Now as we send the Class of 2021 into their next step in life I can only hope that they continue to open their hearts to following God’s instructions, just as the disciples did. Sometimes those instructions may not be crystal clear, but if they follow with pure hearts, focused on our Lord, they will find just where they need to go.

Please join me in praying for the Class of 2021 this coming Friday at 6 pm as they graduate from St. Joseph Catholic School. The students will be moving onto schools such as Mater Dei, Servite, Rosary, Valencia Tech, Troy Tech, Orange Lutheran, and El Dorado. We look forward to hearing their successes in the next steps of life, but also encourage them to never forget their Spartan family. They will always have a home here!
Amanda Hawley, SJS Principal

Clergy

Fr. Miguel Hernandez, Pastor
Fr. Martin Bui, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Don Romito, Retired Priest
Fr. Eamon O’Gorman, Retired Priest
Deacon Ken Kleckner
Deacon Jim Merle
Deacon Jorge Ramirez
Deacon Victor Valenzuela

Pastoral Staff

Amanda Hawley, School Principal
Michael Spillman, Dir. of Business Admin
Summer Pongetti, Liturgy/Adult Faith
Jerry Cates, Plant Manager
Henrietta Moreno, Administrative Asst.
Andrea Rodriguez, Receptionist
Eric Brunter, Youth Ministry
Katherine Gonzalez, Youth Ministry
Liliana Duran, Children’s Faith Formation
Paul Nguyen, Music Ministry

Baptisms

Please complete the online registration form at www.stjosephplacentia.org/baptism and you will be contacted by a Deacon.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Parish Center office.

Funerals

Please call the Parish Center office.

Marriages

Please call the Parish Center office at least six months in advance.