



# PRIDE

*Obedientia Et Pax*

**Saint John XXIII Newsletter**

**Friday, November 23, 2016**

Dear Saint John XXIII Community,

Serving our community each day, it is easy to overlook how amazing our kids truly are because of how we get into a mindset of continuing to try and improve. There have been some moments over the past few weeks however, that have given me pause at the amazing gifts our students share with all of us and the type of people they are developing into even after they graduate. I would never venture to take all

of the credit for their successes, but I can't help but feel that what we are doing here is supporting and guiding their growth as amazing men and woman for our future.

A couple of weeks ago, I had the honor of attending the Diocese Night of Hope dinner to raise money for needy students in the Diocese of Phoenix Catholic schools. In addition to both bishops of our Diocese speaking, each Catholic high school was asked to have students they felt best represented their schools serve as speakers for the night. As the evening progressed and I listened to each speaker tell their story, I couldn't help but realize that Brophy, Notre Dame and Xavier all selected speakers from their schools that were alumni of St. John XXIII. I have no doubt that this was not a coincidence nor that it was pre-planned. I could not have been more proud as principals and families from every school in the Diocese heard the eloquent, shared stories of these alumni that night.

Just after that we had numerous current students speak at each of the weekend Masses at St. Bernadette and present to parishioners after weekend Masses at St. Patrick's regarding our CEA campaign. I was overwhelmed by the amount of emails, phone calls, and personal conversations I had with complete strangers who reached out to me to tell me how incredible our students sounded, how professionally represented our school, and how they would never have considered redirecting their tax credits to our school if they had not experienced our kids in this light.

We are truly blessed each day that you share your most precious gifts with our community and will never be able to thank all of you enough for the sacrifices you make to send them here. Thank you for all you do as the primary educators of these amazing glimpses at our bright future.

God Bless,

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Preston Colao  
Principal

## School Notes

### In This Edition

- [Rosary Sunday Poster Contest](#)
- [Scholastic Book Fair](#)
- [Spirit of Service](#)
- [Ways of Worship](#)
- [Faith in Action](#)
- [Annual Appeal 2016-2017](#)
- [Christmas Card Contest](#)
- [Annual 2016 Christmas Concert!](#)
- [Actors and Singers Needed!](#)
- [Catholic Education Arizona](#)
- [SCRIP](#)
- [Nurse Notes](#)
- [Parish Corner](#)

### Important Dates

December 5-9

**Toy Drive**

December 6-9

**Scholastic Book Fair**

Thursday, December 8

**School Mass 10:00 a.m.**

Friday, December 9

**Christmas Concert 6:00 p.m.**

Friday, December 16

**Cookies for Staff**

Friday, December 16

**Dismissals 11:50 - 12:00 - 12:10**

**No Extended Day**

## [Rosary Sunday Poster Contest](#)



Congratulations to our SJXXIII First Place Winners Elle Aister 7B and Mary Schneider 4A. They both were so excited to attend a special luncheon with Bishop Olmsted on Thursday, December 1, 2016. Copies of their drawings are on display in the school office. Congratulations Elle and Mary!

## Scholastic Book Fair



It's back! Yes the Scholastic Book Fair begins Tuesday December 6th. The fair will be open before school, after school and during lunch. It will close on Friday evening after the Christmas Concert. If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Laura McCoy at [lr\\_benner@hotmail.com](mailto:lr_benner@hotmail.com) Thank you for supporting our school library!

## Spirit of Service



Saint John XXIII is working with Saint Matthews School to help provide a wonderful Christmas to a family in need. If you would like to sponsor a family, please contact Patti Jasinski, [pjasinski@popejohnxxiii.org](mailto:pjasinski@popejohnxxiii.org). Thank you and God Bless!

## Ways of Worship



Feast of Saint Nicholas Day

On Tuesday, students will be asked to leave 1 shoe outside of the classroom by their teachers as we may be expecting a special visitor to leave a little surprise!

## **Reconciliation**



Grades 3-8

December 5-7 during school hours

We will once again be offering our students the opportunity to participate in reconciliation during the dates listed above. This is a wonderful way to go into the season of Advent and we are so blessed to be able to share this opportunity with our students.

## Faith in Action



7th Grade Toy Drive

December 5th - 9th!

Our 7th grade Faith in Action project this year will be the Christmas

Childrens Toy Drive which will be taking place ALL of NEXT week! During this time, we will be collecting unwrapped Christmas toys. The toys collected will be given to Saint Vincent de Paul to be used here in our own gym for their annual Christmas party. Toys will also be taken to Saint Matthews School.

## [Annual Appeal 2016-2017](#)



Thank you to those who have already made their tax deductible donation to benefit SJXXIII this year through our Annual Appeal; Growing in Abundant Grace. Your gift to the Annual Appeal is the most direct way you can make an impact on the lives of students at Saint John XXIII Catholic School. It has and will continue to make a difference. If you haven't had a chance to make a donation yet, please take a moment to contribute. The end of the year is a perfect opportunity to give a meaningful gift and obtain a tax deduction. Extra contribution forms are in the office or visit the website for more info, <http://.saintjohnxxiii.org/annual-appeal/>

No matter the amount, EVERY gift counts!

## [Christmas Card Winners](#)



Thank you to all of the Saint John XXIII students who entered a drawing in the Annual Christmas Card Art Contest. We received many unique and creative drawings. Congratulations to all of you for your time and sharing your talent.

The official Winners are:

1st - Julia Russo 5A

2nd - Elle Aister 7B

3rd - Margaret Bair 5A

Honorable Mention: Sophie PeBenito-Brooks 3B

Julia Russo's drawing will be used for this year's official 2016 Saint John XXIII Christmas card.  
Congratulations!

## Annual 2016 Christmas Concert!



When?: Friday December 9th, 2016 at 6:00PM in the Gym. Doors open at 5:30PM  
Who?: Each grade level, Kindergarten through 5th grade, will perform 2 songs to celebrate Christmas!

Student Attendance is Mandatory. Email Miss Looker for conflicts  
[tlooker@saintjohnxxiii.org](mailto:tlooker@saintjohnxxiii.org)

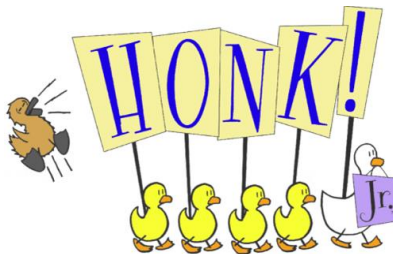
Students need to be in homeroom classrooms by 5:30PM

What should they wear?

see Music website: [www.saintjohnmusic.weebly.com](http://www.saintjohnmusic.weebly.com)

## Actors and Singers Needed!

St. John XXIII Catholic School Drama Department Presents:



### **AUDITIONS:**

**Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Information and Forms on Ms. Looker's Website.**

<http://saintjohnmusic.weebly.com/audition-info--forms.html>

**Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Graders can participate without auditioning. Audition forms to Ms. Deye by Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.**

## Catholic Education Arizona

take credit for  
our children...



...they are a blessing.

**Take the Credit and redirect your taxes to benefit St. John XXIII (201) by taking part in the CEA Tax Credit Program. This is truly a no cost opportunity that greatly benefits our school through tuition assistance. Visit the school [website link](#) and click on the CEA angel to take part. Deadline is April 15, 2017 but if you re-direct your taxes by December 31, 2016 you can take the state tax credit AND the federal deduction for this year too!**

## SCRIP



Only 23 days until Christmas!!

We have gift cards for over 70 retailers to help make your Christmas shopping easier. Stop by the SCRIP cart to purchase your gift cards and help support our school. It won't cost you any more than what you were going to spend!

If you own a business and plan on purchasing gifts for your employees, please consider purchasing SCRIP cards. Email Pegge Gentry, at [pgentry@saintjohnxxii.org](mailto:pgentry@saintjohnxxii.org) to place a large order.

Remember you can use your FACTS account to purchase SCRIP!

**Scrip Sales Hours:  
Monday-Thursday**



**7:30 – 8:15**

**2:30 – 3:15**

**Friday**

**7:30 – 8:15**

**12:15 – 1:00**

## Nurse Notes



Dear Parents,

Please take a moment to read/watch this news story as a reminder of why we all go out of your way to prevent an unforeseen severe food allergy reaction of any of our precious students.

Family warns of dangers of nut allergies

<http://www.abc15.com/news/local-family-warns-of-dangers-of-nut-allergies-after-11-year-old-dies>

Thank you for being mindful during the holiday season and throughout the school year of the dangers of food allergies.

Joan Sirven, RN, BSN, NCSN  
School Nurse

## Parish Corner



**Saint Bernadette**  
Roman Catholic Parish



The St. Bernadette Culture of Life Committee has a limited supply of their 2016 Christmas ornament for sale in the church office for \$10. Continue/start your family tradition or share with family and friends. Proceeds are used for committee projects during the year. Your continued support to the culture of life is greatly appreciated.

## **Women's Bible Study**

First Corinthians

Wednesday, January 11--March 22

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM Conference Room

Contact: Carla Kruk 602-881-7727

Ephesians

Alternating Thursdays, January 19--May 4

9:15 AM to 11:15 AM Conference Room

Contact: Nita Kaminski 480-245-6588

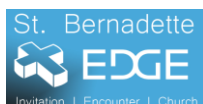
The Mass

Thursday, January 12--February 9

6:45 PM to 8:45 PM Parish Center, Room 6

Contact: Dawn Morano 480-435-4959

Lectio--Evangelization Study by Dr. Healy  
Thursday, February 16--April 27  
6:45 PM to 8:45 PM Parish Center, Room 6  
Contact: Dawn Morano 480-435-4959



**Dear Parents and Youth,**

**I am excited to offer the EDGE Retreat this year. It is a favorite experience for the Middle School Youth and I am expecting to sell out, so, I recommend reserving your spot today. Retreats are a great investment in the spiritual lives of your children. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.**

**God Bless,  
Jeremy Stafford**

**PS. Your child does not need to be enrolled in EDGE to attend.**

#### **Quotes from the Youth**

**“ My favorite experiences at this Retreat were all the games, zip lining, game room and especially learning about God.”**

**-6th Grader**

**“My favorite experience was the zip line. You learned to trust the people after the first go and it got to be purely fun and games after. I have grown closer to Jesus by Adoration time. The Middle Schools should attend this Retreat because there’s a lot to do, people to meet, fun to have and in the end you’re one step closer to God.”**

**-7th Grade**

#### **EDGE RETREAT:**

**Friday, January 13th - Sunday, January 15th**

**Location: Prescott Pines**

**Total Cost: \$225/ Youth**

**(\$50 deposit due by 10/30/16)**

**(Remainder of \$175 due by 12/15/16)**



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