



PRIDE

Obedientia Et Pax

Saint John XXIII Newsletter

Wednesday November 22, 2017

Dear Saint John XXIII Community,

It's not easy doing the right thing. We try our best to teach our kids by example, but too often someone throws the proverbial wrench in the works and we need to make it a teachable moment. I had one of those moments yesterday with my kids. Every year we participate in our school's annual Turkey Tuesday by popping in to the supermarket for each of my kids to use

their money to buy turkeys. As life gets busy, I made the mistake of waiting until Tuesday morning to stop on the way to school to purchase turkeys. Even though we live in downtown Phoenix, we decided to pop in to the Fry's on Greenway and 64th street near school to buy a couple of turkeys. After exchanging pleasantries with a few St. John parents and teachers in the parking lot with their turkeys we headed in to get ours. Delighted, my two little ones headed to the self-check out to pay for each of their turkeys, as proud as could be. When we arrived, I was putting our "alternate id" into the two machines when the cashier approached and told the kids they were not allowed to buy those turkeys because the rule was only "one per family". I explained that they were purchasing them separately for their school's turkey drive for the homeless....the response....a finger pointing at my kid's St. John sweatshirt and the edict, "we don't have enough turkeys for donation and enough of YOU people have been in here already. You need to put one back!"

Knowing I'd need to make another stop anyway to get a second turkey, I told the kids to put back their turkeys and we moved on. I can't lie...I was not a happy camper. I had some thoughts that needed a priest waiting in the parking lot for me, but thankfully one of my kids saw it from a brighter side; "Don't be upset dad! There's another Inn with rooms, or we'll find a manger!" Thank God for a child's humor.

This year's goal was 200 turkeys; we received almost 250 thanks to all of you and your tremendous generosity. The more important story in all this is what will happen with those turkeys and canned food! Our collections goes to three main locations: the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry, the St. Joan of Arc Parish Food Pantry, and the less fortunate families in our own parish community for both Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. The difference we make is tremendous and the stories of our success are truly moving.

Thank you for all you do for our kids, our community, those less fortunate, and those in need of our mercy. Also, we thank you for the gift of our grandparents and great-friends who were able to be part of our family today. May God bless you all during the Thanksgiving weekend. We are truly thankful to be part of this community.

God Bless,
Preston Colao
Principal

School Notes

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Important Dates

Nov. 23 & 24

School Closed

Monday, Nov. 27

Advent Wreath Blessing 8:15

Tuesday, Nov. 28

Winter Athletic Pictures

Friday, Dec. 1

6th Grade Marketplace

Friday, Dec. 8

Mass 10:00

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Saint John 6th Grade Marketplace



Friday December 1, 2017

7:15 to 9:30 AND 11:30 to 1:30

Join us in the Courtyard

Our 6th graders have been working hard on creating one-of-a-kind items to be sold at our Annual Saint John XXIII Marketplace. Come browse and purchase early Christmas Gifts for friends and family while supporting the mission of local charities. Last year our student raised over \$6000.00 and used their funds to purchase much needed items for valley residents who needed a hand up, not a hand out!

Safe Environment



A gentle Safe Environment reminder:

The Sign Up Genius for the Face to Face interviews has been active since the start of September, but will expire mid-December. There are still many opportunities to do your interviews before our schedule ends and we begin focusing on new student screenings at the start of the new year. Opportunities for interviews will not be readily available here at school

after mid-December.

If you have taken your Foundation Training Class, please sign up for your interview so that you will be able to volunteer this school year.

Thank You!

Mary Hepsen, M.Ed., M.S.Ed.

Certified School Psychologist

Adopt-A- Family for Christmas



We are once again partnering with Saint Matthews Catholic School in Phoenix to help bring Christmas to their school community families that may not otherwise have a Christmas. If you would like to adopt one of their families and have the option to meet and personally give them the items you have, please contact Theresa at Saint Matthews school to arrange. Her number is 602-254-0611 and tell her you are with the Saint John XXIII school community!

God Bless!

Spirit of Service AND Faith IN Action



Christmas Project with Saint Matthews School

Help a family in need at Christmas Time!

'Tis the Season of sharing and reflecting on God's great love!! The community of Saint John XXIII will be working with Saint Matthews Catholic School in Phoenix to help bring their school families a wonderful Christmas! Here's how you can help!

1 - Toy Drive sponsored by 8th grade: Donate to our Toy drive December 11th-15th. Please bring an unwrapped toy...something you might like to receive under your own tree. All toy drive donations will go to Saint Matthews School for their Christmas Party!

2 - Sponsor-a-family! If you would like to sponsor a family, meet them and deliver gifts and a meal to them, please call Theresa at Saint Matthews School at 602-254-0611 or call Patti Jasinski at 480-905-0939

Thank you for helping us ALL be the hands and feet of Christ!!

[Ways of Worship](#)



Advent Wreath Blessing

Monday November 27, 2017

Join us on Monday November 27th in our Courtyard for the Blessing of the Advent Wreaths. Please bring your own family's wreath if you would like! Everyone is invited and ALL are welcome!

5th Grade Retreat



Thursday December 7th

Please see your teacher pages for more information or contact Patti Jasinski

pjasinski@popejohnxxiii.org

Reconciliation

Grades 3-8

December 4-5

We will once again be offering our students the opportunity to participate in Reconciliation for the Advent Season...what a blessing!

ENRICHMENT CLASSES!!!



Online Registration NOW

Register Now for **SESSION TWO!** Our 2nd session of the school year.

Session 2 **STARTS** the week of **NOV. 20th** and runs until **FEBRUARY 23rd!**

Many classes have a maximum amount of students,
so please register as soon as possible.

Description of all classes on the website....

To register, go to our school website: www.saintjohnxxiii.org, go to **PARENTS** tab, Click on **Extended Day**, then drop down to **Enrichment Class Offerings**
Click on --->**Online Enrichment/Extended Day form**

The following are the **Enrichment Class Offerings:**

MONDAYS: Chess Emporium / Golf Squad (**NEW Company!**)

TUESDAYS: CodaKid / **NEW!** Tennis Academy with Seth Korey

WEDNESDAYS: Bricks4Kidz / Young Rembrandts

THURSDAYS: ASL Club (Sign Language) / i9 Sports

FRIDAYS: Cheerleading / Crazy Cool Science /
Preach Volleyball Performance

Christmas Card Contest



We were blown away with the beautiful and creative entries our students

submitted. Please know how difficult a decision it was to choose just **ONE** winner

for our St. John Christmas card. A big congratulations goes to Julia Russo, 6th grade, for her winning entry!

Mother/Son Event



Thank you to all the moms and sons who joined us out at CrackerJax last Friday. The big smiles, red cheeks and tired bodies let us know how much fun this date night was. We love when our community comes together for these events. See you there again next year!

Grandparents/Great Friends Day



What a wonderful turnout for our Grandparents and Great Friends Day! We loved having so many guests help us celebrate Mass, visit our classrooms and share their morning with us before Thanksgiving. A big thank you to all the volunteers who made this day possible, and a special thanks to our CO-Chairs, Mary Stevens and Kelly Dorethy who put in many hours of organization and creativity. We are so very thankful for you!

CEA

Catholic Education ARIZONA

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 (<http://saintjohnxxiii.org/cea-tax-credit/>) and click on the CEA Angel to take part. Deadline is April 15, 2018, but if you re-direct your taxes by December 31, 2017, you can take the state tax credit AND the federal deduction for this year too!

Community Corner



Stronger Together

As we get ready to celebrate Thanksgiving with our loved ones, take a breather from a hectic life, and just sit and reflect on our blessings, we also want to pause and give thanks for our St. John community. Your generosity towards our school drives, volunteer requests, teacher and staff appreciation, and items too numerous to list, continues to blow us away. We are a small but mighty community who bands together in time of need and one who celebrates together in times of joy. We look forward to continuing to build our St. John community with you in ways that will enrich us all. Happy Thanksgiving!

RUN WITH PRIDE!!



RUN WITH PRIDE

1st Quarter Runner Awards- October 20th at Courtyard Prayer!

Our before school running club starts again on October 24th. No sign-up required... Students from all grades are welcome to come any or all of the dates below! We will meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the gate at 7:15 a.m. and run from 7:20-7:40. You can earn cool prizes and get in shape at the same time.

Please bring an extra pair of shoes since the field can be wet!

Quarter 2 Schedule:

Nov. 28, 30

Dec. 5, 7

Awards Dec. 15th- at Courtyard Prayer

Any questions can be directed towards Kristen Peach.

Happy Running!

SCRIP



Only 33 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 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



The holiday season is here and you may be preparing to travel. Whether by car or plane, it's important to stay healthy. Here are some tips for healthy travel:

- Quench thirst with water, diet, or low-calorie beverages instead of sugary ones.
- Nibble on healthy snacks, such as fruit, veggies, and/or nuts. They're filling and satisfying.
- Increase physical activity. When driving, getting out at a rest stop is a good way to keep active. Walk around or do some jumping jacks. While flying, opt to walk to your gate, rather than take a train or shuttle.

Most importantly, enjoy time with loved ones. Happy Holidays!

Bianca Nalder RN, BSN

[Parish Corner](#)



The Annual Parish Christmas Angel Tree Project

*Because of how the calendar falls, this year our
Christmas Angels will be early.*

Angels to be distributed on November 25th & 26th.

We need:

- Individuals, families, or groups to help coordinate the distribution of angels and the collection of gifts at one of these weekend masses: Weekends of November 25th & 26th and December 2nd & 3rd. Volunteers need to arrive 20 minutes before mass and stay for about 15 minutes after mass.
Sign-up Genius Volunteer link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0a4aa8af0-stbernadette2>
- Individuals & families to take one angel or several angels on the weekends of November 18/19 or 25/26. Buy the gift on the angel and return that gift to the Parish **no later than December 4th.**
- All gifts must be unwrapped when turned in. Monetary donations are welcomed and funds are used solely to help administer or buy gifts for this program.
- People to purchase a bike for the bike raffle. Bikes are on special Angel tags.
- Individuals to assist with Christmas Party at St. Bernadette's on Saturday, December 9th from 9:30 AM—1:30 PM. Set up will be one hour before the event and clean up one hour after. Volunteer Sign-Up genius link above in first bullet point.

The gifts will be distributed through an Angel Tree Party hosted here in our Parish Center on Saturday, December 9th. The event will include a Pancake Breakfast, gingerbread house and craft stations, a game center, a live Nativity with a petting zoo, a Holiday Bounce House, Santa's Toy shop, and bike raffles.

Each child will be given a special Nativity-themed stocking with stuffers and be allowed to choose one gift. Most gifts on our tree can be purchased for less than \$25. Several new bicycles are also on the tree. These can be purchased for between \$50 & \$100.



New this Year: Virtual Angel program - Go online to our Sign-Up Genius Angel Tree page and pick an angel or two, purchase the gift you signed up for, and bring it to the Church no later than Monday, December 4th. The Sign-Up Genius is live. Go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0a4aa8af0-stbernadette3>

Please consider supporting this worthwhile project by purchasing a gift or gifts, buying a bike and/or helping out at the event.

Contact Shirley Smalley at 480-905-0434 at ssmalley@saintbernadette.com

JOIN US!

Parish Advent Mission December 10th & 11th

The community of Saint Bernadette invites you to join us for the upcoming Parish Advent Mission with Chris Muglia. Chris is a speaker, singer/songwriter, husband of 22 years, and father of five whose extraordinary vocal talent and passion for communicating an honest faith-based message inspires all who hear him. Please join Chris as he makes a special appearance at Saint Bernadette Catholic Church during our Advent Mission. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. We hope to see you there.



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Saint John XXIII Newsletter

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