



St. Joseph Catholic School

Weekly Newsletter – April 14, 2019

From the Principal's Desk

MISSION STATEMENT

Rooted in Catholic faith, and committed to academic excellence, St. Joseph Catholic School develops personal responsibility, character, service, and leadership

Holy Week

With Easter so late this year, it has been a long road to our Spring break. However, as a Catholic school, we are grateful we can still celebrate “Easter Vacation”, which will begin at 11:30 am this Wednesday. Today, with Palm Sunday, we transition from Lent to Holy Week, in preparation for Easter. Our teachers have been preparing our students each day, and below are a few ideas for extending this preparation as a family.

Since the early days of Christianity, the week beginning with Palm Sunday and ending at sundown on Easter has been a sacred time because it commemorates the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have so many family traditions as we celebrate Christmas, but we also want to help our children experience Easter as the greatest celebration of the liturgical year. Here are a few faith-filled ideas to help you keep the holy in Holy Week.

Palm Sunday

We began our celebration of the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem at Mass by holding our palms high as the priest blessed them this weekend. Continue the celebration at home.

- Put a small statue of Jesus in the center of your dinner table to remember to focus on Jesus during Holy Week. (In place of a statue, you can use a picture, or have your child draw Jesus' picture as a reminder.)
- Use the palm branches from church and have your own triumphal procession to the dinner table.



Talk about it: Over dinner, talk about how Jesus is the center of our lives and our faith. How do we feel when we make Jesus the center of our lives?

Holy Week Preparation Days

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

- Clean the house: Think of spring housekeeping as a prayerful preparation for Easter in the same way that Jewish families clean in preparation for Passover.
- Buy a lily: The white flower heralds the resurrection of Jesus. Let your children pick out one for your family and one for someone who needs to hear “good news.”
- Color eggs: Decorated eggs are a symbol of new life that comes with the Resurrection. Make it more meaningful by helping your children write “Christ is Risen,” “Alleluia” or “Jesus loves us” on the eggs in crayon before coloring them.

Holy Thursday



This day recalls the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. It reminds us that we are called to serve one another. Here are some ideas for celebrating the day

- Go to Mass: The Holy Thursday liturgy marks the beginning of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. At the end of Mass, join in the procession to move the Blessed Sacrament to an altar of repose.
- Help someone: Do something special for someone in need.
- Be sure to read one of the Gospel accounts of the Last Supper.

Talk about it: The Eucharist is the central sacrament in our Catholic faith. Talk about our Catholic belief that we receive the real presence of the risen Jesus in Holy Communion. How does this encounter with Jesus change us?

Good Friday

This day commemorates the crucifixion, death and burial of Jesus. It is the most solemn and sorrowful day of the Church calendar.

- Attend the Good Friday liturgy, which includes the reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, special prayers and holy Communion.
- Set aside some prayerful family time between 12 noon and 3 p.m.
- Encourage family members to imitate Jesus by forgiving someone who has hurt them.



Talk about it: It is OK to feel sad on Good Friday. Jesus' death on the cross is a sacrifice like no other; he died to teach us about everlasting life. Talk about friends and family who may have died and how we believe that, because of Jesus, we hope to rise to new life in heaven.

Holy Saturday

This day commemorates the time of darkness and waiting when Jesus was in the tomb. It is also a day for final preparations before Easter.

- Invite family members, friends and neighbors — especially people who have strayed from the Church — to come to church with you for the Easter Vigil or for Mass on Easter morning.
- Let the children help decorate for Easter.

Talk about it: The Easter Vigil begins with the symbol of fire. Talk about how fire represents that Jesus is the light of the world. He brings light to the darkness and new life to a sleeping world. What are some other symbols of resurrection? (Water, the color white, the transformation of a butterfly ...)

Easter Sunday



Celebrate the joy of Easter at Mass with the singing of the Gloria and alleluias, the renewal of baptismal vows, a sprinkling with Easter water, and receiving the Eucharist. The time you spend on your Holy Week preparations will make Easter Sunday more meaningful for the whole family!

EASTER VACATION begins at 11:30 am on Wednesday, April 17th

School resumes on Monday, April 29th

We all wish you and your family a joyous and blessed Easter!

Weekly Activities

Monday, April 15

- 3:00 – 4:00 pm Jr. Legion of Mary
- 3:00 – 4:00 pm Choir Practice
- 3:30 pm Tennis Team vs. St. Stephens (3816 Manatee Ave. West 34209)

Tuesday, April 16

- 8th Grade Chrism Mass at the Cathedral in Venice
- Kindergarten Trip to Ringling
- 4:00 pm Tennis Team: Home match vs. Palmetto (Practice Courts)
- 3:30 – 4:30 pm Tennis Pro Academy at G.T. Bray Courts
- 3:00 – 4:00 pm Intermediate Guitar

Wednesday, April 17

- 8:00 am Mass
- Following Mass Honor Roll and Awards Recognition
- 10:30 am 8th Grade Seder Meal (St. Joseph Room)
- 11:30 am Early Dismissal – NO AFTER CARE

Monday, April 29

- SCHOOL RESUMES

Hot Lunch

Monday, April 15

Hamburger
Baked Beans
Florida Cherry Tomatoes with Dip
Florida Blueberries
Milk and Juice

Tuesday, April 16

Chicken Dippers with Breadstick
Florida Steamed Green Beans
Mini Romaine Salad
Peach Cup
Florida Guava
Milk and Juice

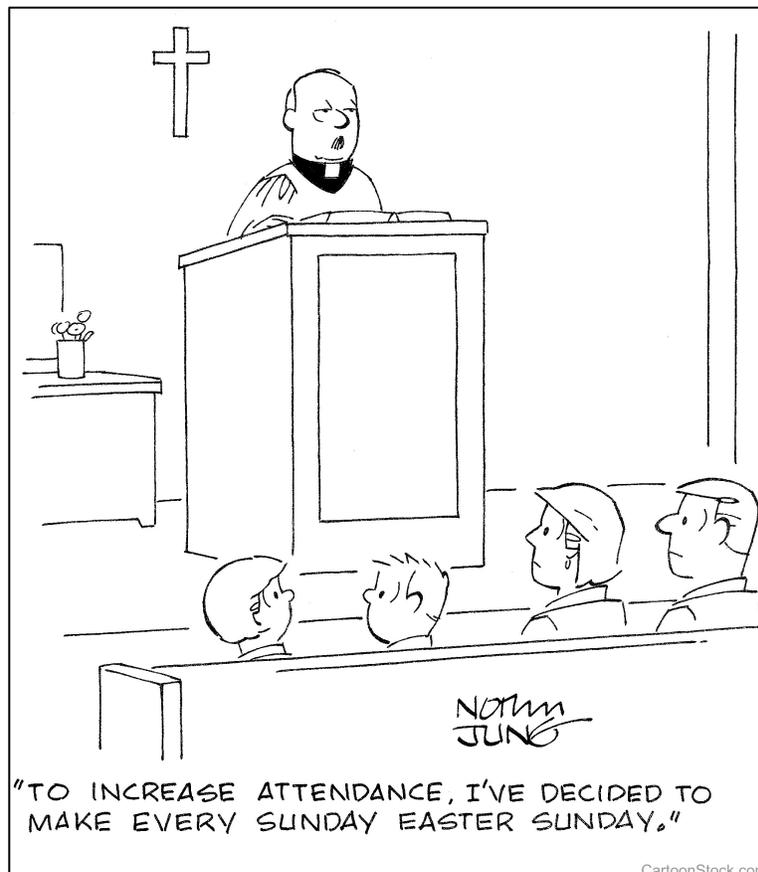
Wednesday, April 17

11:30 Early Dismissal for Easter Vacation

Check out our pictures and events on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/SJCSBradenton

PLANNING AHEAD:

- April 18 – 26 Easter Break
- April 29 School Resumes
- April 30 – May 3 8th Grade Trip to Circle F Dude Ranch
- May 1 Grade 3 – Florida Theatre – Student Plays
- May 6 8:15 am PTO Meeting
- May 6 – 10 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 8 8:00 am School Mass
- May 13 Muffins with Mom
- May 15 Grades 4 & 5 – Florida Theatre – Student Plays
- May 16 & 17 Aladdin – Spring Musical
- May 20 Donuts with Dad
- May 20 & 21 Algebra EOC (Grade 8)
- May 20 Talent Show
- May 22 May Crowning
- May 23 9:00 am 8th Grade Graduation Mass & Brunch
- May 27 Memorial Day – No School
- May 31 8:00 am School Mass
- May 31 11:30 am Dismissal - Last Day of School



(Used with permission of CartoonStock)

St. Joseph Catholic School Hot
Lunch Order
April 15 – April 19
(One order per student)

Student: _____

Homeroom: _____

Grade: _____

Monday, 4/15	_____ Hamburger	\$3.50
	Baked Beans	
	Florida Cherry Tomatoes with Dip	
	Florida Blueberries	
	Milk and Juice	

Tuesday, 4/16	_____ Chicken Dippers with Breadstick	\$3.50
	Florida Steamed Green Beans	
	Mini Romaine Salad	
	Peach Cup	
	Florida Guava	
	Milk and Juice	

Wednesday 4/17 11:30 am Dismissal for Easter Break
No After Care

Thursday, 4/18 No School – Easter Break

Friday, 4/19 No School – Easter Break

School Resumes on Monday, April 29th
HAPPY EASTER

TOTAL _____ (Charge to FACTS)

Parent Signature: _____