

# Parent Night #1

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- **Prayer:** A prayer to our Guardian Angels

*Angel of God,*

*My Guardian dear, to whom His love  
commits me here, Ever this day be at my  
side to light and guard, to rule and guide.*



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# Agenda

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- Administration updates
- School Council/Gala update
- Guardian Parents
- Presentation for parents to understand the college process
  - Specifically, the next thirteen months for the Class of 2013.



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# Administration Updates

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- Dual Credit courses certified for 2011-12
- Accreditation visit requested/coming this fall
- Grades, planners, study skills
- Admissions efforts
  - Open house – Sunday, 23 October 2011
  - “We are John Paul.”



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# Administration Updates

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- 8<sup>th</sup> grade tours
- Dates for when feeder schools will be here – requesting help – current parents to be here that day.
- Parent-to-parent, student-to-student is the goal.
- “We are John Paul – we invite you to be John Paul, too.”



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# School Council

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- Expanded membership on council
  - Need expanded representation now
  - Elections in April 2012
- Gala is largest, most visible event Archdiocesan-wide; please plan to attend!
- Efforts of council activities, especially strategic planning, will begin after Gala.



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# Guardian Parents Exec. Board

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## Introduction of Members

President: Theresa Berger

Vice-President: Tanya Moczygemba

Treasurer: Amy Glatt

Secretary: Lee Bailey

Member at Large: Bruce Berger

Freshmen Representative: Steve VanSciver



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# Gala Update

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- Purchase tickets!
- **Set-up: Wednesday, September 21**
- Noon pick-up and transport from New Braunfels to AT&T Community Centre room decorations
  - Need at least 3 Suburbans/vans
  - Elaine Gilman coordinating
- 1:00-5:00 pm set up room
  - Contact Theresa Berger if you can commit.



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# Gala Needs

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- **Final set-up:** Thursday, September 22  
4:00 p.m.
- Check-in immediately following Mass
- Clean-up immediately following event
- Need at least 3 large vehicles to store decorations overnight in vehicle and return to New Braunfels on Friday
  - Elaine Gilman coordinating



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# Talents and Treasures Form

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- 18 Families have completed
- Don't be afraid!
- Blank forms & pens & clipboards available right now!



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# Committees

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- If you do not remember what you signed up for or would like to join a committee, check the committee sign-up sheets
- New/ad-hoc committees
  - Admin Angels
  - Athletic Teams Concession Help
  - Mini School Store at events



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# Thanks!

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- Many parent committees/support groups have been in full swing since the summer.
  - Among them: Parent Fellowship, Guardians Gala, parish liaisons, Catholic Life Raffle, school store, Founders' Weekend.....
- Thanks for your efforts!



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# Committees in need!

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- Parish Liaisons and Admissions
- Promote communication with parishes in our area, promote the JP II Open House and HSPT at non-school parishes.
- Admissions will be meeting on Thursday evening this week.



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# Thursday Coffee Club

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- 8:00 am in the Parent Work Room
- Prayer group immediately after
- All are welcome!



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# Heads-Up on Upcoming Events

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- Catholic Life Raffle
- Open House, Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Founders' Weekend
  - Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday evening: Pep Rally
- Friday night: Homecoming Football Game
- Saturday (day): Chili Cook-off and Family Fun
- Saturday (evening): Student Homecoming Dance



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# *In process:* College Planning

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- Review admission factors
- Learn about SAT, SAT II (Subject Tests), ACT
- Visit college options



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# Review of Admission Factors

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- Rigor of academic courses
- Grades
- Test Scores
  - SAT, SAT II (Subject Tests), AP Exams, ACT, CLEP, and many more
- Extra curriculars



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# College Research

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- The world of college admissions/college requirements is very fluid.
- Those requirements change each year and differently for different colleges, programs, and government programs.
- Ask questions!
- **The web is your best tool!**



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# College Visits!

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- Junior families – now!
  - **No substitute for on-site visits.**
- Register **before the visit** with admissions and financial aid.
- Treat the visit like an interview.
  - Call weeks in advance, dress nicely, prepare!
  - Students should help drive the process.



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# College Fairs

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- Hill Country College Fair
  - Sept. 27 - San Marcos HS 6-8 PM
- Comal ISD College & Career Fair
  - Sept. 28 - Smithson Valley HS 6-8 PM
- Private Schools of San Antonio College Fair
  - Oct. 27 - St. Mary's University 6:30-8:30 PM
- Many more smaller presentations
  - Ex: Academies have spring presentation at UTSA.



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# PSAT/NMSQT

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- Wednesday, October 12
  - Again, it is a ‘practice’ SAT
- National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test for Juniors
- Use My College Quickstart to continue preparation ([collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org))
- Score report due out in late December



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# PSAT Scores

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- In 2009, the 'NMQ index' for Texas was 205.
- A normal yearly increase last year for sophomores was between 10-20 points.
- Hard work and preparation might yield even more. It's worth it!



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# SAT and ACT for Juniors

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- When to register for the test?
- Where to register for the test??
- How to register for the test??



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# When...

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- Winter or Spring of Junior Year
- January and February 2012
- March and April 2012
- May and June 2012
  - For Class of 2013, October 2012 is for emergencies only/get a better score.
  - Application not complete without a test score.



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# When?

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- **Strategies**

- Know your lives & schedules; pick best month.
- Take ACT and SAT – retake one for a better score.
- ACT tends to be for math, science-focused.
- SAT tends to be for solid readers, fast thinkers.



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# How? Where?

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- Register ON-LINE! Pay with a credit card.
- Take test at local public high schools and universities nearest you
- Saturday mornings, 8 a.m. registration
- Picture ID required
- Call the test site the day before to confirm time and location – things change!



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# SAT Score Reporting

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- During registration on-line, students can select the schools to receive scores.
- The first four schools are included in the cost of the test (in 2011-12 the cost of the test is \$49).
  - Each additional school is \$10.50.



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# Score Choice (in registration form)

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- This is a new feature with the SAT that allows test takers to decide when/if to forward a score to a university.
- It is not necessary in most all cases to wait to send the score.
  - It is an option they give.
  - Normally, we recommend just to send the scores.



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# Writing tests

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- Take the writing tests
- Don't opt out.
  - Some schools only look at the verbal and math scores (the traditional SAT, which makes for a 1600 perfect score – 800 on each.)
  - However, many schools require a score in all three areas (writing is another 800 pts.).



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# ACT Differences

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- \$49.50 is cost for test.
- No “Score Choice” option
- Can choose to not send results automatically
- After results arrive, student can choose to send results then (for an additional \$10 per school).



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# SAT II

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- Subject level tests that some universities accept as placement out of beginning level courses.
- Can be a way to distinguish a student's academic abilities.
- A few colleges require them.
  - Rice University does, and a few colleges within the UT-Austin campus require them.
    - Rice: “All freshman applicants must take either the SAT and two SAT Subject Tests in fields related to their proposed area of study, or the ACT with the writing test.”



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# Application Process

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- Prepare for this timeline....
- August and September 2012:  
applications go out.
- Be done by 1 October.
- Get an “early” application number.



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# Applications are considered by...

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- Rolling Admissions... (A&M, Texas State)
- Early Action... (Ivy Leagues)
- Deadline consideration... (UT, others)
  
- Best Practice: APPLY EARLY!



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# JPII CHS Process

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- We will want to know what applications students are opening.
- Forms for...
  - Opening application
  - Transcripts to be sent
  - Forms for letters of recommendation



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# What's to come...

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- Resume creation in English classes
- Practice admissions essays in Spring
- Some PSAT, SAT, and ACT Prep



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# What's to come...

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- Monday, 10 October 2011 – Parent Night will feature a talk by the local A&M Admissions Office rep for JPIICHS
- Spring Parent Night about scholarships and financial aid.



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# What's to come...

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- Push your Guardian to work hard!
- Go on college visits!
  - Schedule in-school year visits to your list of five schools
  - Aggieland Saturday: Feb 2012
  - Rise and Shine UT: March 2012
- Work on SAT/ACT preparation



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# College Counselor

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- Mrs. Sharon Strickland
- On-campus on Thursdays
- Email to schedule a meeting/ask a question
  - [sstrickland@johnpaul2chs.org](mailto:sstrickland@johnpaul2chs.org)
  - [Strickland.s@hotmail.com](mailto:Strickland.s@hotmail.com)



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