



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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January 11, 2018

Dear St. Joseph School Family,

We have no idea of how grace works in our lives. We catch glimpses of it periodically and marvel at how close God seems to us.

I'm sure that you, as parents, catch a glimpse of grace in your children. You see them playing with their siblings, sacrificing their likes for the wants and desires of another. You see them terrorizing you as you're working, cooking, cleaning, etc. and then peacefully sleeping as if nothing was ever wrong in their lives.

Those are things that I don't see. Yet I have the opportunity to see them kneel in the church before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Quiet. In communication with Him (hopefully!). Focused on learning who He is and what He wants of them.

Grace. It's mysterious and we don't always experience it. Yet it's there, alive and active, and forming us into His image every moment of every day.

I can't recall when I first became aware of Grace. I mean I knew about grace, what it is, how to get it, what it does. What I can't recall is when I became aware of the presence of grace in my life – that it really was there, encompassing my being, leading me closer to God and helping me learn how to live and act with others. Grace is here – with your family at home as well as your children in school. Begin to notice it and become aware of God's presence in your lives.

As we enter into these next few weeks of preparation for Catholic Schools Week your children will probably talk about the things that we'll be planning at school. Yes, there will be fun activities planned, but Catholic Schools Week isn't about the planning of activities and fun things to wear or do. It's about the fact that we can not only provide an education about math, science, history, etc. but we get to immerse that education in grace. Grace floods our school – our classrooms – our environment, even though we sometimes have to fight a spiritual battle (see last week's newsletter) to create an environment where grace can flourish.

Please join me in praying for an openness to grace among our school members – families, students, teachers, staff, and me! All of us need to be open to grace. Here's the prayer I will be praying daily for this openness to grace. If you'd like to join me, please do – using this prayer or your own words/prayer. The words can be different – the Lord sees our hearts.

My Heavenly Father, I love You. I thank You for Your infinite love of me. I beg You to open the hearts of all at St. Joseph School to Your grace in our lives. Help us to see You in each other, in the words that we speak, in the decisions that we make. Allow us to experience Your life – grace – in each person that we encounter at St. Joseph School, no matter who they may be. We love You and want everyone at St. Joseph School to be with You forever. Amen.

In Christ the King,

Sister Mary Cecilia, C.K.

Principal, St. Joseph School

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

- 12 FRI** Mission Collection
- 15 MON NO SCHOOL**
Teacher Workday Pre School Conferences
- 16 TUE** Don & Millies 56 & Hwy 2
Preschool Fundraiser 4-8
- 17 WED** 3A Class Mass, Band Rehearsal
- 18 THU** Band Concert @ Pius 7:00pm

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK JAN 28-FEB 3

Kindergarten Preview
February 9, 9:30-10:30/11 am PARENTS ONLY

Kindergarten Come & See
April 13, 8:30-11:00 a.m. for prospective students

Preschool Preview
February 9, 12 Noon
More information to follow

VOLUNTEERS

LUNCHROOM DUTY

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094baca9283-lunchroom2>

K-1-2 RECESS 10:45-12:00

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094baca9283-k1and>

3-6 RECESS DUTY 12:00-1:00

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e44acae23a57-3rdand>

HAITI

We are collecting athletic/ tennis shoes for our Haiti mission. The box is outside the office door. Non athletic shoes and boots will not be sent to Haiti.



We need to resupply our stock of Tylenol

JANUARY 11, 2018

SCHOOL NEWS

SAVE THE DATE! SFA Morning at the Movies is on February 3, 2018 @ 9:30am. Showing Ferdinand & Paddington 2. Donuts, coffee and juice will be provided! We hope to see you there!

BISHOP BOOK CLUB: [Where the Red Fern Grows](#); January 27, 2018; 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. UNL Newman Center (Lincoln, NE); Junior high students gather from all over the Lincoln Diocese to celebrate a particular piece of literature. This year, Bishop Conley has chosen Where the Red Fern Grows. Students in attendance are asked to read this year's choice and send in the appropriate registration/fee by January 15th. Click [Registration](#)

BAND CONCERT for Catholic Elementary band students is January 18th @ 7:00 pm with rehearsal January 17th, 5th graders-6pm and 6-8th graders-7:00 pm.

VOLUNTEERS & PARENTS You are invited to join us for 8:15 Mass, followed by coffee and donuts as a part of our celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Click [Volunteers](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

4TH AND 5TH GRADE LOCK-IN the Teen Council 4th and 5th grade Lock-in scheduled for Friday, January 19. Lancaster County Extension Lock-in is an opportunity for the 4th & 5th grade students. They need not be enrolled in 4-H to attend the lock in. Click Lock-in

PIUS X JUNIOR HIGH & SENIOR HIGH TRAP TEAM An informational meeting for the Pius Junior High and Senior High Trap Shooting Club will be held on Sunday, January 21st at the Lincoln Izaak Walton League Clubhouse located at 10801 S. 134th Street, Bennet (about 4 miles east of 84th & Highway 2, and then south ½ mile on 134th Street). Pizza will be served at 12:00 noon and the informational meeting will be held following at 12:30 p.m. This meeting is open to possible new members interested in the Pius Junior High/Senior High Trap Club, and the meeting should take no more than one hour. If you cannot make this meeting, there are two other informational meetings available (However, no pizza, but same location.) Tuesday, January 30th, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, February 3rd, 12:00 noon . If more information is needed, please call Pius X Trap Coach, Craig Keaschall, at 402.499.9767.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

MCA AND MISSION CLUB, MCA is the acronym for Mission Childhood Association. The motto of the Missionary Childhood Association is "Children helping Children". It was founded in France in 1843 by Bishop Charles de Forbin-Janson. Its purpose is to encourage all children to be aware of the needs of children living in mission dioceses throughout the world. Today it is in 120 countries and helps make Jesus known to children all over the world. Under its banner "Children helping Children", funds raised through schools are directed towards self-help programs involving the building of schools, the provision of health and nutrition programs and medications, school fees, and teaching and learning resources. Children in communities, orphanages, homes for the disabled, refugees, and those living on the streets are assisted by the generosity of children who wish to make the love of Jesus known everywhere. Here at St. Joseph School the students in grades 5-8 volunteer to meet each month for Mission Club. We pray and learn about saints who were missionaries. Also, the students prepare for the First Friday Mission Collection. They make posters and label envelopes with "MCA" and distribute them to the classrooms. In addition, they help out with special projects like the annual food drive for Catholic Social Services .

<http://school.stjosephlnk.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/SaintJosephLincoln>