



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1940 S. 77TH ST, LINCOLN, NE 68506

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WEEKLY WATCH



Tough Conversations

Tough conversations.

I think I would be pretty accurate to say that none of us likes to have them! But what makes them hard? Usually, it is when two people have differing perceptions of a situation, or unresolved hard feelings from the past. But sometimes it is a matter of needing to share something that the other person will find hard to hear.

We are in the midst of parent-teacher conferences right now and most of the conversations are pretty positive! It's great to hear about the growth of your child in school: academically, socially and spiritually. In some cases, the conversations are ongoing about how you are already working together with the teacher to help your child overcome an obstacle or work on social skills that both of you are aware of. Once in a while, some behavior or academic concerns that are seen at school require the teacher to share with you that your child was not treating another child respectfully, or that testing may be needed to see if we can provide more support in some sort of resource program. This can be hard to hear, especially if there haven't been issues in the past. When it comes to conversations between adults about their own relationship, or an event that happened, it can be even harder. In my role as an administrator, I have time and again witnessed two parties that both have very legitimate perceptions coming at a situation from different angles and struggling to approach the conversation, whether it's students or adults. With adults, I've honestly noticed that emails often create a tension that wasn't anticipated.

This happens to me as well. I think I'm just responding in a factual way and the other person feels like I'm being blunt. Or, I respond in a thoughtful way and the other person feels like I am not getting to the point and skirting the issue. Then, when I try to reply with a further resolution, the irritation increases because we can't get past the initial perception.

So, when it comes down to it, I've always found it best to talk face-to-face. Clarifying what was said, and what was meant, is so much easier when you can read body language and facial expressions. Personally, I also find it harder to stay angry, or annoyed, if I am really trying to listen to what the other person is thinking or feeling. I always come away with at least a better understanding of their perception, even if I can't fully agree with it. It's only when I enter the conversation convinced that my perception is the only one, or refuse to be open to the other's perspective, that I come away more frustrated.

But the conversations are still hard! There is something that feels emotionally "dangerous" about being vulnerable face-to-face. But I'm convinced that it is the best way to work out issues. In that same vein, please always feel free to reach out to Mr. Naumann or to me if you have any concerns or questions regarding the school. Our goal is to be here and available for you. God bless you!

God bless you!

Sister Mary Angela, C.K.

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Blessing of the School



BIST Tip:

Safe Seat

By now most of you are aware of the concept of a safe seat in each classroom (whether or not the teacher chooses to call it that). Remember that it is intended for exactly that purpose, to help the child be SAFE. It is all too easy to see the safe seat as a time out chair. It is not. So strike time out! A time out is moving to a designated location for a specific time, but usually with a disappointed voice tone on the part of the adult to show the child they are "in trouble" and when time is up they go right back to the previous activity. The purpose of the safe seat, however, is to allow for a reset of emotions. Behaviors don't happen in isolation but as a response to something. Whether in or out of the classroom, whatever is causing a child to act in ways that are not helping to be a successful learner, the child needs an opportunity to restart. By going to the safe seat, the child can move away from distractions and even expectations for participation, etc. Also, the child is GUARANTEED (unless they asked to go to the safe seat themselves) that the teacher will always check in with them later to process and see

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Pius X Show Choirs



if they are ready to return to the regular learning environment. This processing is invaluable to help the child grow in the skills necessary to be successful in the classroom. Once we start seeing children ASK to go to the safe seat themselves, we know they are understanding its purpose and using this resource as it is meant to be – a tool for success!

Notes from the Nurses Desk

Reminders

Kindergarten & 7th grade parents:

Please submit a physical and up-to-date immunization records as soon as possible if not submitted already.

Preschool parents:

Please submit an up-to-date immunization record if not submitted already.

Please click [HERE](#) for a list of vaccines required per grade.

Paperwork can be dropped off at school, faxed to 402-489-3260 or e-mailed to christina-wahlmeier@cdolinc.net.

Thank you for your help!

JH4L Bake Sale

After all weekend Masses on **October 21-22 (except 5:00 on Sunday evening)**, the school's Jr. High pro-life club will hold its annual bake sale. All proceeds help fund JH4L Pro-Life Club projects done throughout the school year. Please show your support!

NEW!! School Crochet Club!

St. Joseph's Crochet Club will meet **every Friday from 3:30-4:15 pm when school is in session**. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced crocheter, we would love to have you join us at the Library. For students in 4th grade and up. If you have any questions please contact Myra Costello at stjoes.institches@gmail.com or 713-857-7868.

St. Joseph Spirit Wear Store Now Open!

The St. Joseph Spirit Wear Store is **NOW open through the end of the day October 25th**. Don't miss out if you are wanting to order before next year! Shop the link below to order both uniform approved and non-uniform approved apparel.

<https://stjosephspiritfall2023.itemorder.com/>



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K of C CAMPAIGN FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Since 1976 The Nebraska Knights of Columbus have conducted the "Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities". This year the campaign in our parish will support St. Joseph School Special Education/Resources and education/life opportunities at Villa Marie School. St Joseph KOC volunteers will provide Tootsie rolls after all Masses during the October 14-15 weekend. To take advantage of the Halloween season, box of 50 Tootsie rolls with donation of \$25 per box are available as your Halloween candy. To reserve a box, send an email patricktines5@gmail.com. Thank you for your generosity

****Tootsie rolls are available to students for .50/tootsie roll starting Wednesday, October 18th.***

Join Catholic Scouting at St. Joseph's!

Catholic Scouting builds on the time-honored structure and programs of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). We have several active units here at St. Joseph's, and we invite you to learn more about this opportunity for your family! Boys and girls (K-5) are welcome in Catholic Cub Scouting with some combined activities for younger scouts in recognition of busy family schedules. Boys aged 10-18 participate in separate activities and adventures like camping, day trips, and service projects. **Find out more by attending our upcoming info session after morning Masses on Sunday, October 15, where Scouts in uniforms will be available to chat about scouting.** Alternatively, for boys and girls (K-5), attend a meeting on Tuesday, October 17 at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria. Boys aged 10-18 are welcome attend a meeting on Wednesday, October 18 at 7:00 pm in the cafeteria. Or by talking with scouts and leaders in Scouting uniforms after Mass. For questions, contact: Bryan Welty (402-202-4337 or mkbwelty@gmail.com) or Steve Gawrick (402-432-2594 or sgawrick@icoloud.com).

Fire Engine!



St. Joseph Trunk or Treat

A black poster with a decorative border of candy corn, lollipops, and candy bars. The text is centered and reads:

YOUTH MINISTRY INVITES YOU TO:

SAINT JOSEPH TRUNK OR TREAT FALL EVENT

BRING YOUR FAMILY FOR COSTUMES, CANDY,
CRAFTS, CREATIVE TRUNKS, AND MORE!

PLUS! FOOD TRUCKS: THE HARBOR COFFEE,
REDLINC BBQ, KONA ICE

*FOOD & DRINKS UNDERWRITTEN BY DONATIONS TO THE PARISH

OCT. 27 • 6PM-8PM

\$5 FOR A TRUNK OR TREAT BAG.
PARK IN FRONT AND FOLLOW THE HALLOWEEN TRAIL
TO THE BACK LOT!

CONTACT SARA-RACICOT@CDOLINC.NET WITH QUESTIONS

A black poster with a large orange monster face at the top. The text is centered and reads:

Calling all high schoolers and/or families!!!

HOST A TRUNK!

HELP US HOST ST. JOSEPH TRUNK OR TREAT!!!

October 27 | 6-8 pm | St. Joe's back lot
Set up begins after school that day.

*It's easy! Decorate your trunk, get dressed up,
bring lots of candy, and have a great time!*

SCAN THE QR CODE OR EMAIL SARA-RACICOT@CDOLINC.NET TO SIGN UP!



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Free Rosary Repair!

Every Sunday in October, look for a table in the Narthex following the 7:30 and 9:00 am Masses. The Mary Queen of Peace Ministry will be offering **FREE** Rosary Repairs.

Prayer Card Art Contest

Spirit Catholic Radio is excited to announce that our annual Art Contest is changing seasons! You may be familiar with the Contest taking place in the Spring; however, the next art Contest is coming to you this Fall 2023. We will produce prayer cards showcasing Fall 2023 winning artwork submitted by RE and catholic school students from across our listening area during our Art Contest. We would love for your Religious Education students to participate! The theme for the prayer cards is "**Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary.**" Each grade category will have two mysteries to pick from to draw.

- **K - 2nd Grade:** The Rosary, The Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary
- **3rd - 5th Grade:** The Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, The Nativity of Our Lord
- **6th - 8th Grade:** The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, The Finding of the Child Jesus at the Temple

The Rosary is one of the most recognizable symbols of the Catholic faith and our prayer life. The Rosary is a scripture-based prayer, and walks you through the great mysteries of the Catholic faith, all while reciting some of the most ancient of prayers: The Our Father (taught to us by Jesus Himself) and the Hail Mary (based off the Archangel Gabriel's greeting to Mary at the Annunciation). Your students' art can bring these mysteries of the Rosary to people in a new way, with interpretations only a child's imagination and wonder can create!

Prayer Card Art Contest entries can be submitted throughout the months of October and November and are **due by December 15th.** Thanks to the Knights of Columbus for co-sponsoring our 2023 Fall Art Contest.

