

St John Catholic School

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February 2012



A Message from Father Roy...

Recently, I had a conversation with a friend from Oklahoma who lamented that one of her acquaintances was ‘*Catholic bashing*’ at the home of some friends hosting a party for “adults.” Sadly, it was a Catholic who was bashing the Catholic Church. Much of the bashing had to do with misperceptions about the disciplines of the Faith. This friend walked away from this shameful display, wishing she had words to say the Catholic basher on how much this was inappropriate and hurtful. My friend felt like she was betraying the Catholic Faith with her lack of immediate response. It put a damper on an already complicated week as she and her family prepared to celebrate Catholic School Week at their Catholic school.

Our Catholic identity emerges from our daily experience of our Faith *as a lifestyle choice*. Father Ron Rolheiser tells us, in his book, The Holy Longing, there are four nonnegotiable principles for Christian spirituality:



1. One must assume personal responsibility for morality and prayer. ~ Whether you learn this at home, at the catholic school, or at Sunday school being Catholic is about taking pride that God wants to have a personal relationship. He respects each of us to choose whether to trust the moral disciplines we are taught and spend time in prayer with Him going over the hard choices that have to be made.
2. One must have a sense of Social Justice and engage it as a lifestyle choice. ~ The beauty of a Catholic education is that the curriculum allows for the time to study, reflect, and decide how the good we can do can be applied to a hurting world. It reaches a point of relevance when it is acted upon. Such experiences of alleviating suffering and correcting injustices help shape an appreciation for the disciplines of our Faith because they are intended to help all people arrive at a greater quality of life in their pursuit of heaven.
3. One must assume a mellowness of the spirit. ~ Jesus celebrated life; he enjoyed those moments when the human spirit would dance before God to say thanks for the many blessings. A Catholic life without joy is pointless. A Catholic School Week without lots of celebrating and reflecting on the blessings of a Catholic education dismisses the principles of self-improvement as inconsequential. The less we celebrate the more a Catholic, in the restlessness, is tempted to engage in Catholic bashing.
4. One must accept that our identity comes from worshipping God as communal gathering. ~ “No man is an island entire of himself.” John Donne wrote this in a poem. It is true. Going to church is not a chore unless we make it so. Coming together to support each other, to pray for those in need, and to collectively worship God at a common table of Word and Sacrifice allows everyone to renew themselves and affirm their place in humanity.

Trying to subsist on one or a couple of these nonnegotiable essential principles is inadequate for an authentic expression of a Catholic identity. Why? We are designed in the image of God to pursue a complete life, one that takes a lifetime to shape and live with the four disciplines. If we fail to develop these four challenges and become inauthentic expressions of catholic stereotypes, we can unwittingly give license for others to bash our Faith. Catholic School Week is about celebrating the souls committed to the four nonnegotiable challenges that are shaping our Catholic identity and furthering the mission of evangelization in a world caught in stereotypes.

God Bless...

Rev. Roy C. Marien, Pastor/Administrator
St. John the Evangelist Parish

School Mass Schedule

01 Feb 8:15 am Catholic Schools Week Mass

08 Feb 8:15 am School Mass prepared by 1st grade

22 Feb 8:15 am Ash Wednesday School Mass prepared by 7th grade

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

On Saturday, March 24th
2012 Country Music Star Collin Raye
will be performing at the Marina Civic Center.
Collin, a Catholic convert,
will be performing many of his
#1 country music hits
along with songs from his newly
released Christian Music CD.
All monies raised will benefit
St. John Catholic School!

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor
for this amazing event, please contact
Tonya Thompson at 850.819.5590 or pcjazz@gmail.com



ST JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL PTO NEWS

Next PTO Meeting: Thursday, February 02, 2012

Upcoming events:

Catholic Schools Week 29th Jan – 5th Feb 2012

- Guardians and Angels Ball 04 Feb 2010

Please email all volunteer hour logs to stjohn.pto@mail.com

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK! www.facebook.com/St.John.Catholic.School.PTO

Please Support Our St. John Family's Businesses

Nicholson Landscaping - Call 850-890-0484

Piano Lessons by Brenda Baesel - Call 850-873-8841

Deaton Communications - Call 850-873-8840 OR 850-527-3136

Forrest Construction LLC – New Construction, remodel, windows/doors, etc. Call Ryan Forrest 850-832-0251

Nelson Flooring - All flooring, fences, woodworking and handyman projects. 850-596-2765 or 850-785-7684

Pizzazz Parties – Creative Kid Party Planners! Call Meagan 850-832-7668 or Sara 850-319-4469 or on Facebook at Pizzazz Parties

Zumba Fitness with Rachelle Favaloro – Call 850-624-5554 or 850-624-9183 www.facebook.com/rachellefav

Jazzercise with Tonya Thompson – Call 850-519-5590 or email www.pcjazz@gmail.com

From Mrs. Andrea Kopp:

Please share this with everyone on the planet!
I am SO PROUD of our amazing St. John the Evangelist Students!!!!

Our kids did very well at the Regional Science Fair this year;

7th grader Maddison Paris won 3rd place overall junior division for biochemistry
8th grader Zechariah Bryant won 2nd place overall junior division for Engineering
6th grader Katherine Reynolds won an honorable mention for junior division Earth and Planetary Science

In addition to the category awards there were special awards given from different organizations in the community:

6th grader Maura Lindsey won a special award from the Islamic Society of Florida
8th grader Zechariah Bryant won a special award from the Florida Association of Science Teachers

I was so proud of our kids and so happy every time they called out "St. John School"! We had lots of kids and parents there hooting and hollering for our school. It was a great night!



ATHLETIC NEWS!

Basketball! Basketball! Basketball! Intramural season began in January...Co-ed Teams will play by division (1st – 2nd; 3rd – 5th; 6th – 8th) on **Tuesdays at Covenant Christian School: Jan. 31st; Feb. 14th and Feb. 21st.**



KIDS NIGHT OUT 17 Feb 2012 6-9 pm

Here's your chance for a Valentine's Day Date or Girls/Guys Night out without the kiddos! \$15/ first child and \$10/ additional children (includes food/drink) - children DO NOT have to attend SJS to come. Tell your friends and family! (If you **do** attend SJS and would like to send the kids to aftercare, you DO NOT have to pick them up by 5:30- just let them stay until 9) 18 months and up PREPAY in office!

This will be a PJ night so please pack something appropriate to wear. We will be having a **PJ Dance Party** w/ a few twists. If you have glow sticks bring those too!!! Youth are welcome to hang in the Lounge and/or dance. Song requests and rsvp @ mayganoo@aol.com



St. John Catholic School

PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA – EST. 1958

Educating the Total Child

February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 <i>Catholic Schools Week Begins</i>	01 <u>Essay writing</u> <i>SJS: A Special Place to Learn</i>	02 SJS Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast <i>St. John Catholic School day at Red Elephant</i>	01 School Mass 8:15am Student Appreciation Luncheon	02 Teacher Appreciation Luncheon Student Concert in Parish Hall @ 1 pm <i>Out of Darkness</i> PTO 6-7 pm	03 <u>Patriotic Day</u> <i>Students wear red, white, and blue for school picture to send to SJS parents serving overseas</i>	04 Guardian Angels Dance <i>A Knight to Remember</i> 6-9 pm
05 <i>Catholic Schools Week Ends</i> Students wear uniforms to Mass @ St. Dominic's	06	07 SAC 6:30 pm	08 School Mass 8:15 am  Beta Club	09	10	11 PT Diocesan Young Adult Conference <i>UR Catholic</i> @ St. John Parish 9:00-4:30 www.ur113.com
12	13	14 Valentine's Day  Finance Mtg 5:30 pm	15	16	17 KNO 6-9 pm	18  St. John Parish Mardi Gras Dinner/Auction
19	20	21 	22 School Mass 8:15 am  <i>Lent Begins</i>	23 Life Touch Spring Photos Individuals plus 8 th grade Graduation photos	24	25
26	27 ITBS testing Grades 2-8 <i>(27 Feb - 09 Mar)</i>  Book Fair arrives	28 ITBS Testing grades 2-8	29 ITBS Testing Grades 2-8	01 ITBS Testing Grades 2-8	02 ITBS Testing Grades 2-8	

