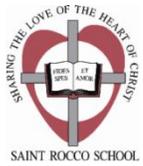


Celebrating Over 50 Years of Excellence!

JANUARY 11, 2018

Weekly



St. Rocco
School

Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ!

THURSDAY PACKET

Parent Notes

Join us for our Annual Catholic Schools Week Mass Sunday, January 28 at 10:00AM

followed by our

OPEN HOUSE/ART EXHIBIT

11:00AM – 1:00PM

Open House



If you know of a family interested in attending St. Rocco School, please have them contact our School Office at 944.2993 to schedule a personal tour.

Always remember that you are the ambassadors who help promote our school through your words.

A Note from the Principal... “What parish are you from?” Oftentimes, we are asked that question, maybe when attending a mass or maybe a sacrament like Confirmation at a church other than our own. But when we answer “St. Rocco”, are we answering merely the name of a place where we attend church or are we answering as truly *members* of St. Rocco, a *real* part of that community that prays, works and helps one another in both times of celebration and times of sadness?



As school re-registration begins, please consider registering as a parishioner with St. Rocco Church. Being part of both the church and school community enriches a child's overall educational experience. It enhances their Catholic Identity and fosters a greater sense of responsibility, acceptance and partnership.

Becoming part of that community isn't “automatic”; it doesn't occur by simply attending Mass. It actually begins with official registration, signing up, enrolling in the Parish. Registration opens so many doors – when you are married, the parish community shares in your joy, the same way it does at the birth of your children, at their First Communion, at their Confirmation. At the other end of the spectrum, your parish community is there for comfort in times of death and illness, offering their help and consolation when you need it most.



As well, officially registering as part of a parish allows the parish to secure things for your aid and benefit. The number of people who are part of a parish is important to the Diocese, because it determines things like how many priests are assigned to the parish and how many Masses, Confessions and devotions are planned.

Most importantly, registering in a parish is a statement of your faith and your confidence in the life and work and community of that parish.

As a member of the parish, your most important obligation is to attend weekly Mass, just as that is the most important aspect for all Roman Catholics. However, the parish always welcomes those who strive to do more, and those who can be more active members of the parish. As you evaluate your membership, peruse the list below and determine where you “fit in”.

- Attendance at Sunday/Saturday evening Mass
- Service as a Lector, Altar Server, Usher, Choir member
- Volunteer at yearly Feast of St. Rocco in August
- Membership for women in the Women's Guild or for men in the Holy Name Society
- Attendance at the social and religious functions outside of Mass
- Assistance with the Religious Education Program
- Volunteer periodically at the Rectory
- Support the Parish financially



Finally, registering to be part of a parish is essentially no different than having insurance on our home, or ensuring that we have warm clothes to protect us during the cold northeast winter. It is a kind of safeguard, a **reassurance that there is always a community of faith to sustain us and with whom we can share the milestones of our life.**



Catholic Schools Raise the Standard Top Ten Reasons to Choose Catholic Schools

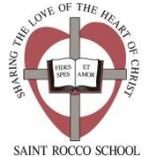
- Catholic tradition and academic excellence in a community grounded in faith
- Balanced curriculum that includes, art, music, physical education, foreign language and technology
- Emphasis on moral development, service to others and leadership skills
- 100% graduation rate
- Strong preparation for advanced education
- Safe and disciplined environment
- Exceptional faculty who assist students in reaching their highest potential
- Individual attention in a caring community
- Commitment to technology used to blend and enhance education
- Good stewards of resources



*With Blessings,
Mrs. Lorraine Moschella, Principal*

A Starry Night with Friends (Adults ONLY)- Join us on Saturday, March 10th 2018 for a night filled with laughter, friends and prizes (both silent and live auction). It will be held at the Pawtucket Country Club, and parents, family and friends are invited. A roving photographer will provide complimentary photos for you, your family and friends throughout the night! Many other surprises and much more information.....stay tuned but save the date!

Our Gala is our biggest fundraiser of the year and has helped pay for many of the educational, technological, and school improvement needs.



Donation Letter (Local Businesses) ~ We are asking if each family would consider seeking out one donation from a business you frequent; with everyone doing a small part to contribute the rewards will be BIG! (I.e. hair and/or nail salon, landscaping company, car - oil change/repair, local market, liquor store, massage gift certificate, etc.) The letter is available on website.

Gifts/Classroom Baskets ~As part of our Annual Gala, classes are responsible for the Class Basket. Please refer to the class letters posted on the website for additional details.

Grades PreK3, PreK4 & Kindergarten
Grades 1, 2 & 3
Grades 4 & 5
Grade 6
Grades 7 & 8

Games, Books, Puzzles, Arts & Crafts etc.
Rhode Island Basket
Italian Basket
Date Night
Sports/Outdoor Basket

**MAKE A
TAX-DEDUCTIBLE
DONATION**

If you would like to consider a tax-deductible donation to help support our event, it would be greatly appreciated. All donations will be included in a bid book and items will be on display in beautifully arranged baskets. This event is attended by approximately 250 people each year. A donation is a great way to generate name recognition for your business and broaden your customer base. Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter. Please contact Patricia Bowman at St. Rocco School, 944-2993, for additional information.

Ticket Form ~ Ticket order form is posted on the school website. Please consider asking family and friends to join for a fun filled evening and reserve your table NOW!!!

Family School Events: ... *Where our Children always come first.*

Our **Mother/Son Dance** will take place on Friday, January 19th from 6-9pm at the Cranston Country Club. The form is available on the website. Deadline is Friday, January 12th. Photos begin at 5:30pm.

Father/Daughter SWEETHEART Dance will take place on Friday, February 9th from 6-9pm at the Cranston Country Club. The form is available on the website. Deadline is Friday, February 2nd. Photos begin at 5:30pm.



Re-Registration for 2018-19. Re-registration will take place the week of January 22nd-26th. All necessary & required information along with your appointment date & time is included in your Thursday packet.

New Applications for 2018-19. Tell family and friends to come visit and tour our school on January 28th at our Open House. Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis, so spread the word! If you know families who are interested in applying, have them call us at 401.944.2993 or direct them to our website at www.stroccoschool.org.

As January approaches, please be reminded that all families re-applying for next year must complete the online **FACTS Grant and Aid** form **each year**.

The Diocese of Providence will use this information to determine your family's need. As soon as you have received your 2017 W-2 wage statement from your employer, please fill out the **FACTS** form. If you have not completed your 2017 income tax return, you may use your 2016 income tax return and your 2016 & 2017 W-2 statements together to file the **FACTS Grant and Aid** form.

We will only be accepting the **online version** of the **FACTS** form, which you can find at

<https://onlinefactsmgt.com/signin/3FR8T>

Parishioner Status ~ When re-registering your child for next year, your parishioner status needs to be determined for the tuition rate given. Just a reminder - to be able to receive parishioner rate, a family needs to contribute a minimum of \$250.00 in the prior calendar year along with attending Mass regularly. If you have any questions, please call the Rectory Office @ 942-5203.

Classroom News ~ Religion ~ Sr. Mary Antoinette, FMH



Following in Jesus' Footsteps... St. Rocco School has a very solid Religion Program. It is a spiral program which means that as youngsters move from one grade to the next they expand on what they have learned in the previous year. The main goal of the program is to develop in the students an appreciation for the Tradition, mystery and witness of the Church.

As they go through the process of understanding what it means to be Catholic Christians, students grow in their faith and become stronger individuals in their love for God and for each other. They grow in their ability to value their union with Christ in the Church, to live according to the Spirit, and to give witness to their faith and Christian values.

The title of the 7th grade Religion Program is *"Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life"*. Throughout the program, the 7th graders are challenged to reflect on the person of Jesus and to respond to his teachings by living according to his values. They are also led to reflect on our Mother Mary as Jesus' best disciple and the best witness. At present, the 7th graders are working on a Booklet on the seven Sacraments. They have already covered Baptism and the Eucharist. Now they are working on the Sacraments of Healing: Penance and Anointing of the Sick. I asked the parents to write a letter to their child as part of this project. Thanks to those parents who have already done it. It will be a nice addition to the students' booklet.

The 8th Grade Program is designed mainly in leading the youngsters to understand God's faithful love as it is revealed throughout the history of the Church, the role of the martyrs and the contribution the Fathers of the Church made to establish it on a solid rock, especially after the fall of the Roman Empire. Through the entire program, our youngsters are challenged to see how they can contribute to the growth of the Church by living lives according to Christ's moral standards. Since the 8th graders will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this coming Fall, the preparation for this sacrament is built within the 8th grade program.

The entire "*Christ Our Life Program*" recognizes parents as the primary Faith Formation of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. The teachers nourish these seeds and help them to grow. Thanks to those parents who take seriously this important responsibility.

Blizzard Bags ~ This past week, St. Rocco School implemented "A Blizzard Bag/REDIKER "Parent Portal" Day". Actually, 2 in fact! **Blizzard Bag/ REDIKER "Parent Portal" assignments** are generated by your child's teacher as an extension of the academic activities being covered in the classroom at the time of a snow day(s).



Students were to complete their assignments and upon returning to school; hand all work into their respective teachers. Below is a sampling of the great work that was completed by some of the students.



Confirmation News... Enclosed in your child's Thursday Packet is a very important flyer with information concerning upcoming events and meetings. Please mark your calendar. Attendance is mandatory.

Retreat ~ Save the Date ~ Eighth grade students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation are to attend a mandatory retreat. The retreat will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at the Rejoice and Hope Center in Cranston. Please mark your calendar. Failure to attend will exempt you from making the sacrament. More info to follow.

Special Dress Down Passes ~ Plan ahead for the month of February! For \$5.00, you may purchase (3) Dress Down Passes for the Month of February to be used on Mondays ONLY, beginning February 5th unless otherwise noted. Deadline to purchase these passes is January 26th. Passes cannot be purchased after this date- NO EXCEPTIONS. Also, students can receive a pass for recycling 5 ink cartridges or bringing in 50 Box Tops. Clearly label with your child's name and homeroom. Just a reminder the Campbell Soup labels program has ended.



With the Christmas season past, if you have any gently used toys that you would like to donate to the Before and Aftercare Program, please contact Ms. Bennett. Please be sure all parts are in the packaging.



Community Partnership News...Pro-Life Baby Shower –All proceeds will go toward the Project Gabriel sponsored by the Diocese of Providence for young mothers who chose Life for their baby! We will continue to collect items for our annual pro-life baby shower until February Winter Recess. We thank you in advanced for your generosity. Please refer to flyer posted on the school website.

Spring Sports/Volleyball and Soccer...Coaches Needed ~ Anyone interested in coaching any of the spring



sports please notify Mrs. Moschella. Teams are co-ed, therefore we are looking for both male and female coaches. The seasons will begin sometime in April.

There is a mandatory coaches meeting on Feb. 28th for Soccer and March 1st for Volleyball; where more info will be given out. All coaches must have or will need to complete "Play Like a Champion". Also, each must have and up-to-date Safe Environment and BCI clearance.

Registration of teams will be determined if there are enough coaches then sign-up sheets will be posted. Also, just a reminder that all players must be academically eligible and in good standing with their citizenship and Christian values as stated on their report cards.

Sports News...Boys 6th grade basketball team won this past weekend (Saturday, Jan. 6th) playing St. Mary of Mansfield, Massachusetts by the score of 37-14. Their overall record is 3-1.



Previous games were:

Dec. 2nd - St. Rocco 30 vs St. John Evangelist 17

Dec. 3rd - St. Rocco 23 vs St. Mary Mansfield 7

Dec. 17th - St. Rocco 25 vs Mercymount 27

Great teamwork and sportsmanship this year by all the teams. *"Together We Roc"*.

BCI Clearance & Safe Environment Video Training ~ Any parent interested in volunteering for/or at a school event, activity, field trip etc. **MUST** have an up-to-date BCI and **MUST** have viewed the Safe Environment Video. Once you have completed both, you will be cleared for three (3) years. **This is a Diocesan policy.**

For your convenience, the video will be presented on the following dates:

- Monday, January 22nd at 8:15am
- Thursday, January 25th at 8:15am
- Thursday, January 25th at 1:45pm

Just a reminder; it is each parent's responsibility to stay up-to-date on their status. You may contact the School Office or Mrs. Okolowicz if you have any questions.

Saint Rocco School Mission Statement

"Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ"

is the foundation of the St. Rocco School community.

We are dedicated to creating an environment that instills Catholic values and nourishes the development of the whole person.

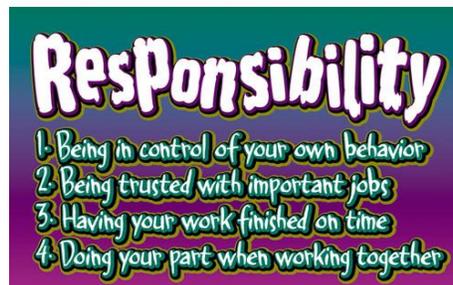
We are committed to excellence in academic standards that prepare students to reach their full potential and meet the global challenges of the future.



ST. ROCCO SCHOOL EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

- Monday, January 15th No School ~ Martin Luther King Day
- Thursday, January 18th Dress Down ~ Gabrielle Project ~ wear **Pink** or **Blue**
- Friday, January 19th Mother /Son Dance 6-9pm ~Pictures start at 5:30pm
- Sunday, January 28th Family Mass 10:00AM
Catholic Schools Week Begins
Open House/Art Exhibit ~11AM-1PM
- Friday, February 2nd Early Dismissal ~ 11:30AM No LUNCH/No Aftercare
- Wednesday, February 7th Dress Down ~ American Heart Assoc. ~ wear **RED**
See details on website
- Friday, February 9th Father /Daughter Dance 6-9pm ~Pictures start at 5:30pm
Deadline for FACTS Grant & Aide Form (Grs. K-8 only)
- Wednesday, February 14th Ash Wednesday Mass 8:45am
- February 19th -23rd Winter Recess
- Saturday, March 10th Annual Winter Gala/Silent Auction 6:30pm
Pawtucket Country Club
- Saturday, March 10th Grade 8 Confirmation Retreat
- Sunday, March 18th Family Mass 10:00AM
Open House ~ State Fair 11AM-1PM

January Virtue of the Month ~ Responsibility



"Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord." Colossians 3:20

CHRIST is the reason for this school.
~in our minds, on our lips, and always in our hearts~