



# ST. JAMES

Elementary School

## Virtue of the Month

### Mercy

God's act of showing compassion, kindness, and forgiveness to people.

*Blessed are the merciful, they shall obtain mercy.*  
Matthew 4:7



## Important Dates

### March

**28th:** End of 3rd Quarter

### April

**7th:** No School

**11th:** Casual for Christ

**18th:** No School (Good Friday)

**21st:** No School (Easter Monday)

**30th:** Early Release @ 1:30pm

## April Mass Schedule

**2nd:** 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

**9th:** Kindergarten

**16th:** 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

**23rd:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

**30th:** NO Mass



## Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Regis Catholic Schools is dedicated to educating students of all faiths in a Catholic, Christ-centered environment. We are united by Our Core Values of *Living Faith*, *Accepting Responsibility*, *Promoting Teamwork*, *Achieving Excellence*, and *Inspiring Leadership*.

## Halo Heroes

Augustus C	Piper B	Everett P
Addison D	Matthew B	Naomi R
Zora S	Memphis G	Oliver W
Jackson L	Graham H	Eli W
Zoey M	Kamri J	
	Ella L	

Our 4K + K students had an exciting opportunity to explore the city's transit system! They rode the city bus, experienced the bus wash, and even practiced loading a bike onto the bus. Along the way, they learned how to request a stop, pay for a ride, and understand the many details of our transit system. We had a fantastic time and are so grateful to the city of Eau Claire for this wonderful experience!

## Important Numbers

### Student Transit (Bus)

715-839-5116

### After School Care

507-259-2135

### St. James Office

715-830-2277



# April Events + Activities

*SJ Families – below is a list of our planned events for April. While not all events may apply to your child, we want to keep you informed about the activities happening across all grade levels. Additional events may be added, so please stay tuned for updates!*

**April 4th: Tuck Everlasting Play @ The Pablo Center (4th and 5th Grade)**

**April 22nd: Beaver Creek Field Trip (2nd Grade)**

**April 22nd: Water Safety Presentation @ SJ (5th Grade)**

**April 22nd: EMS Safety Presentation @ SJ (4th Grade)**

**April 22nd: Earth Day presentation @ SJ (4K, K, 1, 3)**

**April 23rd: Evacuation Drill @ Delong MS. \*More info to come\* (ALL students + staff)**

**April 25th: Finding Nemo Play @ The Pablo Center (4K, K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd)**



# FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE!

REGIS HIGH SCHOOL GYM  
APRIL 26TH, 2025

JOIN US FOR A FATHER-  
DAUGHTER DANCE AT REGIS HIGH  
SCHOOL!

THERE WILL BE SNACKS  
PROVIDED!

AT THE REGIS HIGH SCHOOL GYM  
2PM-5PM

\$10 PER FATHER DAUGHTER DUO

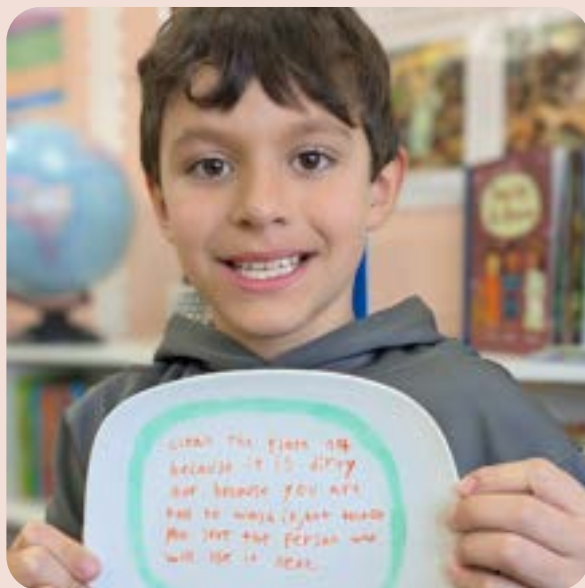
ALL MONEY WILL BE GOING TO ST.  
JUDE'S CHILDREN HOSPITAL FOR  
RILEY JOHNSON'S NHS PROJECT

# Author Visit



# HS Band Visit





Blurbs



## *Principal Blurb*



SJ Families,

How is it already the end of March? Spring always seems to fly by! I hope you and your families had a wonderful Spring Break. I spent our extended break in sunny Florida, where I enjoyed some much-needed rest and relaxation. My husband is a college softball coach, so much of our spring is spent at the ball fields. While the break was refreshing, there's something nice about settling back into routine!

Spring is undoubtedly one of the busiest seasons at Saint James! Between now and the end of the school year, we have an exciting lineup of 12 events (yes 12) planned for our 4K-5th grade students. From field trips and author visits to sports activities and special events @ school, our students and teachers will be engaged in a whirlwind of activities. This is part of what makes St. James so special—the incredible opportunities and enriching experiences we provide truly make a lasting impact on our students.

Our Walk for Virtues fundraiser is in full swing, and I hope your children are feeling excited about it! This event plays a crucial role in our success at SJ. I'm thrilled about the opportunity to make much needed updates to our basement and front office. These improvements wouldn't be possible without the generous support of our families. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for being part of this effort.

I feel incredibly fortunate to spend my days with such kind-hearted and well rounded children. Let me end with a little story—one that truly touched my heart. During the recent 4K/K field trip (pictured above), I mentioned to the students that I had decided to join them. One child looked up at me and asked, "So you can keep us safe? I love you, Mrs. Miller." Yes, my dear—that's exactly why I'm here. Keeping our students safe is my number one priority. May God continue to bless you all!

Hannah Miller



# Pre-school



The month of March has flown by and it's hard to believe we are nearing the end of the school year. This month we completed a fun graphing activity with Kindergarten where we used lucky charm marshmallows in a fun counting and sorting worksheet. We of course had to taste test our marshmallows in the process! We also learned about the changing of the seasons and we are excited to finally be in spring! I hope everyone had a wonderful spring break and we are eager to continue our countdown to Easter!



# Kindergarten

March in the Kindergarten room is the time to learn about Dr. Seuss. He is always a favorite of ours. There is something about a Dr. Seuss book with short easy words and the rhyme that make his books perfect for Kindergarteners to enjoy. In math, we are learning about coins. Weather is always exciting in March and by this time of year; we are using the temperature to compare numbers on our number line. Think Spring!!!!

## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

I'm not quite sure where March went, but here we are, already wrapping up another month as first-graders. At the start of the month, we dove into learning about Lent and explored the significance and meaning of the season. In math, we've been focusing on place value and comparing 2-digit numbers. Our literacy curriculum has us discovering the beauty of our country, as we learn about important landmarks and symbols. Meanwhile, our spelling and reading skills continue to grow as we explore and apply new concepts each week—right now, we're working on silent e and soft c. With Spring officially here, let's hope winter stays away until next year! Happy Spring!



# 2nd Grade

I cannot believe that the third quarter is almost over! That means we have only one more quarter on our 2nd grade journey, and it will be our best one yet!

As 2nd graders, we are working on preparing to become 3rd graders. That means that we will continue to show rockstar behavior by working as a TEAM, following the positive path God wants us to be on, and being fabulous role models for those around us!

We will continue to build our knowledge about the world around us, in Social Studies, Science and in Language! We love the world that God created and we enjoy learning all about it and the many gifts we have been provided with.

Our journey through Lent continues as we take time to reflect on our actions and learn all about ways that we can serve others, give, and new ways to pray. We are also taking time to walk with Saints, learning about those special people who are great teachers in our faith.

What a blessing our 2nd grade journey continues to be! I continue to be both amazed and proud of all the wonderfully, awesome 2nd graders!

Blessings!



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

It's spring! A time for renewal, a time for refresh, and a time for refocus. I love this time of year because we start to take the skills we've learned up to this point on our academic journey and apply it to special projects. We began our novel study of *The Mouse and the Motorcycle* by Beverly Cleary this week. Students have specific jobs each chapter and have already shared how much fun they're having...music to a teacher's ears!

I hope students have shared details of Mother Teresa and St. John Bosco. These are two of the saints we are journeying through Lent with this year. Both are wonderful examples of faith-filled people who served others.

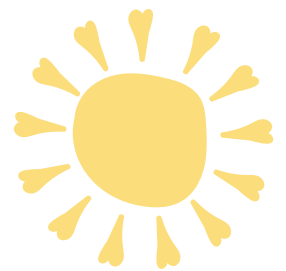
Did you know St. John Bosco is the patron saint of illusionists and magicians? How cool is that? Oh, what a great deal we are learning about those who came before us!

Am I being optimistic when I say spring weather is upon us? I know the students are looking forward to getting back outside for morning recess time. In no time at all, we'll be heading out without coats! Until then, cherish this time of transition.



# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

A team from our class won the Battle of the Books! I am so proud of all the students who invested their time and energy into reading for this event. It was fun to go to St. Mary's and watch the competition. We have been working on fractions in math and will be learning about adding and subtracting fractions next. We are reading from the novel *The One and Only Ivan*. Our mass day, Ash Wednesday, was cancelled due to a snow storm. We were disappointed. We are looking forward to seeing the play *Tuck Everlasting* on April 4, 2025. We are reading the story first. We are excited for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and morning recess.





# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Happy Spring! This month has been so productive and meaningful. We are working hard to become better readers and working to use all of our skills and strategies to fully comprehend what we are reading. We are also finishing up our unit on multiplying fractions and are taking some time to review and prepare for the Forward Exam that we will be taking next week. We will be creating pamphlets using what we have learned about Lent. I hope you all had an enjoyable spring break and I look forward to seeing what fourth quarter has in store.

## Music

March was "Music in our Schools Month". We read *Giraffes Can't Dance* and explored different types of dances. Grades K-2 worked on reading and writing rhythms and singing on pitch. Grade 2 worked on singing and playing music using a pentatonic scale. Grade 3 worked on the instruments of the orchestra and will be creating their own instrument. Grade 4 is finishing recorder karate and playing various songs on the recorder using ECABC'D. Grade 5 worked on playing simple melodies on the piano and learned about the white and black notes on the piano. Band students should be working on practicing their first 6 notes on their instrument and practicing at least an hour each week. In music, all students learned "The Lent Song" and are learning to sing in a round. The melody is familiar but the words teach us about Lent. Ask them to sing it for you!

# Physical Education

**Happy Spring!** We are paddling our way through April. We are using equipment as an extension of our body such as racket and paddle activities. We are learning the basic fundamental rules of pickleball and badminton. These are life-long activities that students can do beyond their school years. One of my focuses in physical education is staying active and healthy. The following are some benefits of being active: regular exercise provides strong muscles and bones, weight control, decreases the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, better sleep and a better outlook on life. Studies have shown that physically active kids are more likely to be academically motivated, alert, and successful. Thank you for keeping your children active and healthy!

**\*Students used teamwork during our river crossing activity!\***





# Art

Art with Miss LaRose - hlarose@regiscatholicschools.com

April is our final month of big messes in the art room! We have many very fun projects planned during this month and I'm most looking forward to finishing up clay with every grade. 4th grade has started working on their Gnome Home sculpture project and I thank everyone who sent in recycled material to help us achieve various artistic goals while making use of otherwise discarded items. I'm also excited to see what K, 1, and 5 make for their clay projects. All of the grades who will be making a clay project during April will be using acrylic paint. Please make sure art shirts are available at school for your artist(s).

<https://www.artsonia.com/>

Thank you for your continued use of Artsonia to view and comment on student artwork. Artsonia will soon be running a Mother's Day sale in their gift shop for May so if you are interested in gift shop items please look forward to the promo code. As always, Artsonia remains completely free to use as a student online portfolio. Any purchases through the site generate a 20% donation to the art room and are appreciated. Currently, I am saving Artsonia funds to purchase some extra ceramic glaze colors in all three schools. Students are excited to use glazes for ceramics in pink, blue tones, and teal.

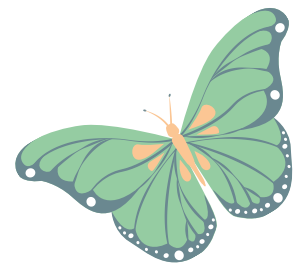
# Library

The St. James Library is a great place for entertainment and information! Pre-k through Second grade students have wrapped up their Folktale unit, ending with some silly "Fractured Fairytale" stories that put a spin on the classic tales. Next, we will enjoy some Author Spotlights to learn about popular children's book authors. Third through Fifth graders have been working on expressing their opinions about the best children's author and best children's book/series. Make sure to ask them about their opinion to hear their reasoning and examples! In upcoming weeks, students will continue learning about library resources and how to find good sources for research.





# Spanish



## March/Marzo

I hope you have all been staying warm. February was a good month with the continued return of our grade level number timings. As we have gotten into March some grade levels are becoming quite competitive. In March we will continue to review family vocabulary, calendar vocabulary and enjoy our calendar songs. Grades 4-5 will be introduced to some subject pronouns. The Spanish alphabet will be learned in Grade 2 and reviewed in the higher grades. Rainbow behavior rewards continue to be educational games for K-1. In Grades 2-5 it will be watching an animated, Spanish country related, movie. The movies rotate each year for all grades 2-5. This year's movie is "The Emperor's New Groove" which is a silly movie about an Incan monarch who is changed into a llama. It is set in Peru and the Andes Mountains. Each time a reward is earned the class watches 20-25 minutes of the movie, listening in Spanish with subtitles in English. (Or listening in English with subtitles in Spanish for the younger grades.) Each time they earn a reward they watch an additional 20-25 minutes. Our goal is to complete it by the end of the school year. We enjoyed "Jesus Loves Me" in Spanish in February with sign language. "Baby Shark", Spanish valentine edition, was also enjoyed in the younger grades. Dr. Jean songs with months and days of the week will continue to be learned or reviewed. Another by Jack Hartman will be enjoyed. Señor Hodge has a fun month version he video tapes with his students. Gr. 2-5 will enjoy a couple alphabet songs by other artists. Stay warm and don't forget to check the resources I have placed on this microsite. <https://www.regiscatholicschools.com/staff/lynne-larabee/parent-resources/> ;  
<https://www.regiscatholicschools.com/staff/lynne-larabee/work-for-the-week/>

# WALK FOR VIRTUES



WFV is underway! This year, the funds we raise will go toward purchasing new school lunch tables, updating office flooring, and adding an outdoor shed to store our recess equipment.

Our students love getting involved in the WFV fundraiser, and there are many exciting prizes to motivate them along the way. A prize sheet is located in your child's envelope.

We're thrilled to work together toward our school-wide goal of \$12,000! We encourage you to support and inspire your child to participate.

**ENVELOPES DUE  
MAY 9TH, 2025**





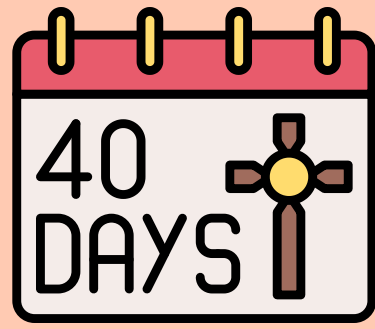
## **Tuition Assistance is Available!**

The 25-26 RCS scholarships are due to your school's office by **Tuesday, April 1st** - unless otherwise stated.

All students applying for scholarships must be registered to attend Regis Catholic Schools during the 2025-26 school year and have any required service hours completed and submitted to the school office.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Christi Paul, Regis School Counselor, at [cpaul@RegisCatholicSchools.com](mailto:cpaul@RegisCatholicSchools.com).

[2025-26 RCS Scholarship Booklet \(Current Grades PK-11\)](#)  
[2025-26 RCS Scholarship Application \(Entering Grades 9-12\)](#)



# Family Lent Calendar

Regis Catholic Schools



## Family Lent Calendar 2025

= a day of fasting and abstinence from meat = a day of abstinence from meat.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March			5 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Go to Mass and receive the cross of ashes.	6 Help children choose simple, but meaningful penances.	7 Make a Lenten home altar. Decorate a table with purple cloth, a Bible, Crucifix, and candles.	8 Bury the "Alleluia." Write the word "Halleluia" on a piece of paper, put it in a bag, and bury it in the yard. "Resurrect" it at Easter.
9 Stay after Mass to pray for a spiritually fruitful Lent.	10 Set out an empty jar and fill it with loose change. When it's full, empty it into the poor box.	11 Tonight, go around the table, and have everyone offer a compliment to the person on their right.	12 Enjoy pretzels — a traditional Lenten snack. The crossed "arms" reminded monks of someone at prayer.	13 Use only kind words to everyone you encounter today.	14 Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy together. Find it here: <a href="http://www.usccb.org/prayers">www.usccb.org/prayers</a> .	15 Email the parish office and ask if there are any upcoming events that need your family's help.
16 After Mass, light a candle for those who have no one else to pray for them.	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Offer extra prayers for those who sacrifice to spread the Gospel.	18 Practice patience — a true act of charity.	19 <i>St. Joseph's Day</i> Happy Solemnity! Entrust fathers (including priests) to St. Joseph's care.	20 Agree that each person should perform an extra chore today, and offer the effort for the souls in Purgatory.	21 Attend a parish meatless meal together.	22 Before bed, pray an Our Father, a Hail Mary, and a Glory Be together for everyone's prayer intentions.
23 After Mass, explain Father's homily in terms children can understand.	24 Encourage children to give up a favorite toy or game, just for today, just for God.	25 <i>The Annunciation</i> We celebrate Mary's "Yes!" to God. Pray three Hail Marys to ask for help to be faithful to God's plan.	26 Get up 15 minutes early to pray as a family.	27 Check out Catholic Relief Services and see if you can help support any of their projects at: <a href="https://www.crs.org">https://www.crs.org</a> .	28 <i>Family Night</i> Turn off the TV and phone screens. Relax, order pizza and play board games.	29 Give up an hour of screen time tonight (no phones, either!) and spend it in prayer, reading Scripture, or doing a family activity.
30 <i>Laetare Sunday</i> It's the halfway point of Lent. Have a special dessert after Mass to celebrate.	31 Encourage everyone to refresh their Lenten resolutions.	1 <i>April</i> Each day remaining in Lent, put a jellybean in a jar whenever someone does a good deed. Enjoy the results at Easter!	2 Go to Confession together and experience God's mercy. Have a treat afterward to celebrate.	3 Put out a box for gently used clothes that are no longer needed. When it's full, take it to a shelter or thrift store.	4 Pray the Stations of the Cross or visit the Blessed Sacrament together to console Jesus' Sacred Heart.	5 Pray a Rosary together, in honor of Mary's Immaculate Heart.
6 Read today's Gospel (John 8:1-11), and talk about Jesus' important message.	7 At dinner, have everyone name two blessings for which they are thankful and something they'd like to improve.	8 Holy Week and Easter are busy times for parishes. Offer prayers for the priests and parish staff.	9 Read Luke 22:39-46. Talk about the need to trust God when doing His will is difficult.	10 Go for a walk together and look for signs of Spring.	11 To prepare for Holy Week, set a family screen fast from 12:00pm to 3:00pm, the time Jesus hung on the Cross.	12 The King is coming! Tidy up the house to welcome Him.
13 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Place palms around the images of Jesus in your home to mark the start of Holy Week.	14 Offer extra prayers for those entering the Church at Easter.	15 At dinner, share one way God showed His love to each of you today.	16 Forgive someone who hurt you. Ask forgiveness of anyone you may have hurt.	17 <i>Holy Thursday</i> Read John 13:1-11. What would you say if Jesus offered to wash your feet?	18 <i>Good Friday</i> Pray the Stations of the Cross at church or at home. Thank Jesus for His sacrifice of love.	19 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Light a candle and renew your baptismal vows together as a family.

# APRIL LUNCH MENU

APRIL 2025

Regis Elementary School Meals  
Grab N' Go Breakfast and Lunch



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>Grab n Go</b> 1 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Beef Nacho Bar Lettuce/Tomato/Salsa Black Bean Salad Mixed Fruit/Orange Wedges	<b>Grab n Go</b> 2 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Pizza Hut Pizza Cheese or Pepperoni Tossed Green Salad Cherry Tomatoes/Green Peas Chilled Peaches/Fresh Apple	<b>Grab n Go</b> 3 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Chicken Smackers Baked Beans Cucumber Slices Cantaloupe Wedges/ Chilled Pears	<b>Grab n Go</b> 4 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Mac & Cheese w/ Breadstick Whole Kernel Corn Baby Carrots Seedless Grapes/Pineapple Tidbits
NO SCHOOL 7	<b>Grab n Go</b> 8 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Chicken Patty on a Bun Sweet Potato Fries Steamed Carrots Banana/Chilled Peaches	<b>Grab n Go</b> 9 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Pizza Hut Pizza Cheese or Pepperoni Tossed Salad Broccoli/Cauliflower Mixed Fruit/Orange Wedges	<b>Grab n Go</b> 10 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Chicken Nuggets Baked Potato Wedges Green Peas/Baby Carrots Mandarin Oranges/Kiwi	<b>Grab n Go</b> 11 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Mozzarella Dippers w/ Pizza Sauce Salsa/Whole Kernel Corn Green Beans Chilled Pears/Fresh Apple
<b>Grab n Go</b> 14 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Cheesburger on a Bun Whipped Potatoes Cherry Tomatoes Mixed Fruit/Orange Wedge	<b>Grab n Go</b> 15 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Beef Hard Shell Tacos Lettuce/Tomato/Salsa Refried Beans/Spanish Rice Chilled Pears/Fresh Apple	<b>Grab n Go</b> 16 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Pizza Hut Pizza Cheese or Pepperoni Tossed Salad Carrots & Celery Sticks Chilled Peaches/Melon Wedges	<b>Grab n Go</b> 17 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Baked Mini Corn Dogs Green Beans Broccoli Pineapple Tidbits/Fresh Apple	NO SCHOOL 18
NO SCHOOL 21	<b>Grab n Go</b> 22 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Cheese Quesadilla Baked Seasoned Fries Green Beans/Baby Carrots Grapes/Chilled Applesauce	<b>Grab n Go</b> 23 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Pizza Hut Pizza Cheese or Pepperoni Tossed Salad/Celery Sticks Chilled Peaches Orange Wedge	<b>Grab n Go</b> 24 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Sausage, Egg and Cheese on a Bun Baked Tator Tots Tossed Salad/Cucumber Slices Kiwi/Strawberries	<b>Grab n Go</b> 25 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Fish Sticks Whole Kernel Corn Sweet Potato Fries Mixed Fruit/Fresh Apple
<b>Grab n Go</b> 28 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Mozzarella Dippers w/ Pizza Sauce Tossed Salad Celery Sticks/Tomatoes Chilled Pears/Warm Apple Slices	<b>Grab n Go</b> 29 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *Beef Walking Taco Lettuce/Tomato/Cheese/Salsa Seasoned Refried Beans Cucumber Slices Mandarin Oranges/Banana	<b>Grab n Go</b> 30 *Cereal Bowls or Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit <b>Lunch</b> *BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich Baked Seasoned Fries Baby Carrots Applesauce/Orange Wedge		

\*Milk is offered with all meals & includes a choice of Skim or Chocolate.\*

Director of Food Service: Alexis Toledo - 715-830-2276 ext. 2005

or email at [atoledo@regiscatholicschools.com](mailto:atoledo@regiscatholicschools.com)



## Thoughtful Moments

### St. Catherine of Siena

Born in 1347, St. Catherine of Siena experienced divine visions from a young age. Rejecting marriage over her mother's objections, she joined the Third Order of St. Dominic and embraced a life of poverty, prayer, and charity. Known for her wisdom, she became a sought-after advisor and peacemaker. Her theological contributions and spiritual writings earned her the title of Doctor of the Church, recognizing her lasting influence on Catholic doctrine and devotion.



### PACT — prayers on the go

If you have just a few minutes to pray as a family, focus on the four essential forms of prayer: Petition, Adoration, Contrition, and Thanksgiving. Entrust all your concerns to God, reflect on His goodness and love, seek His forgiveness in areas where you have fallen short, and express gratitude for His many gifts — especially His mercy. Amen!

*"In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" (John 16:33).*



## Sunday Mass: a sacred invitation – will you accept?

If a friend invited your family to dinner and told you Jesus would be there, wouldn't you do whatever it took to attend, knowing the immeasurable blessing of being in His presence? Each time Mass is celebrated, Jesus is truly present. Do whatever it takes to attend every Sunday Mass so your family is blessed by:

**Nourishment for the Soul** – Just as parents ensure their children eat well to grow strong and healthy, Jesus provides the spiritual food we need to strengthen our souls. The Eucharist is not just symbolic; it sustains and transforms us.

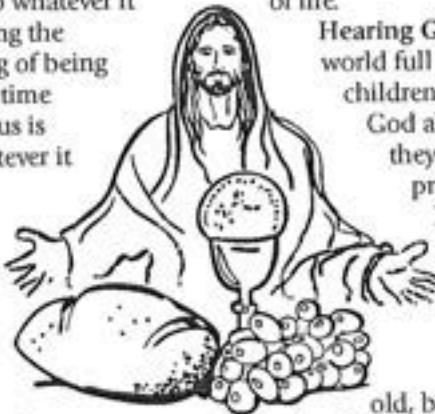
**Obedience to God** – He explicitly calls us to keep the Sabbath holy. Bringing children to Mass teaches them

to prioritize God's law, reinforcing the importance of obedience in all aspects of life.

**Hearing God's Word** – In a world full of distractions, children must learn to listen to God above all else. At Mass, they hear Scripture proclaimed, forming a habit of recognizing and responding to His voice.

**Belonging to a family** – Every Catholic, young and old, belongs to God's family, the Church. *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them"* (Matthew 18:20). Children bless others simply by being active members.

Regular Mass attendance isn't just a duty—it's a gift that helps children become spiritually strong.



### Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics commemorate Palm Sunday?

Catholics observe Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, recalling Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Crowds honored Him with palm branches, shouting "Hosanna!" During Mass, we receive blessed palms, symbolizing victory and the



fleeting nature of human praise. The liturgy includes the reading of Christ's Passion, shifting from joy to solemnity, preparing us for His suffering and sacrifice.

This day calls for solemn and thoughtful preparation for the most solemn week of the year and the joy of Easter.

## Make Easter joy last all year

Easter joy isn't meant for just one morning—it's meant to be lived every Sunday. As Pope John Paul II reminded us, "Sunday recalls the day of Christ's Resurrection. It is Easter which returns week by week, celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death" (*Dies Domini*). Keep that joy alive by making every Sunday a "little Easter."

Joy follows sacrifice. Just as darkness precedes the dawn, atonement for sin prepares us to fully experience Easter's triumph. Make Fridays penitential in your home—share meatless meals, fast from entertainment,

go to Confession, serve others through acts of charity.

Rejoice in second chances. Jesus knows our good intentions don't always hold, so He gave us the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Go as a family at least once a month. When children see you seeking God's mercy, they'll know it's there for them too.

Immerse yourself in the Mass. It's not meant to be observed but lived. Read the Scriptures beforehand, sing wholeheartedly, and pray with intention. Celebrate the Resurrection with true joy.



### Scripture LESSON

#### John 20:19-31, Mercy triumphs over doubt

Poor Thomas! Despite his years of faithful discipleship, he will forever be known as "the Doubter." Even after witnessing Jesus' miracles firsthand for several years, he struggled to believe in the Resurrection. Not even the testimony of multiple eyewitnesses could convince him that his Lord had returned.

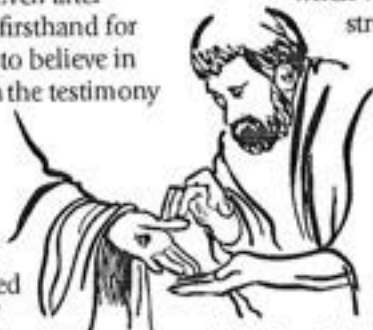
Yet Jesus, in His mercy, met Thomas in his doubt. A week later, Jesus appeared to him, offering the proof Thomas needed—even inviting him to touch His wounds. Thomas hesitated, but when confronted with the Truth, he embraced it.

*What can a parent do? Remind*

children that God is not troubled by our questions or doubts, especially when we say, "I'm

struggling—please help me." As we grow in faith, we will encounter ideas that challenge or confuse us. In those moments, we can turn to God in prayer and seek wisdom in the teachings of the

Church, guided by the Holy Spirit. St. Thomas' journey of doubt ultimately led him into deeper intimacy with Christ. The same can be true for us—if we are willing to seek and trust.



### Feasts & Celebrations

**April 7 – St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle (1719).** St. John was born at Rheims, France, to a noble family, and was ordained a priest in 1678. He taught groups of poor and rich children together – which was unusual for that time. He formed the Brothers of the Christian School, a successful community of educators.

**April 13 – Palm Sunday.** This Sunday recalls Jesus' entry into Jerusalem when He was greeted by crowds waving palms. It marks the beginning of Holy Week.

**April 23 – St. Adalbert of Prague**

(997). St. Adalbert was bishop of Prague, but his evangelizing activities earned him enemies and he was forced to leave. He was later invited by the Duke of Poland to evangelize Pomerania and Hungary and was martyred.

**April 28 – St. Peter Chanel (1841).** St. Peter Chanel entered the Society of Mary and was sent to evangelize the Marshall Islands. He baptized a few natives, including the chieftain's son. The entire island converted two years after his martyrdom.



### Parent TALK

For more than a week, Tessa came home upset about the environment in her classroom. The way Tessa told it, the teacher had little control over the class, nor any idea of what the kids were up to when her back was turned. When it continued into the next week, I decided to

email the teacher to tell her I wasn't happy.

As I started typing, I realized I wasn't being fair. What if Tessa wasn't giving me the whole story? Shouldn't I be helpful rather than critical?

My email instead asked for a meeting and the teacher responded immediately. When we met, she acknowledged that there were issues in class but detailed the excellent steps she was taking to get on top of them. Further, she had suggestions for how I could support her at home.

This experience convinced me to be a partner rather than a critic.

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