

SSJ School News

October 13, 2022 — Issue #8



— Saints Simon and Jude Mission Statement —

Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary we at Saints Simon and Jude School, commit ourselves to learning, proclaiming and living the Good News of Jesus Christ. We strive to educate and develop all for Catholic leadership in the church and community, enabling one another to serve with Compassion, Courage and Competence.

Letter from Sister Regina

This Saturday, October 15, will be Camilla Hall's Octoberfest and Craft Fair from 10:00AM-3:00PM. Camilla Hall is the nursing/retirement home of the IHM Sisters. It is located at 100 Maxis Drive, Malvern. Immaculata University is next to Camilla Hall. There will be baked goods, food, prizes, crafts, children's games, and a large white elephant sale. It is a fun day for all! All are welcome!

This Sunday is Family, Faith and Fun Day. The children preparing to receive the sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion or Confirmation are required to participate with a parent/s. Children and parents are encouraged to attend the 11:30AM Mass and stay for the presentation following Mass or come at 4:30PM for the presentation and attend the 6:00PM Mass. Jesus tells His apostles, "Let the children come to Me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." (Mt. 19:14). It is truly a joy to see the responsibility that parents, the primary and first educators of their children, fulfill in bringing their child/ren, to Jesus. You truly accompany your children on their faith journey when you attend Mass, pray with them and model good Christian values. I know it will be an informative, enjoyable day for our children and their parents. Robert Francis Shop will be set-up with many religious items for purchase.

May God bless you and your families.

Sister Regina

New Information & Reminders

WELCOME!

Please join us in welcoming Mrs. Kathleen Heraghty to our Saints Simon and Jude Family. Mrs. Heraghty will be a new administrative assistant. She will begin on Monday, October 17. Her email will be kheraghty@simonandjude.org. We look forward to all she will share with our SSJ family.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Monday, October 31 for preschool through grade 8. This is a holiday for all students. The Sign-up Genius will be live on Thursday, October 20 at 7:00PM. Teachers may also post days/times other than 10/31 to provide additional opportunities to conference.

WALK-A-THON

Friday, October 21 will be our annual SSJ Walk-a-Thon beginning at 1:00PM. The children may wear their gym uniform or logo wear. We hope many of you will join us to cheer us on as we participate in this annual event. More information about our Walk-a-Thon fundraising is detailed below.

PRETZEL ORDER REMINDER

Please [click here](#) to order pretzels for the months of November and December. All orders are due by Thursday, October 20. Payment for pretzels must be made using your FACTS account. Checks and cash are no longer accepted. You must submit the online form in addition to depositing money in FACTS. If you have any questions, please contact the school office at 610-696-5249 or fprando@simonandjude.org.

SSJ GRANDPARENTS DAY

SSJ's Grandparents Day is on Tuesday, November 22! [Click here](#) for an invitation with more details and [click here](#) to RSVP for your child/ren's grandparent(s)/VIP. We look forward to welcoming everyone in person for this longtime SSJ tradition!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

We are happy to begin our annual food collection for Thanksgiving. [Click here](#) for your student(s)'s suggested donation.

ANNIE KIDS T-SHIRTS

Annie KIDS t-shirts are now on sale for all students, faculty, and staff. If you purchase a t-shirt, it may be worn with your school uniform on Friday, November 18 which is the dress rehearsal. [Click here](#) for an order form.

JOIN GIRL SCOUTS

Interested in having fun with friends, going on adventures, and making a difference? Join SSJ Girl Scouts! Girls in kindergarten to grade 5 are invited to learn more about Girl Scouts on Monday, November 7 at 7PM in the school cafeteria. [Click here](#) for more details.

HALLOWEEN BASKET OF FUN

Student Council is sponsoring a Halloween basket raffle. The basket is full of fun Halloween items, such as candy, trick or treat bags, pumpkin carving kit, decorations, etc. Raffle tickets will be sold during recess. The sale will begin on Tuesday, October 18 and go through Wednesday, October 26. The winning ticket will be chosen at morning assembly on Thursday, October 27. Tickets cost 3/\$1 or 50 cents each. Proceeds will benefit the SSJ student activities.

FAMILY PUMPKIN DECORATING/CARVING

It's that time of the year to decorate a pumpkin to be displayed in the SSJ hallways! We invite all families to decorate or carve a pumpkin. All pumpkins need to be delivered to the cafeteria on the morning of Tuesday, October 25. As Student Council registers the pumpkin, please include your family name along with the children's names and homeroom numbers. All students will be invited to view the pumpkins on Wednesday, October 26. This year there will be two separate categories, one for decorated and one for carved. Student Council officers will vote on the best decorated and carved pumpkins. One pumpkin per family, please! All pumpkins will be sent home on Friday, October 28. We cannot wait to see the creativity again this year!

CYO BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2022-2023 SSJ CYO Basketball Season is now open! [Click here](#) for all the details.

BSHS OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

Bishop Shanahan High School looks forward to hosting an Outdoor Movie Night featuring "Ghostbusters" (1984) on Monday, October 24 at 7 PM. Admission is free! Popcorn and hot chocolate will be available for sale.

MERION MERCY PERFORMANCE

Merion Mercy Music Theater (MMMT) presents their fall show, Peter and the Starcatcher. Showtimes are 7 p.m. on Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 6. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students K-12. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets.

From SSJ's Home & School Association

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE REMINDER

The HSA would like to remind you that the first SSJ raffle is coming up this month. You can purchase raffle tickets at any time throughout the school year, but if you would like to increase your chances of winning the \$250 cash prize by being included in the maximum amount of drawings, make sure to purchase your tickets this week. Drawings will take place twice a month. We decided to push the first drawing back a week to October 21st to allow families more time to purchase tickets. Raffle tickets are \$50 each. All proceeds will go to the Home & School Association to help fund things like buses for field trips, classroom supplies, homeroom holiday parties, teacher gifts and lunches, and even equipment such as smartboards. This is our largest general fundraiser of the year and provides the money needed for many of our activities. If you would like to purchase a ticket, [click here](#) or return the tickets that were sent home with your youngest SSJ student in September. Please feel free to share this link with grandparents, aunts, uncles, or anyone else who may want to help support SSJ while having a chance to win! However, make sure they note your child/ren's name(s) in the notes section at checkout.

DINE & DONATE

SSJ has two Dine and Donate dates coming up. The first is at Chick-Fil-A in Concord Township on Monday, October 17th. [Click here](#) for an event flyer. Please note, mobile orders DO NOT count for this fundraiser. It has to be in the store or through the drive-thru only and mention SSJ Spirit Day to the cashier when checking out. The second Dine and Donate is at Pica's West Chester on Wednesday, November 9th. Everyone must mention they are participating in the fundraiser for SSJ when ordering prior to payment.

SCRIP

SCRIP is a way for SSJ families to raise money for the school and save money on their tuition. Please note, SSJ's enrollment code is 34C97CB26653. With SCRIP fundraising, you raise money by using gift cards instead of cash or credit to pay for everyday purchases like groceries, gas, dining out, even your family's summer vacation. [Click here](#) for more information and a link to register for the program.

WALK-A-THON

We've already raised over \$8,700 toward our \$15,000 goal in just one week using a new online platform! SSJ's Annual Walk-a-Thon will be on Friday, October 21st at 1 PM! The online platform is helping us reach more people using email and social media! Each student has a personal donation page that can be shared with family and friends. Parents/guardians, you should have received an email with a link to your child/ren's page/s on 10/5. If you didn't receive the email, check your spam folder. If it's not there, email Jenn Appaneal at advancement@simonandjude.org.

What will proceeds from the Walk-a-Thon support?

We have "A Bright Idea"! Proceeds will help the school upgrade our Cafeteria lighting with brighter, energy efficient LED lighting.

Are there prizes and incentives for students?

- Every student who raises \$50 wins a dress down day card AND additional cards will be awarded for every \$50 raised.
- The top 3 students in each class will win a dress down day card.
- All classrooms that have 100% participation will earn an extra recess period.
- The classroom that collectively raises the highest monetary donation per student will earn a pizza party.
- The top 20 families who raise the most funds will be entered into a raffle to win a SPECIAL PRIZE!
- The Top Individual Fundraiser will also win a GREAT AWARD!

SAVE THE DATE

Trunk or Treat, 10/28, 6-7:30 PM, park by 5:30 PM

Repeated Information

MISSIONS

Every Wednesday is Mission Wednesday. All of the mission money collected is donated to the Missionary Childhood Association [MCA]. Its purpose is to encourage all children to be aware of the needs of children living in mission dioceses through the world and to support them both spiritually and sacrificially. MCA is in 110 countries and helps make Jesus known to children all over the world. Under the slogan, "children helping children", monies raised through schools are directed towards self-help programs involving the building of schools; assistance with health and nutrition programs; and medications, school fees, and teaching and learning resources. Mission Wednesdays will continue through the rest of the school year. Please be generous.

ANGEL TREE 2022

Saints Simon and Jude will once again participate in the Angel Tree program, providing gifts for less fortunate children in the Delaware Valley. This year, the charity will be administered by You Give Goods and will continue to be a virtual giving event out of an abundance of caution for the safety of everyone. Just as last year, you will not need to shop at stores, wrap gifts and deliver them to the church. You will be able to shop on line, from the comfort of your home, from our special website, <https://yougivegoods.com/ss-simonandjude-2022> which will be open from October 1st through December 2nd. I am happy to answer any questions you may have. You can call, text or email me at 484-995-2319 or cindymoribondo@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity. Much love and gratitude, Cindy Moribondo

High School Admissions

VILLA MARIA ADMISSIONS

Villa Maria HS will be offering their 8th Grade Scholarship-Entrance Exam on Sunday, October 16th and Saturday, October 22nd. [Click here](#) for more information and to register for the exam.

MERION MERCY ADMISSIONS

There's still time to register for these fall admissions events at Merion Mercy Academy!

- Scholarship & Entrance Exam for 8th grade girls: Saturday, October 15 or Saturday, October 22 (parent tour offered during test times)
- 8th Grade Visit Days: October – December
- Twilight Tour: Wednesday, October 19, 4-6 p.m. (open to students and their families)
- Meet Merion Monday parent visit experience: October 10, November 7, or December 5

Please go to our website's [Visit Merion page](#) for more information and we hope to see you soon!

BISHOP SHANAHAN ADMISSIONS

Choosing a high school for your child is an important decision and the process can seem daunting. We want to help! [Click here](#) for information on Bishop Shanahan High School admission events.

SALESIANUM SCHOOL ADMISSIONS EVENTS

Salesianum School is having a Fall Fest event for middle school students at Abessinio Stadium on October 15th from 11 AM-1 PM. [Click here](#) to register for the Fall Fest. The Salesianum entrance exam is offered on October 29th and October 30th. For all admissions information, [click here](#) to visit Salesianum's website.

SACRED HEART ADMISSIONS

[Click here](#) for admissions information on the Sacred Heart Academy website.

ST JOE'S PREP ADMISSIONS

[Click here](#) for admissions information on the St. Joseph's Preparatory School website.

ARCHMERE ACADEMY ADMISSIONS

[Click here](#) for admissions information on the Archmere Academy website.

Prayer Requests

- For Mrs. Kathi Clapham, CARES and Theater Director, who is ill. May Christ's healing hand grant her a complete and speedy recovery.
- For Mrs. Lori Colgan, mother of Jimmy (room 18), who is ill. May Christ's healing hand give her comfort and strength.
- For Joe Daly, uncle of Mrs. Farrell (room 14) and Connal (room 16), who is ill. May Christ's healing hand comfort him and restore him to good health.
- For Mr. Ron Avellino (SSJ business manager), grandfather of C. J. Mulvena (room 8), who is recovering from surgery. May Christ's healing hand grant him a complete and speedy recovery.
- For Mrs. Renee Wade, mother of Brian (room 18), who is recovering from surgery. May Christ's healing hand grant her a complete and speedy recovery.
- For Mrs. Jessica Disimile, mother of Izzy (room 16) and Sophia (Class of 2022), who is ill. May Christ's healing hand strengthen her and grant her a complete recovery.
- For Mrs. Nicole DiDomenico, mother of Tyler (room 6) and Nolan Leonhard (room 3), who is ill. May Christ's healing hand comfort her and grant her a complete recovery.
- For Mr. Louis Gentry, father of Sister Barbara Jude, who is ill. May Christ's healing hand grant him a complete recovery.

We are happy to pray for the needs of our school family. If any family has a prayer request please send it to srelinich@simonandjude.org.

Glimpse at the Days Ahead

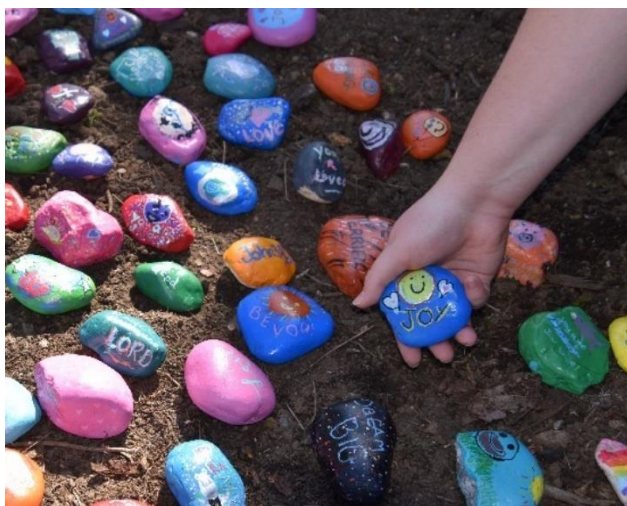
10/10-10/14	Merit Award Dress Down Week
10/15	8 th Grade Game Night, 5 PM Mass, 6 PM Games
10/16	Family, Faith, and Fun Day for Penance, First Communion & Confirmation Candidates & Parents Annie Rehearsal, 2-4 PM
10/17	Chick-Fil-A Spirit Day, Concord Township, Glen Mills Home & School Association Officers Meeting, 7 PM
10/20	Progress Reports Pretzel Forms Due
10/21	Walk-a-Thon, 1 PM

Go Phillies!

Friday, October 14 is another Phillies accessories day (with uniform)! Show your team spirit!



Blessing of the Kindness Rocks



It was a beautiful day for our Peace Committee's "Blessing of the Kindness Rocks" on Sacred Heart Hill. When members of our community go to the Jesus statue to pray, they are welcome to take a rock to help inspire them, share one, or leave a rock they have created. Special thanks to our Peace Committee members, Mrs. Coulter, and Mrs. Leicht, for all your hard work on this worthwhile project.

Congratulations September Peacemakers



During the month of September, our peacemakers of the month promoted friendship in their classrooms by imitating Saint Raphael. Saint Raphael is one of the archangels. Many people turn to this beloved archangel in prayer, invoking St. Raphael as a patron saint of “happy meetings”. This angel is also asked for his intercession to help people to find good friends. This is based on his biblical appearance in the Old Testament book of Tobit and the events that transpire in this book for Tobias and Sarah. The name Raphael in Hebrew can mean “God heals,” “Divine Healer,” or “Remedy of God.” St. Raphael the Archangel is also known in the Catholic Church as a patron saint for travelers, and a patron saint of healing. His feast day is September 29.

Our peacemakers of the month strived to be just like Saint Raphael and were a friend to everyone in the school community.

Row 1: Maeve Simpson, Joey Cleary, Stella Tobin, AJ Cloeter, Alexandra McCarthy, Declan Muldowney, Felicity Barclay

Row 2: Mia Miley, Max Cloeter, Hedwynn Bitegeko, William Buckley, Abigail Lammert

Row 3: Hailey Mitchell, Liam Donohue, Cole Joyce, Riley Mears

Row 4: Brian Wade, Caroline Norton