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St. Joseph Parish School

Parent Newsletter: September 21, 2025

www.stjosephwaipahu.org



September 21, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We had a wonderful week of celebrations!

On Thursday, September 18th, Nursing students from Chaminade University did an outstanding job sponsoring a Health Fair. Under the direction of Mrs. Haylee Carlson, the students visited several classrooms to share presentations on the following topics: Health Hygiene, Oral Health, Sleep Hygiene, Coping with Stress, Healthy Habits, and Injury Prevention. See page 5 for great pictures of these engaging presentations.

On Friday, September 19th, our community gathered for a beautiful celebration that began with our school Mass. In his homily, our Pastor, Father Eric, MS, spoke about the apparition of Our Lady of La Salette in France and the message she shared to two children, Maximin and Melanie. He challenged our students to dedicate more time each day to prayer, to attend Mass and focus on Jesus, and to spread to the world Our Lady of La Salette's message of the Reconciling Love of Jesus. Father reminded us that when we show love and kindness to others, we are sharing the message of Our Lady of La Salette.

After Mass, everyone offered flowers to Our Lady of La Salette while praying their special intentions.

Let us continue to make prayer an important part of our homes and school, and to share Our Lady of La Salette's message of Reconciliation. May we all strive to be kind and loving—especially to those who may be challenging at times. We ask Our Lady of La Salette to guide us and give us the courage to be true disciples of Jesus. Have a blessed week!

Sincerely in Jesus Christ,

Ms. Sandobal Principal





Pastor's Reflection:

25TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME, Cycle C Amos 8:4-7 / Timothy 2:1-8 / Luke 16:1-13

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace be with you! How do you perceive wealth and financial resources in your life? Do you view money as a tool for service, or do you find yourself ensnared by its allure?

In our daily existence, the impact of money is profound, shaping our decisions, determining our priorities, and even influencing our relationships. It is essential to evaluate how our attitudes toward wealth align with our faithfulness.

In the First Reading from Book of Amos 8:4-7, we confront the stark reality of economic injustice. The prophet Amos calls out those who exploit the vulnerable for profit, highlighting a societal tendency to prioritize wealth over integrity. In our contemporary world, we are often pressured to chase after financial success at the expense of ethical conduct.

This passage serves as a warning against harboring a heart that disdains the less fortunate, reminding us that God observes our dealings with one another and is particularly concerned about how we treat the marginalized.

In the Second Reading, from the First Letter to Timothy 2:1-8, we are urged to pray for all people so that we may live peaceful and godly lives. This call to intercede for others can be extended to our financial practices as well.

When we think of money matters, how often do we pray for wisdom in our spending, to ensure our resources are used in ways that uplift our community?

The call for humility and righteousness in this passage can inspire us to seek justice in financial transactions and to be stewards of our wealth for the greater good.

Finally, in the gospel of Luke 16:1-13, Jesus presents us with the parable of the dishonest steward, prompting us to consider our allegiances. The challenge lies in choosing to serve God rather than wealth.

Are we utilizing the financial resources within our grasp in ways that glorify God and benefit others?

This parable serves as a reminder that our earthly dealings should reflect heavenly principles, urging us to be wise stewards of what we have received.

I challenge each of us to examine your financial habits this week. Consider the broader implications of your spending habits and ask yourself: How can my financial decisions better reflect God's love and justice in the world around me?

Let us strive to be conduits of blessing, using our resources to uplift others and honor God in all that we do.

In faith and stewardship,

Fr. Eric Castro, MS

STEWARDSHIP CORNER FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



THEME: Treasure Matters in Stewardship as a Way of Life

"Money is a terrible master but an excellent servant." This age-old saying speaks to the dual nature of money in our lives. While it can lead to greed and discontent when we allow it to control us, it can also serve as a powerful tool for good when we manage it wisely.

In our Readings today—Amos 8:4-7 and Luke 16:1-13—we are reminded of the significance of our financial decisions in our spiritual journey.

Lesson 1: Money is a Tool for Empowerment

Money, in and of itself, is neither good nor bad; it becomes a powerful tool depending on how we choose to use it. As stewards, we are called to see our financial resources as gifts from God that enable us to empower ourselves and others. When we manage our finances to support those in need, fund our ministries, and contribute to our parish life, we exemplify the true spirit of stewardship.

Lesson 2: Generosity is a Reflection of Our Faith

Our approach to money can test our faith. Luke's parable encourages us to be generous and shrewd with our resources. When we prioritize sharing our wealth with those around us, we align our actions with the teachings of Christ and show that we trust God to provide for us. Practicing generosity can nurture community and deepen our relationships with one another and with God.

Lesson 3: Accountability to God

Both Amos and Jesus remind us that we will ultimately be accountable for how we manage the treasures entrusted to us. Stewardship is not merely about financial obligation; it's an entire way of life that asks us to consider our choices and their impacts. Are we using our money in a manner that honors God and supports our community, or are we letting it control our lives?

In closing, I challenge us to reflect on your relationship with our finances. Are we allowing money to lead us, or are we using it as a servant to fulfill God's plan? Remember, God's eyes are on our hearts, and He sees our efforts.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to all our generous stewards. Your contributions, whether large or small, significantly enrich our community and our mission. They do not go unnoticed by God. Amen.

In Christ's Service, Fr. Eric Castro, MS Pastor



Chaminade Health Fair-Stewardship in Action

Thank you to the Chaminade Nursing Students and

Mrs. Haylee Carlson, BSN, RN, CEN, Adjunct Faculty, Chaminade University School of Nursing and Linda Malone, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, Associate Professor, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Track Coordinator School of Nursing and Health Profession at Chaminade University



NOTES FROM THE NURSE

Help your kids feel strong, energized and ready to learn!

Encourage a balanced plate approach

Aim for half of your child's plate to be filled with fruits and veggies, a quarter plate with whole grains and a quarter plate with protein. Avoid sugary drinks and processed foods when possible. This will help your kids have energy to thrive during their school days!

Move your body

It's important for kids to have physical activity every day! Playing sports, taking a walk around the neighborhood or having a family dance party in the living room are all opportunities to add some movement to your day.

Make time to snooze

Kids who get enough sleep have more energy, improved moods and focus. Aim for 9-12 hours of sleep per night for school age children. Set a regular bedtime and limit screen time before bed!

Choose drinks wisely

Swap out juice and soda for water and low-fat milk.
Encourage them to drink enough water to stay hydrated, especially with physical activity.

Here's to a strong, healthy, and happy school year!

Please reach out with questions anytime to Nurse Haylee at schoolnurse@stjosephwaipahu.org Mahalo!

One 'Ohana Fund: One 'Ohana for the Environment

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our successful Recycling Day by contributing plastic and glass bottles and cans. Our Parish and School raised over \$1,000 for this event. This is our Stewardship in Action!



Many Hands Working Together as 'One St. Joseph 'Ohana

Students, Parents, Faculty, Staff, and Parishioners Working Side by Side





bags to be taken to

the Recycle Cnter.

With everyone's effort, we raised over \$1,000 for our Parish and School.

Important Upcoming Information

School and Parish Staff

Fr. Geronimo (Eric) Castro, MS, Pastor

Ms. Beverly Sandobal, Principal

email: <u>bsandobal@stjosephwaipahu.org</u>

Mrs. Denise Cashman

Office Manager/Admissions Director email: dcashman@stjosephwaipahu.org

School Main Office

(808) 677-4475 Fax (808) 677-8937

Mrs. Mary Cachuela Parish Office Manager

Parish Office (808) 677-4276

Parent Teacher Conferences

October 1st and 2nd

Early Dismissal



Be sure to schedule your Parent Teacher Conferences. An email was sent to select a time to meet your child's homeroom teacher, receive your child's

report, celebrate their efforts, and review plans to improve their Areas of Growth.

Important Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, September 24th	 Grades close for the 1st Quarter School Mass at 8:15 am and Celebration of Life for everyone whose birthday is in the month of September. We will also be celebrating Father Jiju's birthday and the Priestly Ordination of Father Valentine. We are asking our students to bring leis for our priests. 9:30-11:00 am CPR classes for Grades 7 and 8 Grades close for the 1st quarter
Thursday, September 25th	Second Quarter begins
Wednesday, October 1st and Thursday, October 2nd NO AFTERSCHOOL CARE SERVICES ON BOTH DAYS	 Early Dismissal of students to prepare for Parent Teacher Conferences Dismissal times will be staggered, grades PK-K at 10:45 am, and grades 1-8 at 11:15 am for both Wednesday (10/1) and Thursday (10/2).
Friday, October 3rd	 End of the Quarter School Mass at 8:15 am; Students are required to wear their formal uniform. First Quarter Awards Assembly will begin after the Mass. Pre K—2nd grade students will be allowed to leave after their awards are given. Their dismissal will be approximately at 9:45 am. Students in grades 3-8 will be dismissed at approximately 10:30 am.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



MARRIED Complex

- √ Have you been married 2 years or more?
- ✓ Would you like to serve in a ministry with your spouse?
- √ Are you available 2-3 weekends per year?
- √ Do you want to help engaged couples prepare for marriage?

God may be calling you to be an

Engaged Encounter Presenting Couple

□ CONTACT US

hawaii@engagedencounter.com

TUES, SEPT 23 @ 6:30PM CHURCH

MANDATORY MEETING FOR ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Calling all liturgical ministers! There is a mandatory meeting on Tues, Sept 23 at 6:30pm in the church. If you serve as a Knights of the Altar, Lectors/Commentators, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Ushers/Hospitality, Music Ministry, A/V Ministry - you all encouraged to attend. Also save the date for our Annual Liturgy Day on Sat, Oct 18. We will have a guest speaker and renewal of our commitment at Mass. Again, see you on Sept 23 for our mandatory meeting.

FAITH FORMATION

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS & RCIA

We are excited to begin a new year of Faith Formation at St. Joseph Church! Submit your completed registration form with the proper documents to the office. The Faith Formation year has begun but we are still enrolling new students—it's not too late to register. On your first day, please report to the Faith Formation Office for directions to your classroom. Let us keep our students, catechists, and families in prayer as we begin another year of growing in faith together!

CELEBRATING FR. VALENTINE'S PRIESTLY ANNIVERSARY

FR. JIJU'S BIRTHDAY

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 24 @ 7:30PM COVERED PASSAGEWAY

Join us as we celebrate the Fr. Valentine's Priestly Anniversary and Fr. Jiju's Birthday THIS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 @ 7:30pm under the covered passageway. Please bring your favorite dish to share as we celebrate with food, fun and fellowship!



SEASONS OF HOPE

GRIEF SUPPORT

Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? Looking for support and healing? You are invited to join the St. Joseph Seasons of Hope Ministry and experience the care and compassion offered through this ministry.

Season 1, Session 1 begins on Sat, Oct 4, 2025 3PM – 5PM in the AFF Room, St. Joseph Church

Subsequent sessions will follow on:

October 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8 (3PM – 5PM, AFF Rm.) If you have any questions, please call the Church Office at 677-4276.

Our Special Intentions

We Pray For....

- Our La Salette Community.
- All family members of Father Eric Castro, MS.
- Juanita Castro, mother of Father Eric Castro, MS.
- Family Members of Stister Judith Abique, SPC.
- Repose of the soul fo Sister Judtith Abique, SPC and her brother Willy Abique.
- All first liners, priests, religious, health workers, essential workers, families, and everyone around the world.
- Mr. Pio Guerrero.
- Mrs. Irene Sandry, grandmother of Tania Ma'afala (SJPS alumni.
- Mr. Seji Tokuda, father of Ms. Grace (Cafeteria Manager) and Tricia Alquisa (Cafeteria Assistant).
- Ms. Sandobal.
- Miles and Avelino Arbues.
- Dr. Rick Yamashiro & Family (Counselor & Dean of Students).
- Repose of the soul of Genny Inase, cousin of Ms. Sandobal.
- Repose of the soul of Regina Salisbury.
- Bryce, Jason, and their families.
- Repose of the soul of Peter Akuna.
- Everette Davis, grandson of Ms. Davis (former Jr. High teacher).
- Mrs. Susan Ganibe, mother of Mrs. Calzada (Music teacher).
- Mrs. Grace Montemayor (mother of Alfredo, alumni).
- Mrs. Ashley Rupert (former teacher).
- Mrs. Michelle Izon (former teacher).
- Brenda Strimpfel, alumni of SJPS.
- Mr. Wendell Bacnis, former teacher.
- Special intention for Krista Chang.
- Sharon Rose Gasmen, mother of Alexander (alumni).
- Samantha Calumpit (alumni).
- William D. Brandt, father of Mrs. Cashman and her husband Jason Cashman (Office Manager, Admissions Director).
- Arne Kawamata and family (Facilities Director).
- Cora Tubana (former Parish Business Manager).
- John C. Basso, grandfather of Journey Ramento and her brother Alika Magnani.

- Laverne Suster (former teacher).
- Mr. Dave Sebastian (Grade 4-5 Social Studies Teacjer).
- Helen Andres, parish staff.
- Papa Tony, Antonio Cabanilla, grandfather of Julia Valenzuela (Grade 4A).
- Mr. Jesse Gregorio, father of (alumni Jesse, Landon, Gr. 8 and Jensen 5A).
- Gary Patacsi Quiming, (SJPS alumni).
- Healing for Deacon Raffy Mendoza, SJPS Financial Advisor
- Healing for Sister Teresa Ebanen, OP.
- Special intention for Miguel Ruiz Machado, brother Of Mrs. Machado (1B Teacher).
- Special intention and healing for Bianca-Lyn Ramento, mother of Journey (3B).
- Healing for David Villa Jr. and Frediz Villa, siblings of Sister Fidelia Villa, SPC.
- Healing for Sister Mark, OP and Sister Rosario, OP
- Special Intention for Cameron Alquisa, son of Mrs. Tricia Alquisa (Cafeteria Assistant).
- Mr. Daniel Sr. and his family. Father of Celeste Akiu principal of Holy Family.
- Mrs. Medeiros, mother of Dr. Glenn Medeiros, (President of St. Louis School).
- Repose of the soul of Brian Kaawaloa, friend of Ms. Eileen. (Grade 3-4 Teacher)
- Repose of the soul of Kiara Ago, family member of Sister Fidelia Villa,SPC.
- Repose of the soul of Constantino Gopez, Deputy Grand Knight.
- Repose of the soul of Warren Miyahira, (brother of Ms. Eileen (Grade 3-4 Teacher).
- Repose of the soul of Ms. Aimee Takaki, former teacher of Mr. Cruz (Junior High SS teacher)
- All the people affected by the typhoon and flooding in the Philippines.
- All the people suffering due to inclement weather.
- All the people affected by the wild fire in California.