



# ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER

PROVIDING QUALITY CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN A SAFE AND CARING FAMILY ENVIRONMENT

WWW.STJOSEPHWAIPAHU.ORG

April 29, 2024



## PASTOR'S REFLECTION 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### Scriptures:

Acts 9: 26-31, 1Jn 3:18-24,  
John 15:1-8

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace be with you!

As we continue our journey through the season of Easter, we are reminded of the loving hand of God that prunes us, helping us to grow deeper in our faith and relationship with Him.

In today's readings, we see how God works through the challenges and trials in our lives to shape us into the people He has called us to be.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we hear the story of how Saul, who persecuted the early church, was transformed by God's love and mercy. Through the faithful witness of the disciples, Saul experienced a conversion and became the great apostle Paul.

This is a powerful reminder that God can work in miraculous ways to transform even the hardest of hearts.

In our Second Reading, we are reminded of the importance of not just saying we love others, but showing it through our actions. The loving hand of God is constantly pruning us and refining us to be more like Him. We are called to abide in Him, keeping His commandments and remaining in fellowship with Him.

When we do this, we can have confidence and assurance in our relationship with God.

In the Gospel reading, Jesus uses the metaphor of the vine and the branches to illustrate the importance of remaining connected to Him. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit unless it remains attached to the vine, we cannot bear the fruits of the Spirit unless we abide in Christ.

This requires us to open ourselves up to God's pruning, allowing Him to cut away the dead and unnecessary parts of our lives so that we can bear abundant fruit.

As we reflect on these readings, let us ask ourselves: Are we willing to allow God to prune us, even when it is painful or uncomfortable? Are we open to the ways in which God may be calling us to grow and change?

Let us remember that God's pruning is always done out of love, with the goal of making us more fully the people He has created us to be.

May we trust in God's loving hand as He prunes us, knowing that through our challenges and trials, we are being shaped into vessels of His grace and mercy. May we remain connected to the true vine, Jesus Christ, so that we may bear abundant fruit for the glory of God.

God bless you all.

In Christ,

**Father Geronimo "Eric" Castro, M.S.**  
Pastor

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Nourished and strengthened by our devotion and participation in the sacred liturgy of the eucharist, reach out with unconditional love to serve our universal family.*

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## SCHOOL STAFF

**Beverly Sandobal**

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## PARISH STAFF

**Fr. Geronimo Castro, M.S.**

Pastor

**Fr. Adondee Arellano, M.S.**

Parochial Vicar

**Dcn. Keith Galang, M.A.**

Parish Deacon/AFF Coordinator

**Mary Cachuela**

Office Manager

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## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

From the Pastor's Desk

### The Call of Stewardship: let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth.

As followers of Christ and stewards of the Gospel, we are called to love not just with our words, but with our deeds.

Stewardship is not just about tithing or giving money to the church, although that is an important aspect of it. Stewardship is about how we live our lives every day, how we serve others, how we care for God's creation, and how we show love and compassion to those around us.

In the book of 1 John, it says, "Let us not love with words or speech, but with actions and in truth."

This verse reminds us that our love for God and for others should be evident in the way we live our lives, in the way we treat others, and in the way we steward the resources that God has given us.

So let us not just talk about stewardship, but let us live it out in our daily lives. Let us show love and compassion to those in need, let us care for our environment, and let us use our resources wisely and generously for the glory of God.

May we be known not just for our words, but for our actions and our love for others. Let us be faithful stewards of all that God has entrusted to us, and may our lives be a reflection of His love and grace.

**Fr. Eric Castro, MS**  
Pastor

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Wednesday, May 1st School Mass @ 8:15 am And May Crowning

Sponsors: Students who received their Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion

All students are required to wear their FORMAL UNIFORM.

Students may bring flowers or leis that they will offer to our Blessed Mother.



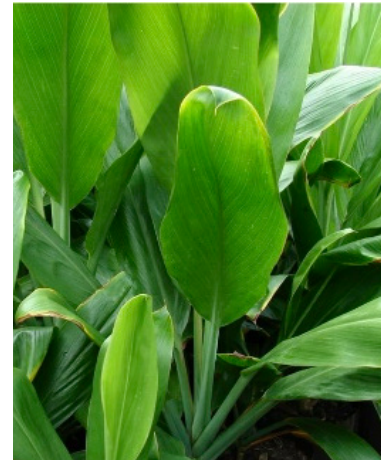
### INTENT TO RETURN FORMS For the 2024-2025 School Year

Last week, the youngest child of each family will be received their Family Envelope with the Intent to Return Form. The completion of this form is essential as the student enrollment is one of the important factors in our financial planning and determines how many seats are available to new students in each grade. You will also receive the new Tuition Schedule. We appreciate your commitment and the value you place on investing in your child's education for their moral, faith based formation and pursuit of academic excellence. Thank you for tremendous support!

Thursday, May 2nd

**FLOWERS AND GREENERY NEEDED FOR OUR MAY DAY DECORATIONS**

Do you or family and friends have ginger, different flowers, bird of paradise, ti leaves, palms, orchids



Thursday, May 2nd

**NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE SERVICES**

On Thursday, after dismissal, the performance area will be prepared for our May Day Program.

Friday, May 3rd

May Day Program

Theme: "One Voice, United in Christ"

NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE SERVICES

EARLY DISMISSAL FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM.



# ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL

*Now accepting applications!*

2024-2025 Academic Year  
Pre-K to Grade 8  
Enroll Today!

808-677-4475  
sjs@stjosephwaipahu.org  
94-651 Farrington Hwy,  
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## Did You Know?

How many Popes have there been?

- a. 87
- b. 266
- c. 338
- d. 525

Answer: B. There have been 266 Popes in the Catholic Church's history.



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# Our Special Intentions

*If you have any special prayer request, email: [specialintentions@stjosephwaipahu.org](mailto:specialintentions@stjosephwaipahu.org)*

## WE PRAY FOR...

- Our La Salette community.
- Family members of Sister Judith Abique, SPC
- Repose of the soul of Sister Judith Abique, SPC.
- Repose of the soul of Willy Abique, brother of Sister Judith Abique, SPC.
- All the first liners, priests, religious, health workers, essential workers, families, and everyone around our world.
- Mr. Pio Guerrero.
- Mrs. Irene Sandry, grandmother of Tania Ma'afala (SJPS alumni).
- Mr. Seiji Tokuda, father of Ms. Grace (Cafeteria Manager).
- Ms. Sandobal.
- Dr. Rick Yamashiro and family. (Counselor and Dean of Students)
- Genny Inase, cousin of Ms. Sandobal.
- God's healing mercy on Dayen Aguit-Baraero, Anaziel Suasin-Linao, and Renante Fuentes.
- Repose of the soul of Regina Salisbury.
- Bryce, Jason, and their families.
- Peter Akuna.
- Mrs. Eileen, (KB Paraeducator).
- Miles Arbues and Avelino Arbues.
- For Everett Davis, grandson of Ms. Davis (former Junior High Teacher).
- Mrs. Susan Ganibe, mother of Mrs. Calzada (Music Teacher).
- Mrs. Grace Montemayor, mother of Alfredo (Alumni Class of 2020).
- Mrs. Ashley Rupert and family (former teacher of SJPS).
- Mrs. Michelle Izon, (Former teacher).
- Brenda Strimpfel, alumni of SJPS
- Mr. Wendell Bacnis, Recollection Facilitator for SJPS Advent Celebration.
- Repose of the soul of Shirley Sanae Yamashiro, mother of Dr. Yamashiro (Counselor, Dean of Students).
- Special intention for Krista Chang.
- Special intention for Sister Fidelia Villa. SPC.
- All family members of Father Eric Castro, MS.
- Special intention for Jonathan Bueno, father of Mrs. Carlson (1A Teacher).
- Special intention for Mrs. Bonnie Boquer, mother of Mrs. Velasco (Counselor and IT Director).
- Sharon Rose Gasmen, mother of Alexander (alumni).
- Samantha Calumpit, graduate of St. Joseph Parish School.
- Yvonne Fukumoto, wife of Kainoa, principal of St. Michael's School and their three daughters.
- William D. Brandt, father of Mrs. Denise Cashman, (Office Manager and Admissions Director).
- Loretta Rodrigues and Family. (Former SJPS Office Assistant).
- Arne Kawamata, Facilities Director.
- Jason Cashman, husband of Mrs. Cashman (Office Manager and Admissions Director) and dad of Ms. Kaylin (KA Paraeducator).
- Mrs. Elena Sadiarin, mother-in-law of Mrs. Amy (former Pre K paraeducator).
- Coran Tubana, former Parish Business Manager.
- Jacob Hermano, (1B) and his family.
- John C. Basso, grandfather of Journey Ramento (1B) and her brother Alika Magnani
- Repose of the souls of Daniel Capinpin, Gladwin Miguel, cousins of Mrs. Rosales (Pre K Teacher) and Fred Martinez, uncle of Mrs. Rosales.
- Leticia Ignacio, mother of Ms. Alysia (Grade KB Teacher).
- Alan Rego, Charlotte Rego, friends of Ms. Alysia (Grade KB Teacher).
- Laverne Suster, former teacher of SJPS.
- Mrs. Machado (Grade 1 Teacher).
- Ms. Ka'aikala (Grade 3 Teacher).
- Heling Andres, St. Joseph Church staff
- Mrs. Christal Rosales and her children, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher
- Greg Arbues
- Robert Ragunton and Alfredo Barba Jr., uncles of Mr. Barba (alumni) and granduncles of Arren - 8A and Alyssa - 4A.
- Repose of the soul of Maring Silvestre, aunt of Father Eric Castro, MS.
- Special intention for Sister Mary Mark Berdin, OP.
- Mr. Christopher Duropan, father of Jake (5B), Greyson (2A), Riley (1A).
- Ms. Carol Sarceda, grandmother of Bryson (8A) and Brayden (8B).
- Juanita Castro, Mother of Father Eric Castro, MS.
- Meldren Solis, grandmother of Arren (8A) and Alyssa (4A) Barba.
- Jenny Basitas Resando, sister of Sister Emilie Basitas, OP (Grade 2 teacher).
- Repose of the soul of Thomas Miyamoto Jr., brother of Mrs. Yamashiro (Curriculum and Instruction Director) and uncle of Jill (6A).
- Wilfredo Saludez, grandfather of Josiah Lamug (4B)
- Renee Thronas, mother of Mrs. Mandy Thronas Brown (Assistant Superintendent of Hawaii Catholic Schools).
- Repose of the soul of Ruptina Dela Cruz, sister of Miles Arbues.
- Pie Hernandez, grandmother of Mrs. Velasco (Counselor and IT Director)
- Repose of the soul of Cristina C. Gador, grandmother of Noah (6B) and Samantha (8B).
- Repose of the soul of Wilfredo Saludez, grandfather of Josiah Lamug (4B).
- Mr. Leopoldo Ramirez, grandfather of Jacob Jose (3B) and Marcus Jose (Pre K).
- Kristian Paet (1A).
- Jane Delgado, niece of Sister Mark Berdin, OP Religious Education Director.
- Repose of the soul of Pacita Corpuz, grandmother of Reese Snyder (Gr. 7) and mother of Mrs. Snyder (SJPS alumni).
- Repose of the soul of Josephine Galapia, mother of Mrs. Geri Simbahon, Director of Religious Education

**As a disciple of Jesus, it is our Kuleana (responsibility) to live out the Gospel by serving the community. We are called to be loving like Jesus, to teach, and to serve the needs of our brothers and sisters.**