



ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

December 14, 2016

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Dear St. Sebastian Families,

In the season of Advent, a time of HOPE in the Church and our faith lives, we are challenged to be mindful of the present, while look towards the coming of our King with JOYful anticipation! This past Sunday we began Week Three of Advent, where we light the pink candle on our Advent wreaths. But why do we do this?

As the Pope once exclaimed to crowds in St. Peter's Square, "*The Christian message is called the 'gospel,' that is, 'good news,' an announcement of joy for all people; the Church is not a shelter for sad people, the Church is the house of joy!*" He continued to share that "*Christian joy, like hope, has its foundation in the faithfulness of God, in the certainty that He always keeps his promises.*" This third Sunday of Advent is known by it's Latin name - *Gaudete Sunday* - to signify a day of REJOICING, for our Savior is coming!

Like the Season of Advent, in schools we must always focus on the present, while knowing ahead lays a bigger vision we are moving towards. As we soon conclude our calendar year, our staff is deep in curriculum, cultivating classroom culture, building on lessons of faith, and targeting where our students' needs lay. We are also however, setting short and long-term goals for our individual students in Math, collaborating on Speaking & Listening standards, and preparing for upcoming professional development in differentiated instruction, among a host of other focuses and goals. Like you, we have great HOPE for our children's futures as well as JOY when witnessing their achievements and milestones.

I pray that your homes, our school, and our lives of faith will always be ones where HOPE exists and JOY is found, for that is the Good News we are called to bring to our children and one another.

God bless you,

Ms. Grams

DRESS DOWN DAY THIS FRIDAY, 12/16 - As an incentive for the students to stay focused on their learning this week (despite all of the holiday "hoopla"! :) we will have a dress down day this Friday, December 16th. All dress code policies apply.

SAVE THE DATE! - SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH, 9:00AM-12:00PM

St. Sebastian Registration & Open House for the 2017-2018 school year!:

New this year, we will host our Registration Fair for current families AND our Open House for prospective families together on Sunday, January 29th, 2017. It will be a day your family will not want to miss, including:

- * Register for the 2017-18 school year, securing your seat before new seats are opened to prospective families!
- * Touring the school to see your children's work!
- * Visit with teachers and staff, School Committee, Home & School, and other St. Seb's committees and activities!
- * Find ways you can volunteer or contribute to the St. Sebastian community!
- * Food, Activities, and FUN for your children!
- * Enjoy speaking with other families and friends of our community!

We look forward to seeing you there! More information will be coming in early January of what Registration materials you'll need to bring.

IF YOUR CHILD'S PLANS CHANGE – If your child is going home with someone after school, and it is out of their ordinary routine, be sure to notify their teacher as well as the person or day care who normally picks them up.

YAC VOLUNTEER NEEDED - The Youth Athletic Committee is looking for a volunteer to take on the duties of Concession Coordinator, for which the goal would be to transition the role the new volunteer sometime this basketball season. Concessions and admissions for games hosted at St. Sebastian are an important revenue source for the sports programs.

The volunteer duties for the Concession Coordinator are not super intricate, and involve 1-2 hours of commitment per week during the sports seasons (September, October, 1st 3 weeks of December, January and February). The Concession Coordinator more or less purchases the concession stock, keeps their receipts and then submits them to the YAC treasurer for reimbursement every month or so.

Anyone interested in filling this vital role can contact Katie or Derik Summerfield at katieandderik@att.net.

FR. JOE - Our own Fr. Joe Jagodensky (from 8am masses every other Sunday) has recently released a new book entitled "Soulful Musings" which is now available on Amazon. Many may be aware that Fr. Joe has a blog (<https://joejagodensky.com/author/joejagodensky/>) where he has archived many of the Sunday homilies we hear as well as other thoughts, all categorized neatly. From his many blogs, he has selected some of his best. The book begins with Angels and ends with Baptism. Stories include the Catholic church in all its splendor and concerns, moving onto "The Golden Girls" to Divas to the Blessed Mother, along with dogs, cats and airplanes. All the stories are seasoned with heaps of hope and enjoyable reading. The paperback book sells for \$14.95 or \$15.00 for the Kindle version. If you sign up for "Amazon Smile", a portion will go to St. Seb's – <http://bit.ly/SebsSmile> . Congratulations to Fr. Joe!!!

ROSIE READER - Congratulations to the following students for their progress on the Rosie Reader program:

Completing the letter "R" in R-E-A-D-I-N-G:

K5 - Leonardo Lococo

Completing the letter "A" in R-E-A-D-I-N-G:

K4 - Jonathan Sawyer

Keep up the good work!

SAVE THE DATE - The Girls Scouts will once again host the annual St. Sebastian's Father-Daughter Dinner Dance on Saturday, January 28th from 6-9pm in the Church Hall. All girls from St. Seb's and St. Colletta's are invited to attend with their dad or a special VIP. Stay tuned for registration information. This year's theme is HOLLYWOOD! Come dressed in your red carpet best as your favorite Hollywood duo.

CITY TINS – Last call for City Tins! The last day to order City Tins is this Friday, December 16th. An order form is attached to this newsletter.

READ N QUIZ – Congratulations to Aiden Ngo and Jalon Brown for getting their 5 point token. Also, Megan Sveta and Anita Hatten received their 25 point tokens and Lily Beechum earned her 50 point token. Last, but not least, Serafina Stephenson received her 100 point token. Great job, everyone!

ATTENTION FORENSIC STUDENTS – Make sure you hand in your schedule and choice of category to Mrs. Kirkpatrick by Monday, December 19th. Tournaments will be scheduled over Christmas break, so your schedules are needed. You can also email your schedule and category to Mrs. Kirkpatrick by Christmas Day at comply8800@aol.com

If you have not picked up registration materials yet, they are available in the learning center. Come on Monday or Wednesday after school, if you need help selecting a category.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT THE CATHEDRAL – Some current St. Sebastian students as well as quite a few of our alumni are singing in the Pius XI High School Choir's Christmas Concert. The concert will be broadcast on channel 10thirtysix on Friday, December 16 at 7:30 PM on MPTV channel 10.

(contact the office at 453-5830 for information)

Playground Supervision

Lunchroom Supervision

YAC Concession Stand Coordinator

You must have completed SafeGuarding training and consent to a background check to volunteer

CITY TINS - City Tins have arrived. Please see attachments with all the details on our newest fundraiser. These make wonderful gifts and allow everyone to enjoy local restaurants, theatre, and brew pubs. Please order with the attached order form or order directly with Gloria Rios at Gloria_rios@yahoo.com. Please make all checks payable to St. Sebastian Home and School.

Tins will be on display in the school office so you can check them out.

Order now through December 16th or until they are gone – quantities are limited! Each Tin is \$30. Each tin houses 20 or more coasters, each worth \$10 off your tab at 20 iconic, locally owned venues. It is a \$200 value in every clever little tin for only \$30. These make the perfect Christmas gifts.

Tins are available for immediate delivery. Please use the attached order form or contact Gloria Rios at Gloria_rios@yahoo.com.

Make checks payable to St. Sebastian's Home and School. Return your order form to the office or use backpack mail attn: Steven Rios, Room 210.

City Tins

Family Name _____

Mail Carrier Room Number or Homeroom Teacher Last Name _____

Tins Available for Immediate Delivery:

Milwaukee Restaurant Edition _____

Milwaukee Bar and Lounge Edition _____

Milwaukee Performing Arts Edition _____

Please indicate which tin or tins you would like to order.

Other tins may be ordered and will be delivered.

Please make check out to St. Sebastian Home and School.

