

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT MEMO
Everything You Wanted To Know
Week of September 7, 2009

Welcome back to another year at St. John Fisher School! You can really feel the energy in our halls from the parents, students and staff. I want to send a special welcome our new students and families who have joined our community. With 20+ new families and a larger enrollment, the news about what's happening in our community continues to be supportive and strong. We are off to a great start!

Did you know St. John Fisher is turning 50? This September marks the parish's Jubilee anniversary – and we're throwing a birthday party to celebrate. The Jubilee festivities take place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 19-20. We've love to see St. John Fisher School families there to help celebrate.

Things kick off with a community picnic for past and present parishioners, family and friends on Saturday, September 19, from 1 to 4 p.m. Bring a picnic basket or buy a BBQ lunch from the Men's Club. On Sunday, September 20, an 11 a.m. Mass will be concelebrated by Fr. Wayne Forbes and Archdiocese of Portland Vicar General Msgr. Dennis O'Donovan and other priests with ties to the parish, followed by a free reception in the parish hall.

We expect 500 or more guests to visit the church and school for the Jubilee throughout the weekend. While they're on campus, visitors can tour the school, look at pictures and other memorabilia collected from the church's first 50 years, and read up on parish and school activities and ministries.

To pull off a celebration of this magnitude, we've enlisted a small army of volunteers – but we could still use a few more. Volunteers are especially needed on Sunday, Sept. 20 for decorations, serving and clean up. To sign up, contact Jubilee volunteer coordinator Stephanie LaRiviere-Miller at (503) 292-0600 or lamillers@comcast.net.

Our Jubilee celebration will continue through the 2009-10 school year. The SJF Auction will take place on Saturday, Nov. 7 at the Oregon Zoo with the theme is "Golden Memories, Golden Dreams." We'll end the year's activities with Archbishop John G. Vlazny celebrating Mass in June 2010, in honor of St. John Fisher's feast day.

You may not know that the land St. John Fisher Church sits on was a grassy field in the late 1950s when the pastor of St. Thomas More started searching for a spot for a new church to handle Catholic families moving into the area. After raising money for several years, the land was purchased and the church named St. John Fisher, after John Fisher, the English cardinal who was martyred for his faith along with Thomas More in 1535.

St. John Fisher School opened in September, 1959, with the Sisters of St. Francis nuns as teachers. The first Mass was held on September 20, 1959, in what is now the gymnasium. The first class graduated in 1961. The current church and rectory were built in 1968 and in the 1990s the school building was expanded with a new library, technology lab and kindergarten classroom.

We would like to thank Susan Menendez (past SJF graduate and mom of Jennie (5), Amy (3) and Lucy (1)) for planning and running the event, and to the Jubilee committee, which has been working with her for the better part of the past year. To find out more about the SJF 50th Jubilee, visit www.SJFJubilee.org.

Here's to a great school year!

CALENDAR REMINDERS:

Sun. Sept. 13th – Catechetical Sunday/9:00 a.m. Mass
Mon. Sept. 14th – 1st Day for Kindergartners
Tue. Sept. 15th – Gr. 4-8 Band begins!
Wed. Sept. 16th – Gr. K-8 Children's Liturgy/9:00 a.m. (led by Gr. 8)
Wed. Sept. 16th – Sweatshirt/Fleece/Vest/Shirt Orders due!
Thur. Sept. 17th – Gr. K-8 Assembly/1:30 p.m. (cafeteria)
Thur. Sept. 17th – Men's Club Mtg/7:00 p.m. (cafeteria)
Thur. Sept. 17th – Dismissal/2:05 p.m.
Fri. Sept. 18th – FT/Gr. 2 – Tryon Creek/8:30-11:30 a.m.
Fri. Sept. 18th – 50th Jubilee setup/5:00-10:00 p.m.
Fri. Sept. 18th – Happy Birthday, Mrs. Ramus!
Sat. Sept. 19th – 50th Jubilee Celebration/1:00-4:00 p.m.
Sun. Sept. 20th – 50th Jubilee Celebration Mass/11:00 a.m.
Mon. Sept. 21 – Gr. K & 4 Bear Picnic
Tue. Sept. 22nd – School Picture Day! *remember to send your child/ren with their order form
Tue. Sept. 22nd – FT/Gr. 7 – Hoyt Arboretum/8:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
Wed. Sept. 23rd – Gr. K-8 Children's Liturgy/9:00 a.m. (led by Gr. 6)
Wed. Sept. 23rd – "Back to School" Night/6:00-8:10 p.m. (**No Children at this event**)
Thu. Sept. 24th – Gr. 7 & 8 High School Visitation Day
Fri. Sept. 25th – NO SCHOOL! – Archdiocesan Inservice
Sun. Sept. 27th – Gr. 6 leaves for Outdoor School/2:15 p.m. from Robert Gray Middle School

PLAYGROUND DUTY SCHEDULE/11:30 a.m.-12:40 p.m.

Mon. Sept. 14th – Lilly, Liz
Tue. Sept. 15th – LeDrew
Wed. Sept. 16th – Ward
Thur. Sept. 17th – Kamerer
Fri. Sept. 18th – Meneghello

If you have a conflict with your scheduled duty, please contact Renee Huglin @ 503-244-2258.

SJF WEBSTIE

Be sure and check out our school website at www.sjfschool.org for regular updates throughout the school year from the office, teachers and principal. To make parent-school communications as convenient as possible, the school directory will include email address, as well as voice mail extensions for all staff members. However, for same day messages, always send in a handwritten note to the teacher or make a personal call to the office-just in case our network goes down or a staff member does not have the chance to check his or her voice mail until later in the day. Our goal is to be as accessible as possible and to keep the lines of communication open with you in all ways as we head into the new school year.

SCHOOL VISITOR/SECURITY POLICY

In order to keep our school safe for our students, staff and parents, the administration would like to remind you of the importance of stopping by the office to sign in and obtain a visitors badge. This is required regardless of the length of time you will be in the building or on campus and includes, parents, siblings, relatives, visitors, etc. Also, we request that all students/parents enter through the main doors whether on time or late. Students are required to stop in the office to obtain a "late pass" if arriving to school after 8:15 a.m. If you are picking your child/ren up early from school, parents are required to sign their student(s) out at the office before removing them from class. Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep our school a safe place for everyone. If you should have any questions, please contact Chris Vancil @ chrsv@sjfschool.org or 503-246-3234 ex. 10.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY

Please note that school pictures will be taken of all students on Tuesday, September 22nd. Students have been given a picture packet through their classroom teacher which must be returned on the day of pictures and presented to the photographer. **PLEASE DO NOT RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE.**



OUTDOOR SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please note that this year our 6th graders will be attending Outdoor School during the week of September 27th-October 2nd. Please check with your child for information sent home from Mr. Olekas. Forms and payment are time sensitive so, please fill out all necessary information and return directly to Mr. Olekas. If you have any questions, please email @ steveo@sjschool.org.

SWEATSHIRT/VEST/FLEECE/POLO UPDATE

Please note that included in today's Family Electronic Email is a Sweatshirt/Vest/Fleece/Polo order form. If you are still in need of purchasing new items, please fill out the form and make your check payable to EPrint. All orders are due to the office no later than Wednesday, September 16th.

If you ordered items in the spring and have any problems or questions regarding size, please contact Ann Fitzgibbon @ 503-245-8466. You will need to make all arrangements through Ann in order to make any exchange.

HOT LUNCH REMINDER:

Please remember that you need to order October Hot Lunches no later than Sept. 20th. Please access your account at www.orderlunches.com.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT REMINDER

Parents, don't forget, Wednesday, Sept. 23rd starting @ 6:00 p.m. is Back to School Night! We will have a general meeting at 6:30 p.m., followed by class rotations to hear about what your children will be focusing on this year. Please join us as we celebrate the beginning of a new school year. **We ask that children not attend this event!** Thank you!

MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Come join the St John Fisher Men's Club Thursday September 17th at 7:00pm. This is a great opportunity to build our SJF community and get to know the dad's of your children's friends.

We have a lot of exciting new plans for the year and want to extend an open invitation to all you men who are interested in facilitating fellowship and camaraderie at St. John Fisher School and Parish:

- Fund raising
- Facility upkeep
- Volunteer support
- Community involvement events
- Speakers on current events/topics

Have fun and get involved: \$10 suggested donation for BBQ dinner. Contact: Tom Lenth @ tomlenth@spiritone.com

SJF Mom's Group

The SJF Mom's Group will meet weekly, beginning **Monday, September 14th at 9:45 a.m.** Whether you have toddlers or teens, all moms are welcome to enjoy coffee, treats and some time with friends! Grow in your faith and share in the daily joys and challenges of being a mom. We'd love to see you this Monday or any Monday you are available. For more information, contact Beth Ruckwardt at (503) 977-2786 or email ruckmj@aol.com

Please look for the following information that is included in today's electronic email:

- *HINI Flu Update and School Policy
- *Revised 2009-10 Annual Calendar
- *Revised 2009-10 Family Volunteer Packet
- *Sweatshirt/Fleece/Vest/Polo Order form
- *Annual Asbestos Notification Letter
- *2009-10 State Immunization Requirements