

*Under the guidance of Saint Joseph, Patron Saint of the Universal Church, Saint Joseph School endeavors to achieve academic excellence in a faith-filled and safe environment. The school staff and parents collaborate to develop students' spiritual, intellectual, spiritual, and physical well-being in a traditional Catholic setting.*

March 9, 2022

Dear Parents,

As we begin the first week of Lent we pray, “ Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

As I have reminded our students of the three-fold Lenten season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving we need to pray hard for the war in Ukraine and offer up any sacrifice that we can for the suffering that these people are enduring during this horrendous invasion. These people are without electricity, running water, heat, and basic necessities! It is at times like this that we can be most grateful for the freedoms that we have and often take for granted, and realize how blessed that we are as Americans. On Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, we will have a \$5.00 “Dress Down” day as a contribution to the Ukrainians. I am asking that we wear blue and yellow, the colors of the Ukrainian flag. This is part of the collection that the Diocese of Norwich is taking up. We hope to have 100% participation.

On a lighter note, as I mentioned in one my previous letters, we have surpassed our \$50,000.00 match by \$19,000.00, totaling \$119,000.00 for this wonderful endeavor. So we are going to celebrate on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, with a pizza party and ice cream. I realize that this is during Lent, but Saint Patrick's Day is a well-celebrated holiday here in the U.S., so I think that this is most appropriate. We can still do many good deeds at home, and here in school.

Enclosed you will find a form if you wish to have a conference with your child's teacher. **These conferences are totally OPTIONAL. At the same time, your child's teacher may request a conference with you. Please send in forms no later than Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Catholic Foundation Tuition Assistance Program has extended the application deadline to Tuesday, March 15, 2022, so you can still apply if you so wish. Please remember that all accompanying documents must be included in this application.**

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

- Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**                      **Stations of the Cross at 2:15 p.m. in church for grades 3-8. Parents are welcome to attend.**
- Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**                      **Set your clocks ahead one hour in the evening for Daylight Saving Time**
- Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**                      **NO SCHOOL – PROFESSIONAL DAY FOR TEACHERS**
- Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**                      **\$5.00 “Dress Down” Day for Ukraine**
- Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**                      **Pizza Party for staff and students. No lunches are needed on this day.  
12:30 p.m. dismissal with aftercare  
OPTIONAL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES  
1:00 – 4:00 P.M.**
- Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**                      **Stations of the Cross at 2:15 p.m. for grades 3 – 8. Parents are welcome to attend.**
- Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**                      **Bonfire at 6:00 p.m.  
More information to come next week. Please come and join us in this enjoyable evening in our playground.**

God bless you and have a great week!

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,

Sister Mary Patrick, SMC  
Principal