



SAINT ROSE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Pursuing excellence in faith, knowledge, and virtue.

St. Rose Catholic School Mission Statement

Saint Rose Catholic School partners with parents to provide a high-quality Catholic education with academic excellence in a faith-filled community for children in preschool through eighth grade.

Prayer for the Start of the School Year

God of the seasons, there is a time for everything; there is a time for dying and a time for rising.

We need your grace and courage to enter into the conversion process.

God of Autumn, the trees are saying their goodbyes to green, letting go of what has been. We, too, have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity and risk-taking. Please help us to let go.

God of fallen leaves that lay in colored patterns upon the ground, our lives have their own particular growth patterns. We need to see the connections.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives, always the need to recognize your power-filled mystery.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain, there are many growth gifts within the season of surrender. Harvest must be waited for in faith and hope. Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of graciousness, you believe in us, enrich us, and entrust us with the freedom to choose life.

For all of this, we are grateful.

As we experience the autumn season, may we allow it to speak to us of necessary change and growth and of preparation for seasons that lie beyond the winter. Grant us an openness to the continuous process of letting go and moving on, which is part of our human condition. We know that you are our faithful companion on this journey. Your presence is blessing enough.

AMEN

FUN FACT: *Did you know that 100% of St. Rose Catholic School parents reported that their child has a "good relationship with her or her teacher"?* (Based upon 2019 - 2020 Parent Satisfaction Survey results.)

Message from the Principal

Looking back to March 2020, it was hard to envision that we would start the 2020 - 2021 school year on a distance learning model. Fortunately, we are now five weeks into the school year, and we have the majority of our children back on campus for in-person instruction as our K-2nd-grade students returned to campus on September 8, and our 3 - 6th-grade students rejoined us on September 14. As of this writing, we are currently in the red tier (tier 2), and if we can remain in this tier for another week, we should be able to welcome back our 7th and 8th-grade students to campus in October with a target date of October 26. (If you are interested in finding out more about the tier system, where counties in California are on that system, or learn more about the "Blueprint for a Safer Economy" please click [here](#).)

While it is terrific to have many of our children back on campus, there are many additional safety protocols that students, staff, and administration must follow to ensure the safety of our children. While these have placed other items on all of our plates, **we appreciate your support in following these guidelines and protocols laid out in our School Operations Plan, Distance Learning Plan, and the "Optional" Distance Learning program.** I am also aware that this may be information overload during "normal" times while it may even be compounded right now with all that is going on around us in 2020. That being said, I had a few reminders or answers to questions that have come up:

- **Absences: Please remember to email/call Michelle in the office if your child(ren) will be or were absent.** Many of you let your children's teacher(s) know; however, we need to have that on file in the office. In previous years you would have walked into the office upon return, and you would verbally let Michelle know, and she would fill out a re-admit slip for your children. Due to COVID - 19 protocols, we are discouraging adults from being on campus; hence, this step cannot happen this year.
- **Treats for parties/birthdays:** Unfortunately, students will not be allowed to bring in unwrapped food such as donuts, cookies, cake, ice cream floats, etc. for celebrations this year. I have received clarification that **students can bring in store-bought, individually wrapped treats for celebrations.** In place of food items, you could also get creative with other ideas such as school supplies.
- **Non-faculty adults on campus: As a reminder, we are to "discourage" non-faculty adults from being on campus to the greatest extent practicable.** It's unfortunate, as this goes entirely against our "community" and "partnering with parents" philosophy; however, COVID - 19 safety reasons we are abiding by this. Thank you for your support in this matter. I will say it is challenging in the morning when some kindergarteners struggle with leaving mom and dad.

Additionally, it does seem that some health policies have been changing in regards to schools and protocol as more is learned about COVID - 19 and school safety. I have a meeting scheduled this Friday with Dr. Borenstein and Dr. Rosen to update protocols and have some questions answered that I am unclear on, or you as parents have asked me, and I was unable to answer them with 100% certainty. I will follow up next week with a short summation of the meeting as it may pertain to St. Rose Catholic School.



The students are happy to be back in class!

Updates/New Items

School Uniforms: J's Designs will be reopening the school store on **Tuesday, October 13, and it will remain open through Friday, October 23.** There is now a "size chart" listed under the clothing items to help you decide. Additionally, **spirit shirts** will be added to the October opening of the store. Students may wear their Spirit shirts with their jeans on Buck A Jeans day and wear their spirit shirts with their school uniform bottoms on "Spirit Shirt" days, which typically coincide with our monthly Gospel Awards. Spirit shirts are now one color school-wide. **After our store re-opening and delivery of clothes, all students will be expected to wear school clothing per our [2020 - 2021 Family Handbook](#) pages 25 - 27.**

PTO News/Events: Our St. Rose Catholic School PTO Board will be holding their first general meeting for the 2020 - 2021 school year on **Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00 P.M.** All are invited to attend this virtual meeting with the following login information:

Topic: SRS PTO

Time: Oct 13, 2020 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86301289115?pwd=b3JHb0Y3cEUvYzM1SG9RNElXR2ZyQT09>

Meeting ID: 863 0128 9115

Passcode: 8052380304

The focus of this meeting will be in regards to our school in the COVID - 19 pandemic era. You will have an opportunity to ask questions on [this form](#), and I will do my best to answer them during our PTO meeting. Additionally, if you have questions for our PTO Board, this would be a great time to ask. Participants will be muted upon entering the Zoom room, our passcode for the meeting is the school phone number, and one of our PTO Board representatives will be moderating the forum, which will end no later than 7:30 PM.

PTO will also be hosting a "**Drive-Thru**" **Harvest Festival** that will be modeled upon our "End of Year Drive-Thru Kick-Off of Summer" that we hosted in our parking lot last June. More information will be coming from PTO in regards to this event.

Mr. Garayar: Many of you who have been around the school for years have noticed that "Mr. G." has been missing lately. I spoke to him yesterday, and he is okay with me sharing what he is up to:

As many of you know, in September of 2019, he had a detached retina that required surgery and time away from work. **In early September 2020, he went back to the eye doctor for some work on cataracts formed in the same eye where he had the retina surgery. Unfortunately, there have been some complications, and he is seeking additional medical guidance and how to proceed forward.** He asked me to let everyone know that he misses seeing you and your children and is looking forward to returning to work as soon as doctors clear him. On that note, this **Friday, October 2, is Custodian Appreciation Day.** While he will not be here to feel the love from our families and students, if you have any cards, etc. you or your children would like to get to him, I will make that happen. However, he does hope to return on Monday, October 5 but is not sure of the date.

Fundraising/BINGO/Volunteer Hours: Some have asked me about fundraising, service hours, etc. and how those will play out this year.

- As of now, **service hours** are put on hold, much as they were at the end of last year (March 13). They are not a requirement and will not be billed if unfulfilled.
- The same will go for **BINGO** as we are not currently running the program.
- We are looking at some new fundraising ways, as 20% of our operational budget is made up of volunteer hours and fundraising. Some items, such as Scrip and Charity Mania, have already begun.
 - **Scrip** can be ordered by Tuesday of every week for a Thursday delivery at the office.

- **Charity Mania (Football)** tickets will be coming out next week and due on October 28.
- Our first school-wide fundraiser will be our **Drive-Thru BBQ scheduled for Friday, October 23**. This BBQ is an excellent opportunity to get a family meal of whole tri-tip, salad, garlic bread, beans, and dessert. Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information.

7th and 8th Grade Star Testing: Families of students in 7th and 8th grade, please mark your calendars for your 7/8th grade students to be on campus for their Fall Star screening. These tests will take place on **October 6 AND 7 at 1:45 on the school campus**. Students will be separated into pre-assigned cohorts and will need to follow the **screening protocol (temperature testing and self-screening on the sparrow.org website)**. They will be finished by the regular pickup time each day of 2:45. If you have questions regarding the Star assessments, please reach out to Ms. Visbal.

7th Grade Immunizations: 7th-grade families, please remember to drop off a record of your 7th graders' immunization chart to the school office on or before October 25. We usually would have asked for a copy of this before the start of the school year; however, very little is "normal" this year.



Learning is happening indoors and out!

Extended Care: We are ready to move forward and open the extended care program on **Monday, October 19**. Extended care will be limited to 18 students per day, and our hours will be adjusted to run from 3:00 - 5:00 as additional cleaning time will be required and will run from 5:00 - 5:30. I understand that this may be an inconvenience to some; however, there will be some after school care (as opposed to none currently), and to follow safety guidelines, we will need that extra half hour. **Please see the following information from Lisa Goodrich - Boyd, our extended care director:**

Aftercare families:

Greetings, it's been such a long time. I hope in our time away, you and your students are doing

well and taking solace that there are better days ahead of us. I wanted to check in with you to let you know some thoughts and plans for our upcoming aftercare sessions and how some aftercare aspects have changed.

First, I want to reassure you that your student's care and health are of the utmost concern. All aspects of protective protocols and measures will be followed.

What has changed:

***no program provided snacks.** If you would like your student to have an after-school snack, you will need to send one with your student.

***aftercare will end at 5:00 pm.** This is to ensure enough time for deep cleaning of commonly used surfaces.

***crafts and small toys are allowed.** Previously we discouraged bringing personal items from home. Still, if a small craft item, coloring book, action figure, etc., would help your student occupy their time, they are more than welcome to bring them as long as they understand they will not share it with other students.

***water fountains are closed,** so please send your student an extra water bottle for the aftercare session.

***masks will be worn at all times (grades 3 and above, recommended grades K - 2),** including outdoor play but may be removed during snack time.

*** Parents will not sign the check out log to limit any unnecessary exposure, and I will sign the student "out" log once I've made visual contact with the parent at the gate. I will have a google voice number (818) 945-9756, which will allow parents to phone me directly when they are at the gate.**

***we will try to play outdoors as much as possible,** so please send your student with appropriate clothing (sweater, coat, etc.)

***When the weather changes and it gets darker earlier,** we will be in the art room.

***Pre-registration is required** for your student to attend aftercare.

Extended care will be open MOST minimum days; however, it will not be available during our Virtual Conference Week (more information coming on conference week). To sign your children up for October 19 - November 30, please click [here](#).

Family Mass: Traditionally, St. Rose Catholic School has hosted a "Family Mass" on roughly the first Sunday of every month. **Our first Family Mass is this Sunday at 10:00 AM** and would be hosted by the 6th grade. **Before COVID, we were able to host the Mass and participate in different liturgical ministries. Unfortunately, we are currently under guidelines that do not allow the same involvement in the liturgy.** Students will not have a specific liturgical role in this Mass, but your family is still invited to gather with other 6th grade families in prayer.

Last week we were able to return to indoor Mass. You are invited to attend Mass this Sunday, but please note that your temperature will be taken upon arrival and the church is open to only 100 guests. There is an overflow area outside of the church and behind the Adult Learning Center in the newly designed International Garden. If you cannot join us in person, you can find the virtual link to the Mass on the parish website at <http://www.saintrosechurch.org/word/>.



Buck A Jeans Day: Just a quick reminder on Buck A Jeans Day: Students need to bring their dollar into class to give to the teacher if they plan to wear jeans. **Jeans must be clean and in good condition with no holes.** I know it is a style now; however, students are not to have "ripped or torn jeans per our free dress policy." Thank you for supporting this policy. Additionally, we typically have the class that hosts Mass on a specific month to choose a charity to donate collected monies. **This year, as classes will not be hosting Mass, Buck a Jeans money will be donated to the school for our more extensive than usual janitorial and cleaning supply bills.**

Pet Blessing: Traditionally on the first Monday of October St. Rose Catholic School hosts a "Pet Blessing" where children can bring their pets in the morning to be blessed at the flagpole. Due to COVID - 19 safety requirements, we will be unable to have our pets at school this year. Students, however, may bring in a stuffed animal or picture of their pet to be blessed with their class.

New Families

I would like to extend a huge WELCOME to all of the new students and family who have joined the St. Rose Catholic School community since the end of the year:

- Alakel Family (5th grade)
- Arndt Family (4th grade)
- Blanke Family (1st grade)
- Campos Family (Kindergarten)
- Hattar Family (Pre-K)
- Cunningham Family (Kindergarten)
- Fitzsimmons Family (Kindergarten)
- Gordon Family (Kindergarten)
- Lagattuta Family (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 8th grades)
- Lawrence Family (4th)
- Moretto Family (Kindergarten)
- Nerelli Family (1st grade)
- Nino Family (Pre-K)

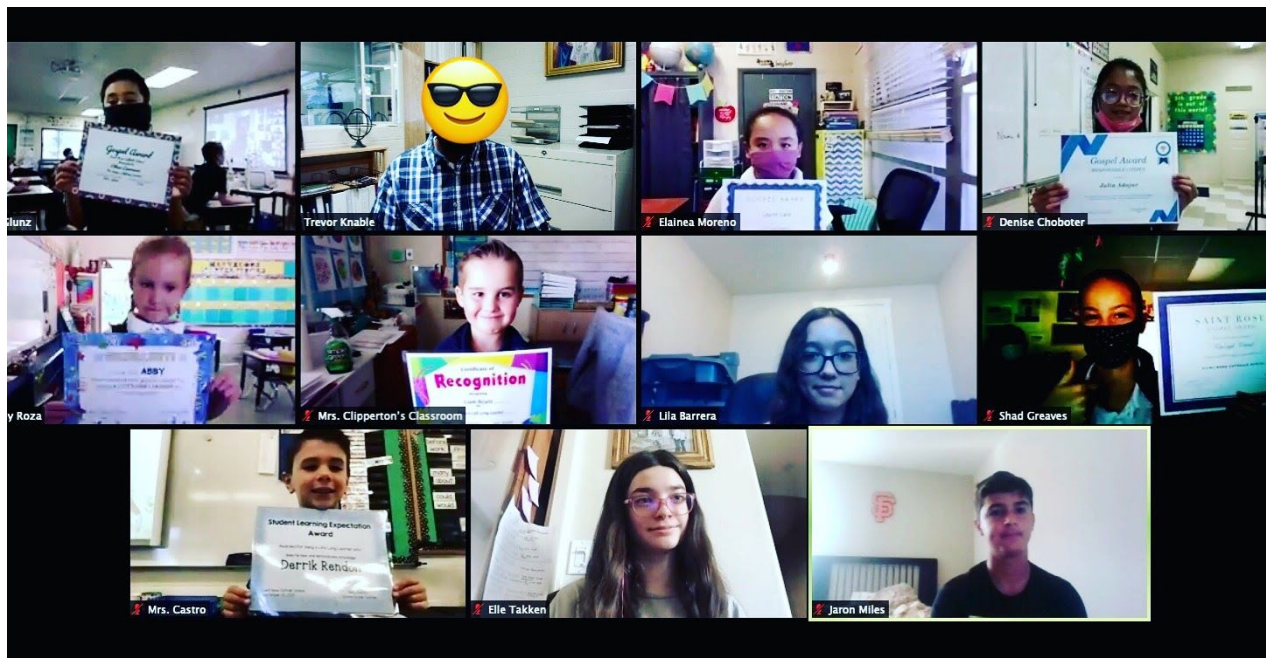
- Pecot Family (Kindergarten)
- Roza Family (Pre-K)
- Rutter Family (1st, 7th grades)
- Stornetta Family (Pre-K)
- Tapar Family (Pre-K)
- Teague Family (Pre-K)
- Telford Family (2nd)
- Torres Family (Pre-K)
- Walker Family (Pre-K, Kindergarten)
- Westerling Family (1st grade)

Welcome aboard and always feel free to reach out and contact me with any questions!

Upcoming Dates to Remember

October:

- 2 Custodian Appreciation Day, Minimum Day Noon Dismissal, School Mass @ 11:00
- 5 Pet Blessing
- 6 7/8th grade Star Testing @ 1:45
- 7 PTO Board Meeting @ 8:15, 7/8th grade Star Testing @ 1:45
- 12 No School (Professional Development Day)
- 13 PTO General Meeting @ 6:00
- 14 Picture Day grades PK - 4
- 15 Picture Day grades PK, 5 - 8, SAC Board Meeting @ 5:30
- 21 Buck A Jeans Day
- 23 End of Quarter 1, St. Rose Fall Drive-Thru BBQ 5:00 - 6:30
- 27 Picture Retake Day
- 30 Halloween Theme Free Dress, Virtual Gospel Awards Assembly @ 8:30, "Drive-Thru" Harvest Festival



Congratulations to our September Gospel Awards recipients!

The St. Rose Catholic School Experience

This summer, I interviewed more families that I usually do. One of the questions I always ask a prospective family follows along the lines of "Why are you interested in St. Rose Catholic School"? While I will not address all answers, I frequently hear positive responses such as

- I was raised Catholic or in a faith-based family, and I would like the same for my child.
- I love the small school setting where there is a feeling of safety and attentiveness by the staff and administration.
- My friends' children go here, and they have been pleased with the school.
- There is a sense of community that is not present at other schools.

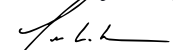
This list goes on and on. At that point, I usually tell families about the school, my experience as a teacher and administrator at the school, and my experience as a parent. I agree with everything that most state; however, there is so much more. St. Rose Catholic School incorporates faith and morals with high academic standards. Our small school size allows faculty to know all students and better address their needs and "partner with parents." Our community is second to none. We welcome students of all faiths, socio-economic classes, ethnicities, and backgrounds, and support their development to become positive influences on those around them.

In looking back on last February's Parent Satisfaction Survey, I am reminded of what makes St. Rose Catholic School a place where 99.06% of you said you would "recommend St. Rose Catholic School" to other families. A few highlights include:

- 98.33% of respondents stated that they strongly agree or agree that "St. Rose offers appropriate and challenging academic programs".
- 99.12% of respondents stated that they strongly agree or agree that "St. Rose teachers engage my child(ren) daily in the educational process".
- 99.09% of respondents stated that they strongly agree or agree that "My child(ren) is happy at school."
- 99.10% of respondents stated that they strongly agree or agree that "Spiritual values are reinforced at St. Rose".
- 100% of respondents stated that they strongly agree or agree that "St. Rose helps my child(ren) develop an appropriate set of ethics and values".
- 97.25% of respondents stated that they strongly agree or agree that "Appropriate safety and security measures are in place."
- 100% of respondents stated that they strongly agree or agree that "School administration and faculty foster a sense of community at St. Rose".
- 99.08% of respondents stated that they strongly agree or agree that "The overall approach to classroom management and discipline works well for my child(ren)."

I am proud to be starting my 24th year of being involved with this remarkable St. Rose Catholic School community. Thank you for your support and encouragement in the past and through this pandemic. As always, my door is open for questions, comments, and feedback from our community.

Thank you again,



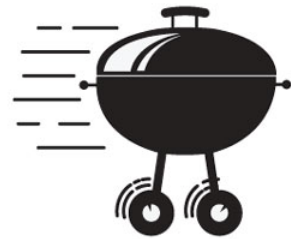
Trevor Knable

A N N U A L
ST. ROSE SCHOOL



DRIVE-THRU

BBQ



FRIDAY
OCT
23

5:00- 6:30PM

\$50

FAMILY MEAL:
1 WHOLE TRI-TIP,
BEANS, SALAD, GARLIC
BREAD & DESSERT

820 CRESTON ROAD
PASO ROBLES, CA

TICKETS CAN BE
PURCHASED ONLINE BY
CLICKING THE BBQ LINK AT

WWW.SAINTROSECATHOLICSSCHOOL.ORG

TICKETS MUST BE
PRE-PURCHASED
THERE WILL BE NO DAY OF
TICKET SALES

FOR MORE INFO CALL
805.238.0304



Until next month.....