



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 Lent

Almighty and Everlasting God,
You have given the human race Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility.
He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man and giving his life on the cross.
Help us to bear witness to You by following His example of suffering and make us worthy to share in His resurrection.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.
Amen

Message from the Principal

I want to thank those of you who completed and submitted the 2020 - 2021 Parent Satisfaction Survey. I was delighted with the data and feedback that I received, both positive and areas of improvement or concern. As usual, the input gathered helps to inform some of my decision-making and look at areas that could use more focus. I always try to group four or five takeaways from each survey and plan to address them.
Right now, I'd like to say that I appreciate your candid feedback and would like to take a moment **to address a few items that came up or questions that respondents asked that I feel are best addressed in a large forum.**

- **Regarding Extended Care:** We will be offering extended care during the 2021 - 2022 school year. St. Rose Catholic School will provide extended care much as it was beginning in the mid Fall of this school year: it will be limited to 15 - 18 students per day, families will need to pre-register their children, daily drop-in students will not be allowed, and families are charged if they have signed up regardless of if their children do or do not show up.
- **Regarding sports/extracurricular/co-curricular activities:** If regulations allow, I plan on resuming interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities such as clubs, band/music, choir, etc., next school year. Additionally, assuming that cohorts are allowed to intermix, I

plan to resume dedicated elective classes in the middle school and middle school overnight field trips and elementary daily field trips. The intent is there; we are merely awaiting clearance for these to be held.

In my April Principal's Newsletter, I will share all of the quantitative data with you. This data is a "bar graph and numbers only" way of seeing what families had to say about St. Rose Catholic School. **There were a few tidbits that I would like to share right now that I am incredibly proud of:**

- 99.26% of 135 respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that "St. Rose teachers engage my child(ren) daily in the educational process."
- 100% of 134 respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that "My child(ren) is happy at school."
- 100% of 135 respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that "Spiritual values are reinforced at St. Rose."
- 98.46% of 130 respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that "During non-COVID years, I believe that St. Rose offers an appropriate amount of community service programs."
- 98.51% of 134 respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that "Appropriate safety and security measures are in place."
- 100% of 133 respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that "School administration and faculty foster a sense of community at St. Rose."
- 99.24% of 132 respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that "My family is confident in the COVID 19 safety measures in place ON THE ST. ROSE CATHOLIC SCHOOL CAMPUS".
- 99.22% of 128 respondents answered "yes" to the question "Do you feel that the education received is worth the tuition cost."
- 100% of 130 respondents answered "yes" to the question "Would you recommend St. Rose Catholic School to others?"

Once again, I will include a complete breakdown of the survey results in my April newsletter.



Catholic Schools Week Preschool Fun!

New Items

2021 - 2022 School Year: With March rolling around, I have been trying to divide time equally between the current school year and projecting and planning for the 2021 - 2022 school year. While many COVID-influenced unknowns are moving into the next school year, there are some items that I have been working on and have been able to firm up.

- **The first day of school grades Pre-K through 8 will be Tuesday, August 24, and the last day of school will be Friday, June 10.**
- St. Rose Catholic School will offer extended Care Monday - Friday to a limited number of students daily as parents need the program to be run.
- **The [school calendar](#) is tentatively set**, with 20 half days listed throughout the school year. The majority of these days are on Friday afternoons to allow the staff to meet as a group for faculty meetings or smaller cluster groups.

I hope that by the next school year, the world will have a better handle on the COVID 19 situation and that schools will function on a more "normal" basis. I hope to resume interscholastic athletics, intermix students and get back to having "buddies" during or after school clubs, music, choir, and full church services. There have been so many aspects of the children's lives and school that have been negatively impacted by COVID 19, and I am eager to return to some semblance of normalcy.

2021 - 2022 Registration: Registration is open **March 1 - 5 for those of you who have siblings of current St. Rose Catholic School students** that you would like to have at school next year.

This "sibling" registration begins the second "tier" of registering students. If there is room available in the class or cohort that you are looking to enroll a child in, you will receive an invite this week, much like you did for your current St. Rose Catholic School student enrollment.

Beginning **March 8, we will start registration for non-current St. Rose Catholic School families.** There is a significant waiting list in many classes, so this may take some time to sort out. As a reminder, all registration is happening based upon our current classroom restriction caps. If these restrictions relax, we will open up additional slots in our classes.

2021 St. Rose Catholic School Virtual Auction: Thank you again to our fantastic team of volunteers who have helped make our 25th rendition of our Annual Dinner Auction Celebration possible. Our silent auction begins today and lasts through Sunday, March 7, and our live auction occurs on Saturday, March 6. Ticket sales are now closed; however, you do not need to have a ticket to the event to take advantage of our raffle for a 13.3-inch Macbook Air (\$10.00 per raffle ticket/ends Friday) or our Golden Ticket. **Golden Tickets are a raffle game where the winner gets to pick any of the Live Auction items as their prize. There are 22 prizes to choose from, and they can be viewed on our [School Auction Website](#). We will only sell 199 Golden Tickets at \$100.00 each.** These tickets are available on the auction website, in the school office, or from an Auction Team Member. Don't hesitate as there are only a handful of tickets left!

St. Rose Catholic School Faculty COVID Vaccination Update: Beginning this week and lasting for the next six weeks, four vaccination spots have been reserved for St. Rose Catholic School faculty and staff. I am happy to hear that those that wish to be vaccinated will finally have

an opportunity to do so. This scenario does, however, **pose a few potential problems that may affect our school children. I want to make you aware of these so that nobody gets caught off guard.**

- Some people react with COVID-like symptoms, particularly with the second shot. I spoke with my superintendent about requirements on how to handle potential reactions to the COVID vaccination for staff members. **Diocesan protocol will be as follows: if an employee exhibits COVID-like symptoms, regardless if they have just received the shots or not, they must go into the COVID 19 protocol that many are now familiar with.** (To come back to school/work a 10-day quarantine, a symptomatic individual will need a doctor's note citing a non-infectious diagnosis or a negative COVID test, including an improvement of symptoms and being fever-free for at least 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication.)
- **All teachers have been asked to be prepared to teach from home, if necessary, to a class who is physically at school, or possibly at home if we cannot cover a class as we are spread thin.** This year we have a substitute teacher list with a total of one substitute teacher who is interested in working (however, she also has been working at other schools, which poses problems and is in high demand.) **If a teacher or staff member has been out, we've been doing our best to reallocate current staff to ensure we have students covered if I don't have enough healthy staff to cover classes, I may need to transition a class to distance learning for a day or more until I have a healthy enough faculty to cover classes.**
- **A worst-case scenario would be that multiple teachers feel too sick to teach from home (as we did to start the year and after Christmas vacation), AND I don't have healthy faculty to cover classes at school.** If this were the case, students may need to work from home asynchronously (essentially, teachers would give work and information to students/parents, and they would work independently with a due date given to complete the work). This scenario would look more like distance learning last Spring when there was not as much screen time allowed, and children and families were spending less time engaged with a teacher.

I hope that we don't run into any of the above-listed scenarios; however, I want to be prepared for it just in case. I have spoken to another administrator at a school in Santa Cruz, and they had 13 teachers vaccinated in one week, and six of them had to be out for some time due to COVID-related symptoms. Fortunately, we will do four per week, so hopefully, this helps to alleviate these problems. Additionally, **I commend all of my faculty and staff for being at work in-person this year and doing their best to provide our children with a high-quality Catholic education in what is likely the most challenging year of their teaching careers.**

Elks Essay Contest 2020 - 2021: We had many St. Rose Catholic School 6 - 8th-grade students enter essays into the local Paso Robles Elks Organization 2020 - 2021 essay contest. This year's topic was "How Can Patriotism be Demonstrated?" Thank you once again, Ms. Davis, for promoting this contest!

We have many amazing writers in our Middle School, and it is wonderful to have them recognized outside of the school. Each year the Elks organization across the country holds a patriotic essay

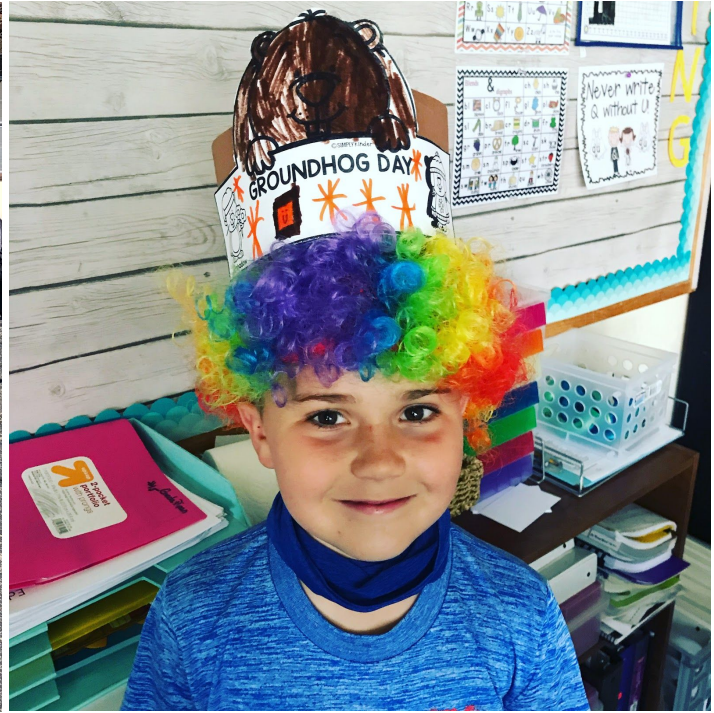
contest. Our local chapter, here in Paso Robles, has long been a supporter of this contest. This year St. Rose was the only school in the city to enter; usually there are several schools who participate. Last year St. Rose swept all of the award categories! The topic this year was "How Can Patriotism be Demonstrated?" There are two levels of competition: 7-8th and 5-6th. In the first category the winners are **1st place: Grace Nano, 2nd place: Presley Arciero, and 3rd place: Lila Barrera**. With only four entries from the 6th grade they chose to give one away, **1st place, which went to Charlie Roden**. The Elks also generously provided cash Visa cards to our winners. We are so proud of all who entered and offer congratulations to our winners. - Ms. Davis, Middle School ELA Teacher

WASC/WCEA Accreditation: St. Rose Catholic School is nearing the end of our six-year accreditation cycle and will be up for our accreditation renewal in March of 2022. Initially, our accreditation was supposed to happen in the Spring of 2021; however, COVID 19 got in the way, and all accreditations were extended by a year. **That being said, and due to "extraordinary circumstances," our Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, Kimberly Cheng, has given us two non-instructional school days for faculty and staff to work together and collaborate on our accreditation.** This will allow us to get on track as my staff has worked tirelessly to provide in-person and virtual instruction over the past year and has precluded us from working on our accreditation. Please note, **Monday, April 12, and Friday, May 21 have been granted to St. Rose Catholic School as non-instructional, teacher workdays for work solely on our accreditation process.** This means for families and students that these two days (which were scheduled school days) will be days off of instruction for your children. Per our superintendent, no days will need to be added to the end of the school year to make up for these missed instructional days due to the circumstances.

School Uniform Policies: Please remember to double check the school uniform policies if you have questions about what "is allowed and what isn't allowed". I know we've all been under a different level of stress this year, but I want to make sure that we are following the dress code. You can find the dress code beginning on page 25 of our [2020 - 2021 Parent Handbook](#).



Congratulations to our February Gospel Awards Winners!



Nice hair, however this wouldn't be to code except on "crazy hair day"!

Old Items

School Store: As a reminder, the [school store](#) will be open roughly the first week of every school month, Monday - Friday. Orders will be delivered to school approximately two weeks after the order has been placed.

Water Bottles in Office: As you know, this year, all of our drinking fountains have been turned off. The water bottle refill station does work; however, many students forget their water from home and come into the office to get bottled water. We have been supplying it, yet it seems to be almost a daily routine for some. Please remember to send your child a water bottle every day. Additionally, if anyone wants to donate some bottled water to the office, it would be helpful and save Michelle some extra trips to the grocery store to restock our supplies!

Upcoming Dates to Remember

March:

1 - 5: Preschool Registration for non-current school students, K - 8 registration for siblings of current students, School store open, Basketball Charity Mania Tickets sent home, due back 3/18

1 - 7: St. Rose Catholic School Annual Auction Celebration

1: PTO Board Meeting @ 8:15

5: No School/Professional Development Day

6: Live Auction Celebration

8 - 26: Early Enrollment Period for non-current school families

9: PTO General Meeting @ 6:00: Topic: Saint Rose School General PTO Meeting
Time: Mar 9, 2021 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83739260865?pwd=M3dvQm4zTjlmZUZlYXhJZU2xKcjdLUT09>

Meeting ID: 837 3926 0865

Passcode: 8052380304

12: Lenten Mass @ 8:30

17: Jeans and St. Patrick's Day top free dress

18: SAC Board Meeting @ 5:30, Charity Mania Tickets Due

19: 8th Grade Free Dress, Minimum Day/Noon Dismissal, Middle School NET Retreat 8:30 - 11:30, Faculty Meeting @ 1:00

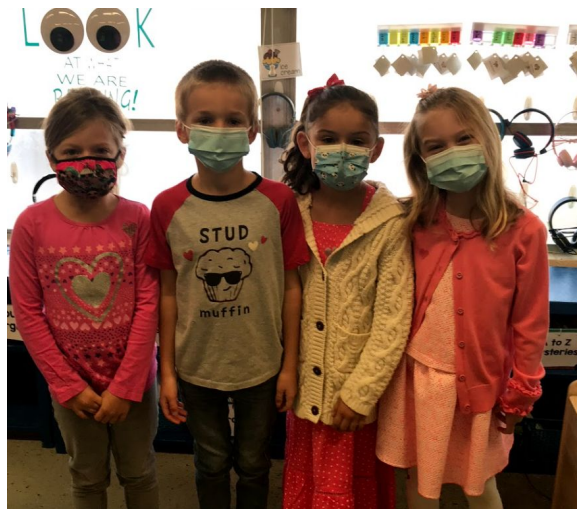
24: 1st Communion Parent Meeting @ 6:30

26: End of Quarter 3, K - 8 Early Registration Period Ends, Gospel Awards @ 8:30, Spirit Shirt Day

29 - 2: School Store Open

31: Minimum Day/Noon Dismissal, Stations of the Cross @ 11:00

April 1 - 12: Easter Vacation



Valentine's Day Free Dress!

For Your Information

What is the season of Lent?

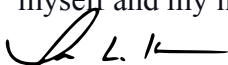
Lent is forty days in the Catholic Church that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at the start of the Easter Triduum on Holy Thursday night. The word Lent means "spring." This period is a time of conversion, repentance, and renewal. It is a time to grow in our relationship with God and allow him to spring forth new life in our hearts. In the scripture, we hear that Jesus spent time

in the desert after he was baptized in the Jordan River and before he started his public ministry. He spent forty days in the desert and was tempted by the devil. We spend this period of Lent united “in the desert with Jesus.” We examine our hearts. We return to him in that we “turn away from sin and be(come) faithful to the gospel,” just as the priest states on Ash Wednesday. Lent is a time to grow in holiness by committing to three practices: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Just as Jesus journeyed to the desert to pray, we, too, are drawn into a more profound time of prayer. We examine our relationship with God, and we reflect on the life of Christ, especially when we pray the Stations of the Cross.

Fasting allows us to make room in our lives for God. Fasting can be practiced in the traditional sense by using self-control and refraining from food. It can also consist of refraining from habits that have hindered our relationship with God. This can include examining our lives for areas of sin and replacing this with the practice of virtue. Almsgiving allows us to move beyond ourselves and to see the needs of others in the world. We give to those in need out of deep gratitude for all the blessings that God has graced us within this life. This practice again allows our hearts to grow in love for our neighbor and solidarity and concern for our world's poor and suffering. Another common Lenten way is to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As we make efforts to grow in our relationship with God, we acknowledge our sins; we turn to God's love and mercy offered to us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Last year, Pope Francis said, “Lent comes to us as a providential time to change course, to recover the ability to react to the evil that always challenges us.” We pray that this season of Lent would be a spiritual gift to all of our families at St. Rose as we join together in our collective desire for a deeper relationship with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops provides information about Lent on their website: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/lent>

Thank you once again to the entire St. Rose Catholic School community for your support of myself and my incredible staff!



Trevor Knable