

St. Joseph Catholic School

2009-2010

K-8 Registration Packet



6500 Highland Drive, Vancouver, WA 98661

Phone: 360-696-2586 Fax: 360-696-0977

www.stjoevanschool.org

School hours:

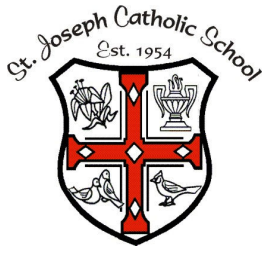
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8:20 – 3:00

Wed 7:45 – 2:10 (students in grades 1-8 attend 8am Mass)

Kindergarten begins at 8:20 on Wednesdays. However, the classroom opens at 7:45.

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St. Joseph Catholic School

Faith, Knowledge, Values ~ Weaving a Tapestry for Life

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

It is my pleasure to announce open enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year at St. Joseph Catholic School.

We are committed to providing an excellent Catholic education to all who wish to attend. We work each day to achieve this goal and to meet the needs of every student. Our students are taught the basics of all academic subjects. They are also taught to respect, love and serve others.

The information enclosed in this booklet gives you a glimpse of the personality of our school, the services we offer and the caring, skilled faculty we employ. Please read through it carefully and feel free to call the school office with any questions you may have.

Please complete the registration form and return it to the school office. To hold your spot as a returning family, the deadline is February 27, 2009. After this date, returning families will lose their priority for first admission, and class space will be open to new applicants. After receiving your registration, a letter will be sent to you confirming your intention to enroll at St. Joseph Catholic School.

I look forward to welcoming your family to the 2009/10 school year!

Yours in Faith,

Lesley Harrison, Principal
St. Joseph Catholic School

St. Joseph Catholic School

Mission and Philosophy Statements

MISSION

St. Joseph Catholic School, rooted in Catholic values, partners with our families and parish community to develop the spiritual, academic, and social growth of each student.

PHILOSOPHY

St. Joseph Catholic School, as a ministry of St. Joseph Parish, is a Catholic community where we live and learn together spiritually, academically and socially. We value the development of each student and support parents as the primary educators of their children. Our teachers, as facilitators of learning, will:

Spiritually

- **foster** a community based on Gospel values
- **encourage** an awareness of each individual's worth
- **cultivate** the practice of the faith including prayer and participation in liturgical life

Academically

- **establish** high expectations and standards
- **expect and provide support for** each child to work to their full potential
- **promote** independent and cooperative learning

Socially

- **inspire** positive participation in the local and global communities
- **guide** each child to respect self and others through words, actions and service
- **encourage** physical and emotional wellness

St. Joseph Catholic School is a student-centered, faith-based educational community that nurtures each student as a whole person and a child of God.

Enrollment Information

Enrollment in St. Joseph Catholic School is allocated in the following order of priority:

1. Current St. Joseph Catholic School families
A current St. Joseph Catholic School family is one who has a student currently enrolled at the school. Siblings of currently enrolled students have first priority of acceptance.
2. Active parishioners of St. Joseph Church who are new to the school
A St. Joseph active parishioner is defined as a family who:
 - *is registered at St. Joseph Church*
 - *participates in weekly Mass as indicated by the presence of their offertory envelope*
 - *completes an annual stewardship card and contributes as pledged*
 - *actively participates in church activities/ministries*
3. Active parishioners from other Catholic parishes in the local area
4. Active parishioners of a parish outside the local area who currently have children enrolled in a Catholic elementary school and are transferring to St. Joseph Church
5. All others

Registration:

1. Registration materials will be available beginning January 23, 2009.
2. Completed registration forms received by February 27, 2009, will be given priority status as listed above. Forms received after this date will be processed on a first come, first serve basis.
3. Parents will be notified of the receipt of registration materials by mail.
4. Tuition contracts will be sent to accepted families by May 6, 2009.
5. Completed tuition contracts are due in the school office by 4pm, May 15, 2009. Any registered family who does not turn in a tuition contract by this date will lose their registration fee and position for admission. They will be required to begin the registration process again and acceptance will be determined on a space-available basis.
6. Required fees (book, technology, classroom supply fees) are due in the school office by 4pm, June 1, 2009. These are non-refundable. Any registered family who does not turn in the required fees by this date will lose their registration fee and position for admission; and their contract is null and void.

Statement of Nondiscrimination:

The Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Seattle admit students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to all the schools. St. Joseph Catholic School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, athletics and other school administered programs.

Placement:

Students registering for kindergarten must be five years of age on or before August 31 of the year for which they are applying for admission. Students registering for first grade must be six years of age on or before August 31 of the year for which they are applying for admission.

Students will be placed in the proper grade according to their successful completion of the previous grade level work. For students applying for admission to grades 2 through 8, acceptance will be dependent on previous academic records, behavior record, and possible interview results (both parent/s and child). All new students will be administered a placement test.

St. Joseph Catholic School strives to maintain a maximum of 25 students in each class. There may be, at times, more than 25 students in a class.

Parent/Guardian Involvement

Share Hours

St. Joseph Catholic School as a ministry of the larger community of St. Joseph Parish, embraces stewardship in the form of contributing our time, talent and treasure. Its success is dependent upon the volunteer efforts of the parent and parish community.

The tuition contract states that each family will contribute 50 hours (25 hours for single parent families) of their time and talent to the school and parish. (Up to 10 of the 50/25 SHARE hours may be in a church ministry for those families receiving a subsidy from their local Catholic parish.)

Fundraisers

St. Joseph Catholic School has established several ways for families to contribute their time, talent and treasure to the school via fundraising so that students do not participate in direct sale fundraising.

Scrip: Scrip is another word for GIFT CERTIFICATE. The school purchases certificates from national providers and local businesses at a discount, and resells them at face value, creating a profit. The Scrip year runs May 1 – April 30. Proceeds from the Scrip fundraiser go toward the school operating budget.

The tuition contract states that each school family will raise \$150 for the school by purchasing Scrip in the amount needed to earn \$150 in profit, or by paying \$150 outright. If a family exceeds the \$150 requirement, 10% of the overage is tithed to St. Joseph Church and 90% is applied toward student fees for the following school year.

Sausage Fest: This event kicks off the school year every September, the weekend following Labor Day. Involving over 1500 volunteers, this Vancouver community tradition attracts over 30,000 people to our parish campus in less than three days. The Sausage Fest began more than 35 years ago, and its proceeds go toward the school operating budget.

The tuition contract states that each school family will commit to work 3 shifts at this event.

Jog-a-Thon: The 2008 jog-a-thon was held in the fall and raised \$29,000. The purpose of this fundraiser is to easily involve family and friends who are not our direct school families. This is an opportunity to support our school with a tax-deductible donation at their comfort level. Proceeds from the jog-a-thon go toward special school projects and needs.

Each school family is asked to mail/email a specified number of form letters to family and friends. All students will walk/jog on the day of the event.

Casino Night: This casual, adult-only event held in November, is an opportunity for parents and friends to socialize and have fun. Proceeds from this fundraiser go toward the school operating budget.

The tuition contract states that each school family will contribute \$5 per student to this event.

Auction: The auction is celebrated each spring with music, dinner, silent and live auctions. Proceeds go toward tuition assistance and special projects of the school.

The tuition contract states that each family will donate:

- \$100 or procure a new Auction item valued at \$100 by Feb. 15. This amount is discounted to \$75 if received in the Auction office by Jan. 15.
- An amount no greater than \$15 per student in support of each student's class project.

Golf Tournament: This event is held each summer and proceeds go toward school programs as needed. Each family is invited to participate in and support the golf tournament.

The proceeds from these events help keep tuition costs down by funding school operating costs and special projects.

Extra-curricular Activities

All extra-curricular activities rely on volunteers for the success of the programs. All offerings are based on student interest and availability of instructors. More information is available on our website www.stjoevanschool.org.

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)

The CYO sports program is open to members of St. Joseph Catholic School and Parish. It offers:

Volleyball	Grades 3-8	Girls	Fall
Swimming	Grades K-8	Girls and Boys	Late Fall/Winter
Basketball	Grades 1-8	Girls and Boys	Winter
Track	Grades 3-8	Girls and Boys	Spring

The Parent Teacher Organization, School and Parish coordinate extra-curricular activities. While these occasionally vary, the following are programs we typically offer:

Camp Fire	Heritage Girls	Parish Youth Group
Ceramics	KidzArt	Red Cross Babysitting
Chess Club	Knitting	Red Cross First Aid
Cub Scouts	Lego Robotics	Red Cross First Aid for Pets
Drama	Mad Science	Roman Catholic Challenge
Girl Scouts	Mural Club	Speech Team
Foreign Languages	Parish Youth Choir	Video Production

Buddy Connection

It is very important to the staff of St. Joseph Catholic School that our new families feel welcome, informed, and connected. The following events are just the start to help form a great relationship between new families and the existing school community:

Kinder Info Night	Feb 10
Kinder Assessments	Apr 14 & 24
Buddy Families	Ongoing
New Parent Night	June 8
New Family Picnic	TBA

We hope that every family, when joining the St. Joseph Catholic School community, will feel free to contact our Buddy Connection Coordinators, Alissa Maxwell and Kim LaValley, with any questions or concerns they may have. Alissa and Kim extend the invitation to give them a call or drop them an email.

Alissa Maxwell	360.213.3312	alissavmaxwell@gmail.com
Kim LaValley	360.885.1085	kimlavalley@comcast.net



Parent Teacher Organization (PTO): Every St. Joseph Catholic School parent or guardian is a member of the PTO. The PTO helps maintain a close relationship between the home and school, encouraging all parents to participate actively in their children’s faith formation, education and school activities. Parents understand the importance of sharing time and talent to make our school a better place for the children and the caring staff who teach them. The PTO works with the school administration for increased ease of communication. The PTO provides a sense of community and enhances the spirit of the student body by hosting several fun events each year, such as the family sock hop dance and field day. The PTO regularly schedules Educational Enrichment assemblies for our students and coordinates extra-curricular classes (page 7). The PTO raises funds with a holiday wreath sale and book fair to provide for school assemblies, needs in the classrooms, the library, and to ensure the faculty is shown appreciation for the work they do.

St. Joseph Catholic School 2009/2010 Tuition and Fees Schedule for K-8

Registration Fee (non-refundable) <i>(Due at registration - Feb. 27, 2009, for returning families)</i>	One student	\$ 100
	2 or more students	\$ 150
Book Fee <u>per student</u> due June 1		\$ 140
Technology Fee <u>per student</u> due June 1		\$ 100
Supply Fee <u>per student</u> due June 1		\$ 45
Smart Fee will be included with your August 10 tuition payment		\$ 43

Total Tuition Due	Active Parishioner Rate	Non-Active, Non-Parishioner Rate
1 student	\$4,408.00	\$6,118
2 students	\$8,595.60 <i>(reflects a 5% discount on the second child)</i>	\$12,236
3 students	\$12,562.80 <i>(reflects 5% discount on the second child and a 10% discount on the third child)</i>	\$18,354

Tuition Assistance

Tuition assistance is provided by St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph Catholic School and the Archdiocese of Seattle. Forms are available from the school office or online at www.seattlearch.org/schools. Completed applications are due February 20, 2009 to the school office for the 2009/2010 school year. If you wish to be considered for tuition assistance, you must complete the Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Grant Application form, include a copy of your 2007 Income Tax forms, and a letter explaining your family's circumstances and the amount of tuition assistance you feel you need for the year.

Hot Lunch Program

A nutritious hot lunch is served each full day of school. Students may choose the main entrée, a yogurt and cheese option or the salad bar. Lunch costs \$2.75 for students and \$3.00 for adults with additional costs per extra serving. One milk is included with hot lunch, and additional milks may be purchased for \$.45 each. St. Joseph Catholic School participates in the National Hot Lunch Program, a government program that subsidizes the hot lunch program. Families may apply for free or reduced lunch at any time during the school year. This is a confidential process and applications are available in the school office.

Extended Care

for St. Joseph Catholic School Students Only (K-8)

The St. Joseph Catholic School Extended Care program is an extension of St. Joseph Catholic School. The program offers professional care and supervision in a loving and nurturing environment. The Extended Care program opens at 7:00 a.m. Students are escorted to class at 8:20 a.m. (7:45 a.m. on Wednesdays) when the first bell rings. The Extended Care program re-opens at 3:00 p.m. (2:10 p.m. on Wednesdays), and closes at 6:00 p.m. On half days, Extended Care opens when school is dismissed. Due to staff scheduling we are not able to offer drop-in services.