

January 27, 2012

Dear Parents,

Second quarter report cards are being sent home today with all students (grades K-8). After reviewing the report card with you child, please sign the card and return it to school. Be sure to make an appointment with a teacher if you have any questions or concerns. (Please remember that Open House is not an appropriate time to discuss individual students.)

With the school year half over, it might be a good time to check your child's school and art supplies. This is probably a good time to replenish supplies.

Sunday begins our celebration of National Catholic Schools Week. This is the week when all Catholic schools join together to let the entire American public know what a great gift Catholic schools are to the nation. I hope you and your family will be able to join us for 9:30 am Mass as we offer thanks to God for our school community and pray for His continued blessings on all who are part of our community.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Catholic Schools: Faith • Academics • Service". I hope you agree that your children, with a St. Pius education will be faith filled and people who serve others throughout their lives.

On Sunday, January 29, students, wearing uniforms, should gather with their family in Church for the 9:30 am Mass. Mass will be followed by Open House, the Science Fair and Book Fair until 12:00 noon. Be sure to visit the East Wing and see the incredible display of where St. Pius School families find God. Students wearing uniforms should be sure to see their classroom teacher to receive a free dress pass to use on Monday, January 30.

Parent and student led tours will be available for prospective new families. These will begin in the foyer of Fitzsimon Center. Please encourage any interested families that you may know to join a group tour.

The teachers have planned various activities for this special week which ends on Thursday, February 2, with our Shamrock-a-Thon. The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Shamrock-a-Thon will begin on Thursday at 1:30 pm. Students should bring comfortable free dress to change into for the Shamrock-a-Thon. Hopefully, all students are gathering sponsors for this student fundraiser.

This coming Friday, February 3, is a teacher in-service day and student holiday. The teachers will be joining many other Catholic school teachers in the Archdiocese for a staff development day. This promises to be a valuable in-service with excellent speakers.

Soon it will be time for re-registration for the next school year. If any family believes they will need financial aid, we ask that you first apply for assistance from the Archdiocese. This involves submitting the TADS financial aid on-line form. TADS is the service the Archdiocese uses to assist with distributing financial aid. (In prior years, Private School Aid was the company used.) This must be submitted by April 15. If you also have a child in a Catholic high school the deadline is February 8. A TADS financial aid application workshop can be found online at [www.tads.com](http://www.tads.com). This should give you the information you need to complete the application. Feel free to call me with questions at (650) 368-8327. Also, I can make computers available for anyone who might need this resource.

**Important dates this coming week are:**

Sunday, January 29	Catholic Schools Week Begins 9:30 am Mass 10:30 am to 12:00 Noon – Open House, Science Fair, Book Fair and School Tours
Thursday, February 2	100 <sup>th</sup> Day of School School Tour at 8:30 am Shamrock-a-Thon at 1:30 pm School Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
Friday, February 3	Teacher In-Service Student Holiday

I hope to see you Sunday at the 9:30 am Mass and at Open House. Blessings on your weekend.

Sincerely,



Rita Carroll  
Principal

Here are the scores from week 3 of the St. Pius Basketball season:

**BOYS:**

8th Varsity	39-23 win over Nativity
8th Sharks	32-30 loss to Nativity
JV	26-12 win over Nativity
6th Eagles	51-50 win over Nativity
6th Lions	25-18 loss to St. Raymond
5th Cubs	19-16 win over Nativity
5th Lions	17-13 loss to St. Catherine
5th Lions	16-8 win over St. Tim's

**GIRLS:**

Varsity	47-13 loss to Nativity
7th Sharks	34-9 win over St. Robert's
7th Sharks	21-18 loss to St. Matt's
6th Eagles	16-13 loss to Nativity
5th Cubs	8-5 win over Nativity

**This weekend, all games are at St. Pius.  
Please come and cheer our teams on!**

**BOYS:**

Saturday 1/28	4th Training vs. St. Charles	9:00 a.m.
	5th Lions vs. St. Matt's	10:00 a.m.
	5th Cubs vs. St. Charles	11:00 a.m.
Sunday 1/29	4th Training v. St. Tim's	6:00 p.m.
	6th Lions vs. St. Charles	1:00 p.m.
	6th Eagles vs. St. Charles	2:00 p.m.
	JV vs. St. Charles	3:00 p.m.
	8th Sharks vs. St. Matt's	4:00 p.m.
	Varsity vs. St. Charles	5:00 p.m.

**GIRLS:**

Saturday 1/28	4th Training vs. St. Catherine	12:00 p.m.
	5th Cubs vs. St. Charles	1:00 p.m.
	6th Eagles vs. St. Charles	2:00 p.m.
	7th Sharks vs. All Souls	4:00 p.m.
	Varsity vs. St. Robert's	5:00 p.m.

**ST. PIUS SCHOOL APPLICATIONS:** We are beginning the Kindergarten application process. Families with preschoolers may turn in applications **now** for the 2012-2013 school year. Applications are available in the office and online at [www.stpiusschool.org](http://www.stpiusschool.org). Applications should be returned by **Thursday, February 2, 2012**. There is a \$35.00 per student non-refundable application/testing fee. Bring copies of your child's birth and baptismal certificates, and social security number. For students entering grades 1-8, please bring copies of their most recent report card.

**ANNIE:** St. Pius Young People's Theater presents ANNIE. Performance dates are Friday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm, Saturday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm and Sunday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. General seating tickets will be sold at the door 45 minutes prior to each performance. Prices are \$6/adults, \$4/seniors, students and children. Reserved seating tickets are available and will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Prices are \$10/adults, \$8/seniors, students and children. For reserved seating tickets, please call **Karen Elmore at 207-7682** or **Meaghan Brennan at 208-5272**. PLEASE come and support the children of our parish and school. They have been working very, very hard and are doing an amazing job. Come and see, you won't be sorry!

**ST. PIUS BOOK FAIR:** St. Pius' Annual Scholastic Book Fair is coming soon! Be sure to visit the Book Fair on **Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>** during Open House. Due to the Book Fair's popularity, this year the Book Fair dates have been extended! We will continue to be open Monday through Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 2<sup>nd</sup>, after school each day from 2:30-3:30. An amazing selection of books will be available for all ages. Shop for your family, or purchase a book to be donated to your child's classroom. All proceeds benefit the St. Pius School library.

**Need Service Hours?** Volunteer at the Annual Book Fair! Help is needed in setting up and tearing down the Book Fair, as well as working the Book Fair on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at our Open House and after school from 2:30-3:30 on January 30<sup>th</sup> through February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please contact Vicki at (650) 261-0465 or at [vtakaha@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vtakaha@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested in helping.

**CAREER DAY 2012:** Join us **Monday, February 13, 2012** for our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Career Day for 5<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> graders. It's never too early for our children to know what wonderful possibilities are out in our world and what steps are needed to fulfill their dreams. **We are looking for speakers.** Some past career day speakers have been: a surgeon, professor of geography, flight crew members, technical director at Pixar, attorney, director of production for iTunes, production manager for Nike, software engineer at Google, senior vice president at Morgan Stanley, and owner of All Star Karate. Any friend or family member is welcome. Please contact Kika Kilmartin for more information at [kmck092488@att.net](mailto:kmck092488@att.net).

**WOMEN'S CLUB MARDI GRAS FUNDRAISER:** The St. Pius Women's Club Annual Fundraiser is **Saturday, February 11, 2012** celebrating Mardi Gras! The fun begins at St. Pius where we will Bead Up, then enjoy cocktails and dinner. Cable car trolleys will take us to downtown Redwood City to continue the fun with St. Gabriel's Celestial Brass Band, 2<sup>nd</sup> Line and more festivities. For more information, **please contact Chris Swan (650) 365-8511 or Michelle Ortiz (650) 364-6966.** You can also email us at [stpiuswomensclub@gmail.com](mailto:stpiuswomensclub@gmail.com).

# PTG AT A GLANCE

## “A Race to Nowhere” ~ February 28

**Special showing of “Race to Nowhere” will be held in Homer Crouse Hall. Morning show will be at 8:15 am. An evening showing will be at 6:00 pm with an optional conversation to follow.**

**All are welcome to attend this wonderful and educational movie... definitely a “Must See!!”**

**Order tickets now :**

**[RTNstpius229PM.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/RTNstpius229PM) – 6:00 pm**

**[RTNstpius229AM.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/RTNstpius229AM) – 8:15 am**

Don't forget to “like” the  
**St. Pius School PTG page on Facebook.**  
It's a great way to stay connected and receive updates on  
upcoming events.

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

This week we celebrate nationally Catholic Schools Week. At the 9:30 AM Mass, we will give thanks for all those who continue to pass on the Catholic faith to our children through the educational efforts and faith formation experienced in Catholic Schools. At St. Pius Parish, we can be especially grateful for the wonderful school we have and for the effective and consistent leadership in our school. For our principal, Miss Rita Carroll, vice-principal, Mrs. Peggy Zappelli, our dedicated teachers, administrative assistants and staff, aids and all those who daily serve the needs of our children--we give thanks to God and express our deep appreciation for all they do. Our gratitude also goes to the School Board and to the leadership board of the Parent-Teacher Group (PTG) and to all the parents who give greatly in terms of time, talent and treasure as a support and foundation for our school.

Please, come to the school's open house today at 10:30 AM, directly following Mass. Come and see what good things are happening at St. Pius School--I know you will be very proud and want to support our school, as you see the students' exhibits/presentations and talk with our students and their families. All are invited to the open house; and, if you have not been to the school lately, I encourage you to take some time to come and visit.

The national theme for Catholic Schools Week this year is: Faith--Academics--Service. Today's scripture readings at Mass invite us to be open to the powerful, healing words of Christ and to act on them in our daily lives. Catholic schools have the unique opportunity to provide the culture or the environment wherein our children not only learn the Word of God, they also can see how that Word is woven into the fabric of daily life.

Recently, I was reading a Catholic Update entitled: Catholic Schools: I'd Choose Them Again. The author, Elizabeth Bookser Barkley, a freelance writer and professor of English at College of Mount St. Joseph in Cincinnati, Ohio, writes: "Catholic schools must engage their students with the world in which they live, while at the same time helping students interpret and influence it. Catholic schools achieve these two goals because of five characteristics I have come to value."

Briefly, these five values the author describes as: 1. **Shared Values:** "Staff in Catholic schools have made a commitment to embrace a common set of Catholic-Christian values. They buy into core beliefs that they bring to all their classes, not just religion classes." 2. **Eucharistic Schools:** "The Eucharist is at the heart of Catholicism.....'The Church was born of the paschal mystery.' (Blessed John Paul II).....Simply put, Catholic schools provide opportunities to celebrate the Eucharist more often. Catholic schools integrate the celebration of the Eucharist into their curricula, scheduling all-school Masses, sometimes monthly, sometimes weekly." 3. **Learning the Catholic Story:** "...knowing our collective history is important if we are to understand the Church today....Catholic schools are places where teachers and

students can break open and digest that history, acknowledging the beauty as well as the blemishes." 4. **Applying Faith to the World:** "...children in Catholic schools are consistently exposed to a core of principles that gives a moral framework for dealing with contemporary issues and tensions. As one parent of Catholic schoolchildren told me, her family values Catholic schools because of 'the integration of mission, faith and social justice into the curriculum.'" 5. **Reason and Faith:** "Life is not just about facts, data and accumulation of knowledge. Life is also about mystery, wonder, awe---faith. Catholic schools equip their graduates to live in a complex world, with the intellectual tools to navigate its intricacies, as well as the faith that, in the words of Pope Benedict XVI to students, 'enables people to look to the future with hope' (address to university students, July 11, 2009)."

The author concludes: "As a Catholic parent and educator, I know that not every Catholic school fulfills the high expectations I have for them to demonstrate these five traits I admire and value. But they all have the capacity to do so. If 'Christ is the reason' for our Catholic schools, as signs in many Catholic school buildings proclaim, parents and parishioners whose money supports these schools need to hold our Catholic schools accountable for living out their missions."

I hope you take the opportunity to visit St. Pius School and get to know more about this important and central service and ministry in the life of our parish community.


Next Sunday, at all the Masses, we will kick off the Archbishop's Annual Appeal for 2012.

Plan ahead---On Sunday, Feb. 12, at the 9:30 AM Mass, we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for all those parishioners in need of this healing sacrament. More information will follow.

**TODAY'S 2nd Collection**, on this fifth Sunday of the month, is for the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society. Your financial gift goes along way to supporting those most in need in our local community. Don't forget to bring nonperishable food items and place them in the baskets at the doors of the church in order to help us assist those who have little food. Thank you for your financial offering and your gift of food.

God bless you this week,

Fr. Paul Rossi



## Family Activity

St. Pius School students will be making valentines for Meals on Wheels.

Please Bring in the following materials:

7<sup>th</sup>&8<sup>th</sup>-Stickers

5<sup>th</sup>&6<sup>th</sup>-Doilies

3<sup>rd</sup>&4<sup>th</sup>-Sequins/Jewels

2<sup>nd</sup>&1<sup>st</sup>- Ribbon

K- any of the above

Please bring in these materials by  
February 2, 2012



# U.S. CHESS MATES

Currently holding classes in Antelope, Carmichael, Citrus Heights, Dublin, Fair Oaks, Folsom, Fremont, Livermore, Los Altos, Menlo Park, Milpitas, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Newark, Palo Alto, Pleasanton, Redwood City, Roseville, Sacramento, San Jose, San Leandro, San Mateo, Saratoga, Sunnyvale, Union City and Woodside.



## Class Details

**Day and Time:**  
Thursdays 3:15 - 4:15pm  
**Held at:** Saint Pius School  
**Room:** TBA  
**Start Date:** Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012  
**End Date:** May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012

**Class Dates:**  
**Feb** 2, 9, 16, 23  
**Mar** 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
**Apr** 19, 26 **No Class 5, 12**  
**May** 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

**Fee:**  
8 weeks for \$88.00 quarter 1  
8 weeks for \$88.00 quarter 2  
16 weeks for \$176.00  
\*Quarter 1 - Feb 2 - Mar 22  
\*Quarter 2 - Mar 29 - May 31

*To Receive a scholarship  
please call (510) 648-2147*

# CHESS

## Academic Benefits

- Focusing • Visualizing • Weighing Options
- Analyzing Concretely • Abstract Thinking
- Planning • Patience • Thinking Ahead
- Socializing • Logic • Risk vs. Reward

**CHESS IS A GREAT WAY TO HAVE FUN**

## Classroom Format

• Classes will be held for one hour one day a week except on holidays and some minimum days

• 14 Students per group Groups can be broken up into six different skill levels.

- Pawn • Knight • Bishop
- Rook • Queen • King

• The first five minutes of class will be spent seating children and passing out student workbooks.

• First 25 minutes of class will be spent teaching class instruction

• Last 25 minutes of chess class students will play Tournament Games

• The last five minutes of chess class will be spent setting up boards and passing out homework

**All Students must be registered in class to participate.**



-Please cut and keep the top portion for your records -



## Chess Class Participation Registration form

All of our classes are held on school campus. All registrations will include weekly homework, in class tournament, games, weekly chess instruction, 1-14 student teacher ratio, point sheets, and an award at the end of each semester. Chess classes run for the entire year. We teach four different sessions, so you may choose to sign up for a semester or you may sign up in quarters.

**Fee:** Classes are \$11 per week. Payment must be made in full to participate in class. We no longer accept \$11 a week payments, any checks or cash given in less than the full amount unless authorized for a scholarship will be returned. **Financial Scholarship are available please contact Steven at 510.648.2147 or email him at [Steve@uschessmates.com](mailto:Steve@uschessmates.com).**

### Saint Pius Chess Class

Quarter 3 Feb 2 - Mar 22      Quarter 4 Mar 29 - May 31      Semester

Childs Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For more info, photos, tournaments and great games visit [www.uschessmates.com](http://www.uschessmates.com)

Please make all checks payable to U.S. Chess Mates and mail to:  
40087 Mission Blvd #263, Fremont, Ca 94536

#### Office Use

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash / Check# \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_ (Add / List)

## Dismissal and Photo Release

In chess class photos may be taken for student of the week, the web site or any other official printed publication. In doing so we reserve the right to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish or distribute the photo for the purpose of advertising for U.S. Chess Mates. I also understand that I may choose to not allow photos of my child/ren to be used at this time.

I understand that once an image is posted on U.S. Chess Mates website, the image can be downloaded by any computer user. Therefore, I agree to indemnify and hold U.S. Chess Mates harmless from any claims.

### Please Check One:

- Pictures of my child/ren may be used for U.S. Chess Mates publication.
- Picture of my child/ren may not be used for U.S. Chess Mates publication.

### Dismissal:

- My child has permission to walk home alone after chess class.
- My child needs to be walked to the schools after school program named below-  
**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_
- Please have my child wait in class until a A parent/guardian arrives

## Mardi Gras Dinner Saturday February 11, 2012



***“Laissez Les Bons Temp Rouler!” “Let the good times roll!”***

St. Pius Women’s Club Annual Fundraiser is a dinner party to celebrate Mardi Gras! If we can’t go to Mardi Gras we’ll bring Mardi Gras to us! The fun begins as St. Pius with Beading Up, cocktails and then dinner. Cable car trolleys will stop in to take us to downtown Redwood City where the fun continues with St. Gabriel’s Celestial Brass Band, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Line and more festivities.

Great music, great times, great raffles and great food!

- 6:00 Check in  
Grab your beads, feathers and more (Beads, boas, and more for purchase)  
No-host cocktails
- 6:45 Dinner – Jambalaya, Mardi Gras pasta, Louisiana Hot Links, Bread Pudding...  
y’all hungry yet?
- 7:45 Trolley Car pickup...destination downtown Redwood City
- 11:00 Trolley Car final drop-off at St. Pius

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Grand Marshall Ticket (dinner, roundtrip trolley & throw beads) \$60 per person - How many? \_\_\_\_\_  
Cajon Cuisine Ticket (dinner only) \$30 per person - How many? \_\_\_\_\_

Names \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this to the attention of Women’s Club Mardi Gras to the school office or the Parish Center.  
Questions: Please contact either Chris Swan 365.8511 or Michelle Ortiz at 364.6966. Or email us at [stpiuswomensclub@gmail.com](mailto:stpiuswomensclub@gmail.com)

**\*\*Trolley Car Tickets & Packages must be pre-purchased by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> to reserve your seat(s).  
Based upon availability some Trolley Car tickets may be available at the door for \$35 per person.\*\***