



# The HeartBeat

A Newsletter for Alumni & Friends of St. John Eudes School

Visit us at [www.sjeschool.net](http://www.sjeschool.net)

## Catholic Schools Week Begins with SJE Open House National Celebration Being Held from Jan. 26 thru Feb. 1

Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week has been the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2020 is January 26 - February 1.

The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2020 is “*Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.*” Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. At St. John Eudes School our celebration of CSW includes a number of events focused on the theme of the day, including:

**Sunday, Jan. 26 - In Our Parish:** We begin by celebrating our faith with a Children’s Mass at 9:00 am. Students will be helping at Mass in various roles and Student Council members will be present in their school uniforms, with

our National Junior Honor Society members hosting hospitality in Grill Hall after all Sunday morning masses. Our Open House begins at 10:00 am thru 1:00 pm. Visitors are



invited to visit classrooms, the McNamara Library, the Science Lab, as well as other rooms, and the displays in Grill Hall - which will also include the *Scholastic Book Fair* featuring books for all ages and interests. Information about the school and applications will be available in the School Office.

**Monday, Jan. 27 - In Our Community:** Our 8th Grade class will host a reception in Grill Hall for parishioners after the 8:15 am Mass. There will also be a number of student activities that celebrate various aspects of our community.

**Tuesday, Jan. 28 - In Our Students:** Students will celebrate with a sports days including a Buddy Picnic Lunch and the ever popular *Faculty vs. 8th Grade Volleyball Team Game*.

**Wednesday, Jan. 29 - In Our Nation:** Stu-  
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Highlights:

- **Catholic Schools Week to Showcase Value of Catholic Education**
- **SJE Open House Invites All to See Student Accomplishments**
- **Students Complete Holiday Season with Great Memories & Experiences**
- **Award Winning Author Booked to Teach Students About Literature**
- **WCEA/WASC Committee to Meet with Staff, Teachers for Reaccreditation Visit and Review**
- **Alumni Steps Up to Protect Community; Aspires to Join LAPD**
- **Chess Team Never Board with Game; Takes Top Honors at Tournament**
- **Students Visit Animal Shelter; Deliver Donation to Help Animals in Need**
- **PTSO Spring Fundraiser to Bring “Havana Nights” to Porter Ranch C.C.**

**morality**  
committed followers of Jesus

**character**

**compassion**  
**faithful**  
**productive leaders**  
**integrity**

**SE**

responsible and environment  
responsible learners

**St. John Eudes Catholic School**  
**TK-8th Grade**



**Your child deserves a great values based education. We'll show you one at our Open House**  
**Sunday January 26**



# Catholic Schools Week

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dents are encouraged to wear patriotic ribbons and red/white/blue socks to celebrate our national heritage and identity. Guest speaker will be retired LAFD Battalion Chief Steve Ruda.

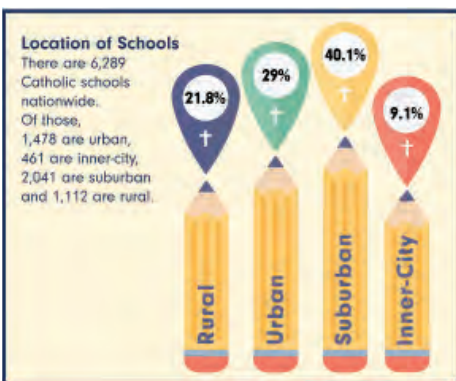
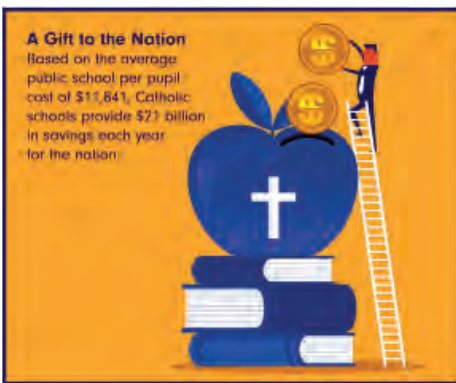
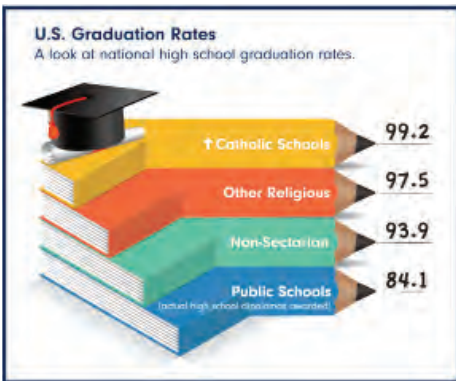
**Thursday, Jan. 30 - In Our Vocations:** Celebrating the careers and vocations in our families, visitors and grandparents will be greeted by Mrs. Danowitz in Grill hall and then be invited into the classrooms to spend time with their students.

**Friday, Jan. 31 - In Our Faculty and Staff:** A Teacher and Staff Appreciation Day Lunch will be held in Grill Hall. The student *Principal for the Day* will get the chance to see what it is like to be the principal of St. John Eudes School.

*There is much to celebrate during Catholic schools week. And we invite everyone to join in the spirit of Catholic Schools Week and celebrate all the great things our students at St. John Eudes School and all our Catholic schools are doing!*



Our school will be holding it's annual Open House as we start the celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Open House will be held on Sunday, January 26, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. It's a great chance for visitors to meet our teachers and staff, visit the classrooms, including the Science Lab, TK facilities, Computer Lab, and see all the great things our students have been doing. Everyone's invited!



## Quick Beats . . .

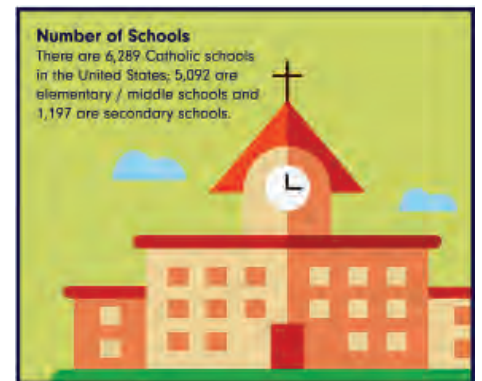
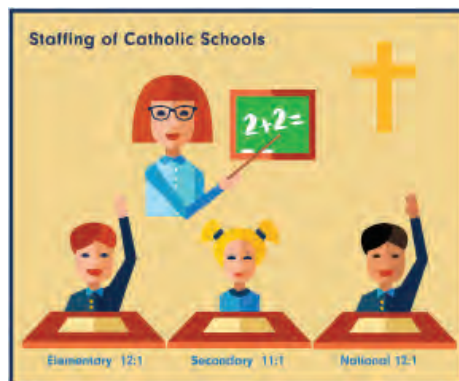
**SJE students enjoyed a great holiday season** that was full of special events and activities. The fun began at Halloween with the *Pumpkin Gallery* sponsored by the SJE Student Council, the *Pumpkin Patch* for our lower graders, the popular *Halloween Hop, Orange & Black Day*, the *Harvest Mass* and *Trunk-or-Treat*, followed by the *All Saints Day Student Body Mass* which celebrated those who have attained the reward of heaven. Thanksgiving was celebrated with the *Adopt-a-Family Food Drive* which taught students the importance of giving by collecting food for the Guadalupe Center in Canoga Park. The lower grades were treated to a *Thanksgiving Feast* and then all students joined in a *Thanksgiving Prayer Service*. Students participated in the *Christmas Toy Drive* to collect Christmas presents for children of needy families and were able to find those spe-

cial holiday gifts at the *Children's Christmas Boutique*. And before heading off for Christmas break, our students brought the spirit of the season to our families and friends with a beautiful musical performance of *A Little Town Called Bethlehem*.

**Students once again had the chance to meet an award winning author and speaker** at last November's *Author Day*. Brad Herzog has won numerous awards for his children's books and our students were able to meet with him, ask him questions, and learn about what it takes to become an author. Mr. Herzog also signed copies of his books that student brought to school that day.

**Our faculty and staff are preparing to meet with a Visiting Committee** of the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA) which formally cooperates with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

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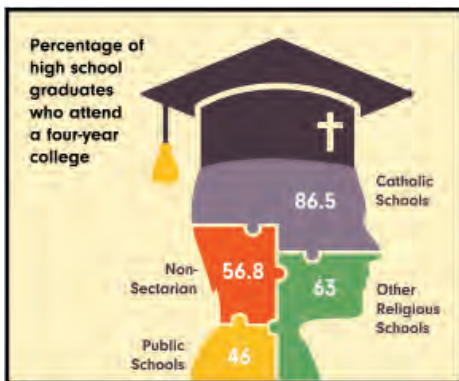


*It's a fact that Catholic schools provide a great value to their students, families and communities. The graphics above highlight some of those facts and help provide a perspective for the pride we have in our Catholic school educational system and the successes our students achieve (graphics courtesy of the NCEA).*





## The Pulse: News About SJE Alumni & Friends



### In a Lighter Vein . . .

*The New Year is always a great opportunity to make changes and improvements in life. But while New Year resolutions often focus on losing weight, being more fit, or getting organized, sometimes those resolutions can include giving up some of the trappings and trends of modern life and returning to basic human interactions . . .*

A woman who was hooked on Facebook made a resolution and was determined to give up social media for the New Year. She decided to try to make friends outside Facebook while applying the same principles. Every day, she would walk down the street and tell passersby what she ate, how she felt, what she did the night before, and what she'll do tomorrow. Then she gave them pictures of her family, her dog, and of her doing gardening. She also listened to their conversations and told them she loved them.

And it worked! She quickly had three new people following her — two police officers and a psychiatrist!

*There's still time to make a resolution to donate to St. John Eudes School. Donations are tax deductible and help the worthy cause of providing a quality Catholic education to deserving children. Your donation to the **Annual Fund, Adopt-A-Student Program, Endowment, or other general or specific gifts** is greatly appreciated. To donate please contact the School Office (818) 341-1451 or visit our website at [www.sjeschool.net](http://www.sjeschool.net). Thank you!*

### A special thanks to our alumni who attended the recent **Middle School Information Night**.

Important educational decisions are made during the middle school years and these decisions can affect a student's success in high school and beyond. So it's vital that the parents of students who are entering the middle school years, and the students themselves, be informed of the aspects of this transitional period. Middle School Information Night is an important event that allows prospective students and their parents, as well as current school families, to learn about this important part of our school program that directly prepares students for high school. Our alumni shared their experiences with SJE's Middle School program and talked about how it prepared them for high school, giving valuable insights to those in attendance.

**Ian Barbosa '14** attended Bishop Alemany High School after graduating from SJE. Throughout high school he continued to develop his interest in law enforcement which he had discovered as a student at St. John Eudes (during which Ian attended and graduated from the Los Angeles Police Cadet Program and received the *Recognition of Community Achievement Award* when he graduated from SJE School in 2014). After graduating from BAHS, he entered a law enforcement education and training program with the goal of joining the Los Angeles Police Department.

As part of this program, Ian has been interning with the LAPD providing security services at public events and in other roles. He is currently obtaining important experience as a Los Angeles City park ranger and providing law enforcement and security services for city parks. Thank you Ian for your service in keeping our community and parks safe!



*Ian Barbosa '14 poses next to his patrol vehicle as he serves as an L.A. City park ranger. Ian has the goal of one day joining the Los Angeles Police Department. His dedication to community service developed while he was a student at St. John Eudes.*



*SJE alumni from a number of local high schools came back on "Middle School Information Night" to present to attendees their experience at SJE during their middle school years and at their current high school. Each accredited their easy transition to the high school environment to their middle school education at SJE. Our students are often actively sought by area high schools due to their academic excellence and outstanding work ethic.*



Make sure to visit the school's Facebook page at [SJE365.com](http://SJE365.com) and like us!



Read the latest tweets about the school on Twitter @[sje365\\_news!](https://twitter.com/sje365_news)



Check out the newest pictures of school events on Instagram [SJE365!](https://www.instagram.com/SJE365/)

*SJE Students go on to do wonderful things and we'd like to hear what you've been doing since graduating from SJE School (or if you're a parent, now's your chance to brag a little!). Send us a note via e-mail to [theheartbeat@sjeschool.net](mailto:theheartbeat@sjeschool.net) or mail it to:*

*Attn: The Heartbeat  
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Chatsworth, CA 91311*



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### The HeartBeat

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## Quick Beats . . . .

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(WASC) in accrediting Catholic schools. Our teachers and staff have already completed a Self Study document which the Visiting Committee will review. After the



SJE students continued their winning ways as winners of the Catholic Schools Chess Tournament recently held at Bridges Academy in Studio City. A number of individual students also placed highly in their divisions.



Above - Lower graders put on their best turkey costumes to entertain the other classes for Thanksgiving. Above Right - Students pose with some great pumpkin creations at the "Pumpkin Gallery". Right - The 3rd Grade class visited the West Valley Animal Shelter to deliver service project donations to show their care and appreciation for God's animal creations.



review, the Committee will spend three days with the school community and also visit classrooms, investigate the written evidence of responses to the WCEA criteria, holds interviews with members of the school community, and prepare a written report on its findings. It will submit a recommendation of an accreditation status to the WCEA Commission. In May, the full WCEA Commission will read the report and vote for an accreditation status for the school. The school was last reaccredited in 2014 and received the longest period of accreditation awarded. We look forward to displaying to the Visiting Committee the excellence of education our teachers and staff provide, and to being accredited for another 6 years.

**Members of the SJE National Junior Honor Society have been busy supporting charitable and community projects** including the *Ryan's Well Foundation* (which provides wells in areas where it's hard to obtain water), helping set-up *Mason Park's Annual Fall Festival* (where park staff commented that they wouldn't have been able to do it without them), providing food and helping to pack it at the parish's *Homeless Foodsack Program*, and participating at the Cathedral to pack food and necessities for the needy. The NJHS looks forward to many more projects to help people in need and serve the community.



Above - The Scholastic Book Fair will be open during Open House for students, parents and visitors to purchase some really great books and literary items. Below - Students thank our local Vons market for the generous donation made to the school by Vons to celebrate its recent Grand Reopening.



Make sure to "Save the Date" for the upcoming PTSO Spring Gala "Havana Nights"! Get ready to enjoy the exciting nightlife of the Cuban capital on March 21 at 6:00 pm at the Porter Valley Country Club. It'll be a night of fun that includes a fabulous dinner, casino games, dancing, auctions, and more! Proceeds help support excellence in our educational program. Tickets will be available through the School Office. More information will soon be available on the school website at [www.sjeschool.net](http://www.sjeschool.net).