

MEMO

TO: PARENTS
FROM: BARBARA COLE
DATE: September 17, 2009

November 21, 2009



Sept 18th **Family Night**

Friday 6 – 9 PM at the SJN picnic shelter; If you didn't have a chance to order food, just pack a picnic dinner and join us at the picnic shelter. The point of this evening is to meet other SJN families and have fun. Bring lawn chairs and blankets to sit on.

Sept 21st **VIRTUS**

Monday With: Cherie Smith Place: SJN School Cafeteria Time: 6 – 9 PM

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● **September 21st thru 25th ITBS Testing begins for 1st – 6th Grades**
● It is very important that :
● 1. your child(ren) get extra rest
● 2. your child(ren) have a good breakfast every morning
● 3. your child(ren) bring two sharpened #2 pencils everyday
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Notes to Notice

Jodee Blanco: Hopefully, everyone had an opportunity to hear Jodee Blanco speak on Monday evening. If you would like one of her books, they are available in the school office: **Please Stop Laughing at Me** \$13 or **Please Stop Laughing at Us** \$16.

Soccer Challenge: The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a soccer contest on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009. The place is St. John Neumann School at 9:30 AM. Meet at the front soccer field. For questions call Don Rinzel at 865-0896.

VIRTUS Training: As a part of the SJN family, we expect all parents to volunteer at some time during the year. Because of this and to insure the safest possible environment for the children, all parents are required to complete the VIRTUS training. It is offered at the school and throughout the state at various times and dates. If you attend a training session at a different location, you must send in a copy of your certificate, so we have it on file. Go to www.virtus.org to find a date and time that is convenient to you. You must register online before attending a session. When you take this class, you are given several references where you can check on information for your neighborhood. Please add this website to those references www.familywatchdog.us.

Next Training: September 21, 2009 with Cherie Smith in the cafeteria from 6PM – 9PM

History Today: When President Barack Obama visited the Holy Father this summer, he presented a stole worn by St. John Neumann, a 19th century Redemptorist priest who is the patron saint of sick children and immigrants.

The stole was discovered by Louis DiCocco, president of the St. Jude Shops and the St. Jude Liturgical Arts Studio, who was contacted by the Obama administration for assistance in finding a gift for Pope Benedict. "They wanted to find an antique chalice, but I suggested it was important to get something more personable," DiCocco said. "I told them about this stole that was something that belonged to an immigrant who was so instrumental in serving immigrants and building Catholic schools. What better than the stole that represents the priest?"

St. John Neumann was born in 1811 in Bohemia, but traveled to New York to become a missionary priest. After his arrival, he was sent to Buffalo where he lived off bread and water and joined the Redemptorist order until he was elected Bishop of Philadelphia in 1852.

As bishop, John Neumann built 50 churches and nearly 100 schools. He died suddenly on January 5, 1860. He was canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1977 and is the patron saint of sick children and immigrants.