



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL
A Century of Service & Education

Alumni Newsletter
 Fall 2009



Dear Alumni and Friends of St. Joseph School,

St. Joseph School is celebrating its 100th Anniversary! We cannot imagine a better way to commemorate a century of service and Catholic Education than with our first ever alumni newsletter. A publication that will highlight current school happenings and share stories, both old and new, while allowing you to reconnect with former classmates, renew friendships and once again be a part of the wonderful St. Joseph tradition.

As SJS Alumni, you are a vital part of our history and we'd love for you to celebrate our 100 years of success with our current students, families and parishioners. Enclosed you will find a list of our "Centennial" Events, to which all of you are encouraged to attend. We've also included articles that underscore the extraordinary and important role Saint Joseph School serves in our lives.

In the 2010/11 school year, SJS will be entering into a new century. Plans are underway for an Alumni All Class Reunion and a book about the history of Saint Joseph School. Please be a part of this book by sending us your stories of school activities and events, and childhood tales of your time at SJS. For instance, how did a Catholic Education at SJS help you later in life? Where has your education brought you now? Was there a teacher that affected you in a special way? Do you recall after years away an unforgettable Crusader sports moment? Have your friendships endured? We would welcome any recollections you would be willing to share.

**Please e-mail your stories to drandall@stjosephdg.org or mail to:
 The Alumni Committee c/o St. Joseph School
 4832 Highland Avenue
 Downers Grove, IL 60515**

We can't wait to hear from you! If you are interested in becoming a member of our alumni committee, please let us know.

Sincerely,
 Your St. Joseph School Alumni Committee

SJS Centennial Events

- Sept. 18, 2009**
 Homecoming Pep Rally School Gym 1:40 pm
- Sept 20, 2009**
 Homecoming
 Football & Volleyball Games
 Montini Catholic High School
 (See other side for details)
- Sept. 26, 2009**
 Tailgate Trot 5k Run/2.5k Walk
 St Joseph School 8:00 am

 Tailgate Party
 Downers Grove Park District
 Golf Course 7:00 pm
- Nov 3, 2009**
 Benefactor's Mass & Reception
 St. Joseph Church 8:15
- Jan 16, 2009**
 Trivia Night
 Fitzgerald Hall 7:00 pm
- March 6, 2009**
 St. Patrick's Day Party
 St. Joseph School 7pm
- March 21, 2009**
 Alumni Mass & Reception
 St. Joseph Church 12:15 pm
- Spring 2010**
 2nd Annual SJS Golf Outing
- July 4, 2010**
 SJSCentennial Float in
 Downers Grove Parade

Alumni Profiles

Crusader Sports



Alumnus, **Brent Cutro (class of 1996)** now studies medicine at Midwestern University. Through the support of friends and family, he was able to join "Helping Hands" in the small village of Chubbuhub, Mexico. Located about five hours south of Cancun, it's home to only a handful of thatched-roof buildings. Brent worked 12-hour shifts in a MASH-like setting of curtained rooms. Aided by Spanish and Mayan translators, Brent was able to use his talents to touch the lives of those in need. As Brent reflected on his experiences, he offered advice to our current students. "Treasure and maintain

your young friendships; you rely on them through life. Continually try to be involved. Use the talents you feel you have to help people." Brent feels he learned much in his days at St. Joseph. "The school does a good job of instilling the idea of sharing what you have and sharing your talents with those less fortunate."

Rose Ann Blaida-Miller (Class of 1931) sends her best wishes as she follows our Alumni Celebrations from afar. Now living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, one of our oldest alumni enjoys the warmer temperatures

and the sight of mountainous areas as she looks out her back windows. Sharing stories of her younger years at St. Joseph School as one of six siblings, she recalls that her two oldest sisters were schooled in a small curtained area off the altar and she herself attended 4th and 5th grades in the basement of the old church. She remembers walking to St. Joseph School from her home on Florence Street, built by her father in 1915. She did her homework by kerosene lamp since the family had no electricity, heat or running water when they first moved onto their 20 acre lot in Downers Grove.



Homecoming 2009 September 20th



Varsity Crusader Football begins its 50th year as the defending SPFL Silver Division champions. Come out and cheer on the tradition!

SJS v. Queen of the Rosary

Junior Varsity – 11:30 am

Varsity – 1:00 pm

Montini Catholic High School

19W070 16th Street, Lombard



Crusader Volleyball brought home 2 championships in 2008. Both the 8A & 6A squads were DPL conference champions. Homecoming day games are played at Montini Catholic HS.

SJS5B v St Petronille – 1:30pm

SJS7A v St. Walter– 2:30pm

SJS8B2 v St Raphael– 3:30pm



Please join us bright and early **September 26th** for the Tailgate Trot & Party. We will kick-off our Centennial Celebration with a 5K run & 2.5K walk/kid's run. A reception after will include music, face painting, raffles, games & activities for all ages!

That evening, we will host an outdoor Tailgate Party at the Downers Grove Golf Course featuring a traditional tailgate dinner, live entertainment by "Bounce" and a bean bag tournament.

For more information or to register visit www.stjosephdg.org