

Saint John's School Newsletter

November, 2022

"Advent" Leads Us to Christmas

We Sing at Morning Prayers



"O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lowly exile here Until the Son of God appear.
REJOICE! REJOICE! EMMANUEL SHALL COME TO THEE, O ISRAEL."

We Collect Money to Sponsor Two Children in Uganda to Go to School

Our School has Helped Support Students in Uganda for Many Years



Judith Nyanzi is eleven years old and is in 6th grade at Alund'Entono Primary School. She and her sister stay with their mother in a one-room flat, together with their mother's younger sister who is still in high school. Their father had abandoned the children when they were young, and three years ago they heard that he had died.



Calvin Maganda is eight years old and is in 1st grade at Alund'Entono Primary School. He has two older brothers—Michael and Marvin. Their mother died in childbirth three years ago, losing the baby also. Their father is unknown. They stay with their maternal grandmother in a one-room flat. Recently Calvin had a serious bone infection, but he is being treated with antibiotics and is doing better.

There is no free education in Uganda. Saint Nicholas Uganda Children's Fund is an Orthodox Christian ministry that helps orphaned and vulnerable children go to school. \$300 provides

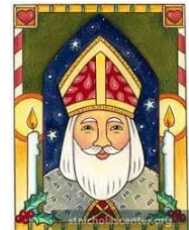


ST. NICHOLAS UGANDA CHILDREN'S FUND

a year of school for one elementary student in Kampala, Uganda. This small, direct ministry is run by two friends of Saint John's who visited us in 2013, Peter and Sharon Georges. Learn more and watch a video at ugandachildrensfund.org. **Saint John's School wants to raise \$600. Donate by check or on our school website. (Go to "payment" page and select "Fund Raiser Event.") Any extra money raised will help Calvin with his medical needs and also help a family in our own School.**

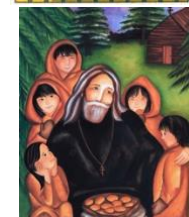
We Celebrate Saint Nicholas of Myra...

On Monday evening, December 5 at 7:15pm, we will have a special Vespers Service to remember St. Nicholas, the real source of the Santa Claus legends. Saint Nicholas was Bishop of Myra in the 300's and was known for his great generosity, once giving gold coins to those in need. Everyone is invited to join us for this 40-minute service. If you leave your shoes in the church basement, you might find some gold coins and other treats in them afterward.



...and Saint Herman of Alaska.

On Monday evening, December 12 at 7:15pm, we will have another kind of evening service to remember St. Herman of Alaska. Saint Herman was a Russian monk who lived in Kodiak and on Spruce Island in the 1700's. He devoted much of his life to serving the native peoples of Alaska. After this 30-minute service there will be an outdoor cookie exchange with a campfire, cookies and Russian tea in the playground of the School.



Other News from Saint John's School

We watched the US vs. Wales in the World Cup Soccer Tournament.
We even stood before the game and sang along to our National Anthem.



Thank you to everyone who contributed photos to our Veteran's Day Poster.



Kindergarten girls show the fans Nora brought back from her trip to Spain.



- On the day before **Thanksgiving** we decorated cookies, watched the cartoon, "Charlie Brown's Thanksgiving," and played competitive "Simon Says." The 6 students who lasted the longest won donuts.
- Remember to send your students with good **winter clothing**. We have a box with some extra gear for those who need it. If you have any extra winter gear to donate to this box, we will gladly take it.
- **Mrs. Lynn Streff** has gone to a part-time position in our School for the remainder of the school year. Her primary responsibilities will be related to our bookkeeping. All administrative matters other than financial questions should be referred to Mrs. Betsy Dunaway.
- **Mat-Su Charter School "Instruction Receipts"** will be sent home December 1. Look for them in your student's backpack. Report cards for the 2nd quarter will be sent home on December 20 so that students who are dual-enrolled can be submitted to Mat-Su.
- The **School Christmas Program** will be Tuesday evening, December 20, beginning at 6:30pm. Students should arrive at 6:10pm to prepare for their performances. If you would like to make some Christmas cookies or candies (perhaps one of your family's favorite, traditional recipes) to share that evening, please let the School office know by December 10.
- **Tuition payments** and other fees can be paid online by credit card on our School website: www.sjocs.org. Click on "payments" at the top of the Home page.
- **The last day of School before Christmas Break is December 22. School will resume in the New Year on January 9.**

**We are proud of our students and grateful for our wonderful staff.
Thank you, parents, for your support!**