

ST. JOSEPH'S MEN'S CLUB

2009-10 Kick Off Memo

St. Joseph's Men's Club Members and Prospective Members,

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the St. Joseph's Men's Club to those of you who don't know us, and to give all parents an idea of some of our early events which may be of interest.

Who We Are and What We Do

For over 50 years, the St. Joseph's Men's Club ("SJMC") has been offering a varied and extensive schedule of programs and events to the St. Joseph's community, continually striving to realize its mission – that is, to “foster, encourage and develop the spiritual, athletic, recreational and social interests of the members and grammar school aged children of the Parish.” During the past school year, the membership of the SJMC (over three hundred strong) worked harder than ever to cultivate this mission and further expand the offerings that make the Men's Club such an active, vital Parish Ministry.

Hundreds of Parish children participated in Men's Club sponsored activities last year, such as the interscholastic basketball, track, baseball and softball teams, the tennis clinics, the Pee-Wee basketball program, and the special events such as the annual Turkey Bowl extravaganza (introduction of the children's basketball teams to the Parish), “Breakfast with Santa,” and our annual Sports Awards Dinner. Additionally, the Men's Club caters to the interests of the Parish adults, sponsoring both men's and women's intramural basketball programs, the annual Parish Christmas Social, the traditional St. Patrick's Dinner Dance, the Holy Thursday Prayer Vigil, the annual SJMC Golf Outing, the annual Fishing Trip and a myriad of other opportunities. *For further information regarding the Men's Club and its activities, or for an opportunity to register, visit the SJMC website at www.stjosephswarrior.com.*

Children's Basketball Registration (see form attached)

Attached is a Basketball Registration form that is required for each child interested in playing in the SJ basketball programs during the upcoming year. **If your child is interested in participating in the St. Joseph's basketball programs this year, please return your completed St. Joseph's Men's Club and children's basketball registration forms by September 17th, 2009, together with the appropriate check, (i) by hand to the Rectory, (ii) mailed via USPS to St. Joseph's Men's Club, P.O. Box 428, Bronxville, New York 10708, or (iii) by drop-off during any of the formal sign-up dates below.**

Formal Sign-Up Dates

- **Thursday, September 10th** in the SJS Cafeteria, between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, September 15th** in the SJS Gym, between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday, September 16th** in the SJS Gym, between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, September 17th** in the SJS Gym, between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.

Please note that, due to the increased ongoing costs required to finance the St. Joseph's sports programs, we've been forced this year to raise the annual sports' fee to \$75.00 per child. We have, however, maintained the Men's Club Registration Fee at \$50 per family. That is, each family with a participating child will be responsible for a one-time, annual \$50 family registration fee for the Men's Club and a sports' fee of \$75.00 for each participating child. We apologize for any inconvenience resulting from the increased fees.

Please note that, in an effort to allow the Sports' Committee ample opportunity to gauge interest and appropriately organize the teams in advance of the season's start, any forms received by the SJMC on or after September 18th will be subject to an increased registration fees of \$100 per participating child. Further, as we will look to form teams and set up evaluations as soon as possible after registration is complete, if registration forms are received after the September 17th deadline, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to place the late participants in the program.

For those who are not familiar with the proposed programs, the interscholastic program is open to children from 3rd through 8th Grades. Children in Grades K through 2 (and even Grade 3) may participate in our in-house PeeWee Basketball Clinics commencing in January 2010.

We field our interscholastic teams in two leagues: CYO and WCAA/WCGAA. The CYO (3rd-8th Grade) season starts after Thanksgiving and runs through February, with playoffs and tournaments extending into the beginning of March. The 12 games of the regular season usually are played on the weekends, either a Saturday or a Sunday, sometimes both days.

The WCAA/WCGAA league (5th-8th Grades) starts earlier, generally the second week in November, and plays its 18 game schedule on weekday evenings or on the weekends. This season typically extends into February.

Please note that certain of the interscholastic teams may begin tryouts as early as late September, so keep a look out for more detailed information. In addition to the games, teams from each of the interscholastic leagues can probably plan on practices twice a week in the gym, starting in October.

Also, a plea for help: the Men's Club is always looking for willing volunteers to coach/assist with a team, work the snack bar, gate, clock and/or scorebook during its events, so please contact us if you, or a member of your family, are able to lend a hand.

Finally, feel free to forward the forms to any other parishioners who might be interested in having a child participate in the basketball program, but **please note that the programs are only available to children of SJMC members, so memberships will need to be initiated or renewed (as set forth below) if children are interested in participating.**

SJMC Registration (see form attached)

Attached also is a SJMC registration form to give everyone an opportunity to register for the upcoming year. Both existing and initial members will need to register anew for this school year so, on an administrative note, **it will be very helpful if we receive these forms as soon as possible.** Also, please feel free to send the registration form to any friends, neighbors, etc., who might be interested in joining the Men's Club. Please return your completed forms as soon as possible, together with a check in the necessary amount, (i) by hand to the Rectory, (ii) mailed via USPS to St. Joseph's Men's Club, P.O. Box 428, Bronxville, New York 10708, or (iii) by drop-off during any of the formal basketball registration sign-up dates set forth above.

UPCOMING SJMC EVENTS:

St. Joseph's Men's Club Meeting

The first Men's Club meeting will be held Thursday, September 10th, 2009, at 7:45 p.m., in the school cafeteria. All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. Please take advantage of this opportunity to play an important role in the lives of our parish children.

Women's Basketball -- Open Gym starts up September 10th, 2009

The St. Joseph's Men's Club is sponsoring an open gym for the women of the Parish, each Thursday night from about 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the SJS Gym. All over-30 female SJMC members, or women with family members who are SJMC members, are cordially invited to lace up their high tops and hit the court for some great fun and even better exercise!

St. Joseph's Fall Track Program

The St. Joseph's Fall Track season will start up shortly after the beginning of the school year – sign up now! Boys and girls from ages 4 to 14 are encouraged to join. Meets will be held, commencing in late September or early October, on weekend mornings, with separate age-appropriate races for boys and girls. Practices are typically held on Thursdays, at Tibbetts Brook Park, at 5:00-6:00 p.m. For more information, or to sign up, please e-mail StJoesCoach@yahoo.com.