

**DATES TO REMEMBER
IN DECEMBER:**

- **2nd Mass @ 8:30AM**
followed by Student of
the Month Assembly
 - **Subway Day**
- **7th-9th Book Fair**
- **8th Mass @ 11:00 Feast
of the Immaculate
Conception**
- **9th Mass @ 8:30AM**
 - **Supper with Santa
from 6:00-8:00 PM**
- **11th Pre-K Christmas
Program in the church
@ 1PM**
- **12th Fr. Ivan's
Birthday!**
- **13th SOS Meeting at
7 PM**
- **14th K-8 Christmas
Concert @ 6:30 PM in
church**
- **16th Mass @ 8:30 AM**
- **21st Prayer Service @
8:30 AM**
- **22nd No School:
Christmas Vacation
begins**
- **January 3rd School
resumes**



St. Joseph School

December 2016



Dear St. Joseph School Families:

Advent began on Sunday, November 27th. For centuries, Advent has been a time of spiritual reflection as well as cheer and anticipation. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year and is marked by a spirit of anticipation, preparation and longing.

I hope you will use Advent's four weeks as a time of prayer and spiritual renewal. Renew

the wonder of God's everlasting love and His overwhelming gift to each of us: His beloved child.

As we approach this wonderful time of year, filled with joy and hope, we renew our own faith and grow as believers in Jesus. I wish to express to each of you how much your support and cooperation means to the faculty and staff of St. Joseph School. We appreciate all that you do

for us, so that we can work together to help your most precious gifts—your children— best use the talents God has given them.

May you all have a Blessed Christmas and a prosperous, Happy New Year!!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Green

Advent activities

The students will be participating in a variety of activities in their classrooms as part of their Religion curriculum. Most classes are donating items for a family in need this Christmas season. Many classes will be making cards or for veterans and for those in nursing homes and hospitals. Please encourage your

child to make some personal sacrifices during this holy season. They might donate snack money or a portion of their allowance, do an extra chore to earn money and give it to those less fortunate. It means more if it's truly a sacrifice on the part of the child, rather than a hand-out from Mom or Dad. We will continue

to attend mass each week, go to confession, and also hold four Advent Wreath Prayer Services. We invite you to join us and celebrate the true reason for the holiday season.

Scripts!

Please place your **Scrip Orders** by noon **Monday, December 12th** to ensure **delivery by Christmas!**



SaveAround

The last chance to buy Save Around Coupon Books will be December 9th at Supper with Santa.



Supper With Santa

Our **Supper with Santa** social is scheduled for Friday, **December 9th**. This event will be held from **6:00-8:00 PM** in the school cafeteria.

Please return the forms that were sent home in the family envelopes so that we can plan.

*Come and enjoy
pancakes
and a visit with Santa!*



Virtus Updates

As of December 31st, anyone who has not been completing the VIRTUS Online Training Bulletins will have their accounts suspended for non-compliance.

Please check the status of your bulletins at

www.virtus.org



Uniforms

As we approach the new year, we understand that many of the children have had growth spurts since school started. Please take a look at our supply of used uniforms before spending the money to purchase new items. We have a good supply of gently-used shirts, blouses, jumpers, skirts, and pants. These are free for the taking and can be found in the closet outside of the girl's restroom in the cafeteria.



A BIG THANK YOU TO...

- ◆ Sarah Welker for coordinating our Kutter's cheese sale.
- ◆ Stephanie King and Stephanie Fiorentino for organizing our Supper with Santa.
- ◆ All of our volunteers who show up faithfully to help in the cafeteria each week.

WE APPRECIATE ALL YOU DO FOR ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL!!!

The Magic of
Christmas
is not in the presents
but in *His* presence

May the peace and hope of
Christ's birth
be with you now and in the days ahead...

For unto
us a
Child
is born

Christmas Concert

On Wednesday, December 14th at 6:30 pm, we will hold our annual Christmas Concert in the church. **Students in grades K-8 will be participating** under the direction of Mrs. Picarro-Hoerbelt, our music teacher and Mrs. Kae Wilbert, our instrumental teacher. **Students should arrive no later than 6:15 p.m. at the church.** This is a “dress-up” event, meaning students should be in appropriate attire– no jeans or sneakers please. Our teachers and our children have worked very

hard to prepare for this concert. We ask that everyone who attends remembers to show respect for God’s house, the church.

Respect



Pre-K Program

Our Pre-K Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 11th at 1:00 pm. in the church, under the direction of Mrs. Hofmaster, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. King and Mrs. Paserk.



“I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.”

Charles Dickens



Christmas Recess

Christmas Recess will begin on Thursday, December 22nd. School will resume on Tuesday, January 3rd.

Subway Day

Our January Subway Day is scheduled for Friday, January 13th, rather than the first Friday of the month due to the Christmas holiday.



School closings

 In the event of poor weather conditions, St. Joseph School will close if the Batavia School District closes. If St. Joseph School closes independently, the announcement will be made using the school name.

RADIO:
Batavia WBTA 1490 am
Rochester WHAM, 1180 am
Buffalo WBEN, 930 am
Buffalo, WGR 55am



TELEVISION:
Rochester Channel 8
Rochester Channel 10
Buffalo Channel 7
Buffalo Channel 4
Buffalo Channel 2



Health Office News

WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME WITH ILLNESS DURING COLD & FLU SEASON

The following are a few situations that warrant watching and possibly calling your health care provider:

- ✦ Persistent fever greater than 100.4° orally, including a fever that requires control with medication such as Tylenol
- ✦ Child is too sleepy or ill from an illness, like vomiting and/or diarrhea
- ✦ Cough that makes a child feel uncomfortable or disrupts the class
- ✦ Sore throat that is severe along with fever and feeling ill for more than 48 hours, OR after known exposure to a confirmed case of Strep throat infection. Must be on Antibiotic 24 hrs.
- ✦ Honey-crusted sores around the nose or mouth or rash on other body parts; OR a rash in various stages including boils, sores and bumps that may be chicken pox; OR a significant rash accompanied by other symptoms of illness such as fever
- ✦ Red, runny eyes that distract the child from learning
- ✦ Large amount of discolored nasal discharge, especially if accompanied by facial pain or headache
- ✦ Severe ear pain or drainage from the ear

- ✦ Severe headache, especially if accompanied by fever
- ✦ Any condition that you think may be serious or contagious to others.

Finally, if you know your child is still running a fever, please do not medicate them and send them into school. As the medication wears off you are likely to receive a call to come to pick up your feverish child. It is better to let them stay home in bed with a fever and take their medications at home until they are off all medicines and ready for a full day in a classroom.

If you find a pattern of your child asking to stay home from school, especially if they are falling behind or appear anxious by the thought of attending school, or if there does not appear to be any obvious physical symptoms, it may be a good idea to contact your school nurse and your health care provider to discuss your concerns.

Remember, whenever you keep your child home from school, please call the school promptly and send a note with them upon their return.

Thank you!

November Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students:

K: Nathan Dryja

8B: Nya Thomas

1: Daniel Winters

8L: Shawn Searls

2: Steven Karas

Math Sands: Jordan Welker

3: Andrew Perl

Earth Science: Ciara Werner

4: Chance King

Art: Amanda Nguyen

5: Nathan Goras

Music: James Prattico

6C: Gino Falleti

Phys. Ed.: Carol Carlson

6W: Jekora Anderson

Spanish: Owen Murray

7: Steven Zocco

Golden Note Award: ... 5th Grade



1st Quarter Honor Roll

First Honors (94.0-100)

- Grade 3:** Gianna Clark, Karleigh Driffill, Lyllian Miller, Sara Nickerson, Owen Therrien
- Grade 4:** Jordan Dwyer, Chance King, Kaitlin Kratz, Nilsson Laska, Anina Pabros, Maria Prattico, Matthew Rogers, Rocco Sprague, Catherine Tenney, Gabriella Zocco
- Grade 5:** Anna Carey, Teresa Compton, Melania deSa e Frias, Ryan Fitzpatrick, Kalen Muehlig, Sophia Papponetti, Kate Ricupito, Emma Sisson, Loretta Sorochty
- Grade 6:** Veronica Bochicchio, Gino Falleti, Maylee Green, Cayla Hansen, Kaylie Kratz, Amelia McCulley, Owen Murray, Arabella Rogers, Jordan Welker, Anna Rose Winters
- Grade 7:** Madalyn Bochicchio, Nathanael Brew, Colin McCulley, Amanda Nguyen, Aiden Sisson, Lucia Sprague, Steven Zocco IV
- Grade 8:** Amanda Bergman, Samuel Chmielowiec, Isabelle Cooper, Ariana deSa e Frias, Anne Marie Kochmanski, Jace Rademacker, Andrew Ricupito, Henry Schafer, Jewel Shenck, Benjamin Streeter, Katharine Warner, Ciara Werner, Katelyn Zehler

Second Honors (89.0-93.9)

- Grade 3:** Lindsay Betters, Emery Blum, Nicholas Compton, Mirabella Falleti, Damian Frazer, Coleman Hiczewski, Sarah Lumberg, Clairissa Milliman, Andrew Perl, Mia Treleaven, Dominic White
- Grade 4:** Rhys Tanner, Panorea Tsoukalos
- Grade 5:** Francesco Falleti, Jaden Firmstone, Katelyn Kowalski, Kaitlyn Landers, Violet March, Abbey Rose Root, Hannah Tenney, Katelyn Witherow
- Grade 6:** Connor Boehly, Brandon Carrick, Olivia Constantino, Rebeka Nickerson, James Prattico, Connor Thornley, Aaron Treleaven, Morgan Wahl, Justice Yourkowski
- Grade 7:** Jayce Ashton, Michael Cianfrini, Aidan Clark, Camden King, Lindsey Weidman
- Grade 8:** Skye Colantonio, Donato Fiorentino, Colin Kratz, Joseph Perl, Ava Reinhart, Shawn Searls, Maxwell Tenney

Merit Honors (85.0-88.9)

- Grade 3:** Ethan Ashton, Kaiden Campopiano, Gianna Falleti, Amelia Sorochty
- Grade 4:** Matthew Compton, Gianna Groff, Timothy Karas, Andrew Kaus, Gracie Phillips, Samantha Smith
- Grade 5:** Gabriel Castro, Landon Coles, Maia Zerillo
- Grade 6:** Jekora Anderson, Anthony Fiorentino, Gabriel Weicher
- Grade 7:** Cole Ashley, Gianna Fanara, Nicholas Grover, Aidan Hume, Norman-Vincent March
- Grade 8:** Zachary Babcock, Krysta Hansen, Sarah McGinnis, Samantha Schell, Nataly Soria, James Weicher

*87% of our students in grades 3-8 achieved the honor roll in the 1st quarter.
Congratulations and keep working hard in the 2nd quarter!!
We are proud of you!!!*

Kindergarten Enrollment



Kindergarten registration for the next school year (2017-2018) is now under way.

If you know of any families who are considering St. Joseph School for their kindergarten students please share this information with them.

Please note, all families must submit a registration form to ensure a space for their child. We do not assume that a family will enroll their kindergartener merely because the student has attended Pre-K at the school. Similarly, we do not assume that a family will enroll their kindergartener merely because they

have other students enrolled in the school.

Our annual Open House will be held on Sunday January 29th. If your child is currently in Pre-K please consider joining us on that day for a complete tour of the school as well as details regarding our exceptional academic program.

As always, we thank **you** for spreading the good news of St. Joseph School. The example your children set in our communities as well as your recommendations for the school are our best marketing tools!



Reaching you by Email, Voice and Text

We use the Family Contact Service called "School Messenger". On the yellow "Family Contact Form" sent home at the beginning of the year there was a section entitled "Sending You Voice & E-mail messages". We have used these email addresses and phone numbers to create a database of contacts.

If you are not receiving email messages or have not received an "Opt-In" text message please contact Nora O'Neill. She may be reached at the school office or at noneill@sjsbatavia.org.

Please note that time-sensitive messages will be sent by text or voice. General messages such as our weekly news will be sent by email.

Note that if you provided your email address to us but have not been receiving our weekly Monday Morning Memo as well as other messages, you may need to check your filtered messages (may be "Spam" or "Junk"). Some e-mail systems will filter multiple-recipient messages such as those sent through School Messenger.



MATTHEW 1:21-23

²¹ AND SHE SHALL BRING FORTH A SON, AND THOU SHALT CALL HIS NAME JESUS: FOR HE SHALL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS. ²² NOW ALL THIS WAS DONE, THAT IT MIGHT BE FULFILLED WHICH WAS SPOKEN OF THE LORD BY THE PROPHET, SAYING, ²³ BEHOLD, A VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD, AND SHALL BRING FORTH A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME EMMANUEL, WHICH BEING INTERPRETED IS, GOD WITH US. KJV

American Cancer Society Great American Smokeout

The 41st annual American Cancer Society Great American Smokeout took place on November 17th. It has grown from a day to encourage people to quit for 24-hours, to a chance for community partnerships such as our St. Joe's Reality Check youth group to call attention to all types of initiatives being taken to further discourage tobacco use in our society. It's a day that brings us together to help smokers quit, advocate for policies that control tobacco use and discourage our teens from starting to smoke.

Students at St. Joe's marked the day with a balloon release during a school-wide assembly which focused on the dangers of tobacco use.

Our School's Reality Check group is sponsored by Roswell Park Cancer Institute and is coordinated locally by Shelly Wolanske and our Health Teacher Mrs. Mary Wright. Thank you to them both for their support of this important, worthwhile advocacy!

Pictured are Reality Check members Ben Tomaszewski and James Weicher leading the balloon release.



X-STREAM Games and EXPO

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who represented SJS at the XSTREAM Games and Expo on Sunday:

Science Scrimmage Competition (Building Bridges and Catapults):
Katelyn Kowalski, Kaitlyn Landers, Sophia Papponetti, Kate Ricupito, Emma Sisson, Loretta Sorochty, Hannah Tenney and Maia Zerillo.

Shark Tank Inventions:

The "Crutch Carrier 2000" by Brandon Carrick, Kaylie Kratz & Maylee Green

The "Crazy Cone" by James Prattico, Morgan Wahl & Connor Boehly

"Love is in the Baking" COOK-

OFF Competition **First-Place Champions:** Rhys Tanner, Chance King, Aninia Pabros, Kaitlin Kratz, Maria Prattico

