

2017

St. Joseph School

February Newsletter



Dates to remember in **February...**

- 3rd** Mass 8:30 a.m.
Subway Day
- 10th** Mass at 8:30 a.m.
- 11th** Father Daughter Dance
- 14th** Happy St. Valentine's Day
- 15th Mass with Bishop Malone**
Sports/Group Pictures
- 17th** Mass 8:30 a.m.
- 20th-21st** NO SCHOOL
Presidents' Day
- 24th** Mass 8:30 a.m.
6/7/8 Gr. Fun Night

March

- 1st** Ash Wednesday
- 2nd** National Junior Honor Society Induction

Sixteen years ago, during Catholic Schools' Week the Diocese of Buffalo initiated the "Celebrate Catholic Education Dinner" with a dedicated mission of providing needs-based tuition assistance for families across Western New York. The Dinner attracted an overflow crowd of Western New Yorkers celebrating their belief in and support of Catholic education. **100% of funds raised provide needs-based tuition assistance.** Inaugural guest speaker, Tim Russert, told the story of the impact of Catholic education. "I would not be here tonight if it were not for my Catholic education

"I would not be here tonight if it were not for my Catholic education in Western New York"

—Tim Russert

in Western New York." The evening is a celebration of the dedication, ingenuity, perseverance and the willingness to answer God's call. The dinner, formerly known as "Making a Difference," has changed its name to GALA 22:6 from Proverbs, "Train the young in the way they should go; even when old, they will not depart from it." If you did not attend this year's dinner, perhaps you might consider attending next year. It is truly an uplifting

experience.

If you attended Catholic School perhaps you could reach out to former teachers with a word or two of thanks.

If you believe the education your child is receiving at St. Joseph Catholic School is making a difference in their life, perhaps you could take a moment to express your gratitude to a former or current teacher.

I wish to express my personal gratitude to our faculty and staff here at St. Joseph School who make a difference every day in the lives of our students.

God Bless,
Karen Green
Principal



Please Respect...

Please respect our teachers' classroom responsibilities and authority.

Please do not stop-in the classroom in the morning or throughout the day to conduct a "mini conference" or chat with your child.

If you need to see your child during the school day, please come to the office. We can call your child's teacher and ask that they come down to the office.

If you would like to meet with

your child's teacher, please contact them via email or phone and request a conference when they are not occupied with their classroom responsibilities. Thank you for your understanding and support!



Honor Society

Families of eligible 7th and 8th grade students: those students whose academic record have qualified them for membership in the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) will be receiving a packet inviting their student to apply for membership in our St. Joseph School chapter.

Please mark your calendars for Thursday March 2nd at 7PM for the SJS NJHS Induction Ceremony.

Safety is our Priority

We wish to assure our families that safety is our priority. We understand that while there are many advantages to our placement in the city such as proximity to excellent resources including the library, YMCA and Land Office Museum, there are also challenges to managing a school in a city.

We are aware of the challenges and are actively managing them each day as you trust us with the safety of your child(ren).

- ◆ Students are escorted between the main and annex buildings.
- ◆ Access to both buildings is monitored with a video-recording camera system and entry is limited with a

remote unlocking system controlled from the main office.

- ◆ Students are escorted to the church and monitored both within the church and associated restrooms, if necessary.
- ◆ Our custodians also serve as security, monitoring the doors and parking lot during morning drop-off time and afternoon release time.
- ◆ Our faculty and staff know many family members by face. If they do not recognize someone they are tasked with approaching a visitor and inquiring about their business.
- ◆ Anyone who wishes to volunteer in our school in any capacity is required to

submit references, receive a background check and attend training entitled "Protecting God's Children".

We are aware of the responsibility we have assumed and thank you for trusting us with your children. Their safety is our priority.



Staying Informed, Keeping our Children Safe



Just a reminder from the "Safe Environment Office" of the Diocese that they recently updated all Diocesan VIRTUS records for people who appear to not be participating in the VIRTUS training bulletins. If you have not been reading your training bulletins, you may have been marked as no longer meeting the minimum requirements established by the Diocese for people who work with youth. You will no longer

have access to the online training bulletins until you take the necessary steps to un-suspend your account. Please call the school office if you need to begin this process.

There are workshops offered throughout the Buffalo area. To see the complete listing or to register online go to www.virtus.org.

Go to the left panel of the page and click on "Registration", then click the "View a list of sessions" link.

At the "Please select your Archdiocese/ Diocese/Religious Organization from the list below: " prompt, select "Buffalo, NY (Diocese)".

There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way it treats its children.

Nelson Mandela

Pre-Kindergarten/Wrap Around Registration



St. Joseph's Pre-Kindergarten Program and Wrap Around Care are now taking registrations for Fall 2017. Please see our website to print out a registration form (www.sjsbatavia.org). We will continue

providing more options for our busy families. Wrap Around Care will continue to be available from 7:45 -5:15 each day that school is in session. Children must be 3 or 4 years old by

December 1st to be eligible for each program.

K-8 Registration

Registration for Kindergarten through 8th grade for the Fall of 2017 is now open. You as parents who have made a choice of a Catholic education can help spread the "good news" about St. Joseph School to your friends and neighbors. Anyone wishing more

information is invited to call the school office at 343-6154. For those entering Kindergarten, a copy of your child's birth certificate and immunizations are required. These may be brought in at any time or at the assigned screening

date which will be held on June 16th. A child entering Kindergarten must be 5-years-old by December 1st.



School Pictures

Group and sport pictures, along with tone bell, choir, band, etc. will be taken on Wednesday, February 15th beginning around 9:00 a.m. Students need to bring in their uniforms on that day, as well as instruments. Order forms will be available in the main office.



Penny Carnival

Our annual Penny Carnival will be held on Saturday, March 18th from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Please help us to sell raffle tickets. Many of these raffles are 100% profit, as the items for these raffles have been donated. For every \$20 in tickets that you sell, your child will receive 4 complimentary game tickets for the day of the Carnival. Please include your child's name on the envelope you turn in. Raffle tickets must be turned in to the school office by Thursday, March 16th. The

complimentary tickets your child earns may be picked up at the ticket table the day of the carnival.

A special thank you to Amy Chmielowiec, Stephanie Fiorentino, Amy Murray, Tracy Milliman, Nicole Ashton, and their Committee for all of their hard work on this fun event! They would appreciate any additional assistance. If you are available either to help organize, or work on the day of the Carnival, please call the office and leave your name with Mrs. Norton.

President's Day

There will be **NO SCHOOL** on **February 20 & 21** in observance of Presidents' Day.



THANK YOU

We would like to thank the Ladies of Sodality, Ladies of Charity and Knights of Columbus for all they do for St. Joseph School.

If you see one of these dedicated members, please extend your gratitude.



Tops Double Give Back Days

For the month of February our school will earn **DOUBLE** when you, our supporters, buy TOPS brand products with your registered BonusPlus Card... that's up to 10% back!

Please see visit topsmarkets.com/education



School Delays and Closings

As a reminder regarding school delays and closings, we follow the Batavia City School District decision. If there is a delay announced, school will not be in session until the delay is over. However, if a student rides a bus from a district that is not delayed, we will have staff members present to monitor these children until school begins. If you do not feel it is safe to place your child (ren) on the bus, you may transport them to school yourself. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the office.

Welcome New Students!

Welcome Transfer Students:

Madison Klotzbach
Grade 2

Jose Torres
Grade 7

We are happy to have you with us!

Help us keep you informed

Please remember to **inform** the **school office** if you **change** your "**landline**", **cell** phone or **e-mail** contact information.

We would like to be able to reach you by voice message, text and email depending on the time-sensitivity and length of the message.

Please keep us informed so we can keep you informed!

Thank you.

2nd Quarter Honor Roll

First Honors (94.0-100)

- Grade 3:** Emery Blum, Gianna Clark, Karleigh Driffill, Lillian Miller, Sara Nickerson, Owen Therrien
- Grade 4:** Jordan Dwyer, Chance King, Kaitlin Kratz, Anina Pabros, Maria Prattico, Matthew Rogers, Rocco Sprague, Catherine Tenney, Gabriella Zocco
- Grade 5:** Teresa Compton, Melania deSa e Frias, Jaden Firmstone, Ryan Fitzpatrick, Kaitlyn Landers, Kalen Muehlig, Sophia Papponetti, Kate Ricupito, Emma Sisson, Loretta Sorochty, Hannah Tenney
- Grade 6:** Veronica Bochicchio, Brandon Carrick, Gino Falleti, Maylee Green, Cayla Hansen, Kaylie Kratz, Amelia McCulley, Arabella Rogers, Aaron Treleaven, Jordan Welker, Anna Rose Winters
- Grade 7:** Madalyn Bochicchio, Nathanael Brew, Camden King, Colin McCulley, Aiden Sisson, Lucia Sprague, Steven Zocco
- Grade 8:** Amanda Bergman, Isabelle Cooper, Ariana deSa e Frias, Anne Marie Kochmanski, Jace Rademacker, Andrew Ricupito, Henry Schafer, Shawn Searls, Jewel Shenck, Katharine Warner, Ciara Werner, Katelyn Zehler

Second Honors (89.0-93.9)

- Grade 3:** Ethan Ashton, Lindsay Betters, Kaiden Campopiano, Nicholas Compton, Mirabella Falleti, Gianna Falleti, Coleman Hiczewski, Sarah Lumberg, Clairissa Milliman, Andrew Perl, Mia Treleaven, Dominic White
- Grade 4:** Destin Corcoran, Gianna Groff, Timothy Karas, Andrew Kaus, Nilsson Laska, Panorea Tsoukalos
- Grade 5:** Anna Carey, Francesco Falleti, Katelyn Kowalski, Violet March, Abbey Rose Root, Katelyn Witherow, Maia Zerillo
- Grade 6:** Connor Boehly, Olivia Constantino, Owen Murray, James Prattico, Connor Thornley, Morgan Wahl
- Grade 7:** Jayce Ashton, Michael Cianfrini, Aidan Clark, Aidan Hume, Amanda Nguyen, Lindsey Weidman
- Grade 8:** Samuel Chmielowiec, Skye Colantonio, Donato Fiorentino, Colin Kratz, Rachel Nickerson, Ava Reinhart, Nataly Soria, Benjamin Streeter, Maxwell Tenney

Merit Honors (85.0-88.9)

- Grade 3:** Damian Frazer, Amelia Sorochty
- Grade 4:** Matthew Compton, Samantha Smith, Rhys Tanner
- Grade 5:** Gabriel Castro, Nathan Goras
- Grade 6:** Rebeka Nickerson, Justice Yourkowski
- Grade 7:** Cole Ashley, Norman-Vincent March, Conner McWilliams
- Grade 8:** Zachary Babcock, Krysta Hansen, Sarah McGinnis, Joseph Perl, Samantha Schell, James Weicher

**78% of our students in grades 3-8 earned honor roll in the 2nd quarter. Congratulations!
Your entire school community is proud of the work you are doing!**

Student of the Month

Congratulations to the following students who received Student of the Month certificates for January:

K: Nicholas Morabito
1st: Brayden Irvin
2nd: Lizzy Lankford
3rd: Sarah Lumberg
4th: Gianna Groff
5th: Katelyn Kowalski
6thC: Morgan Wahl
6thW: Maylee Green
7th: Hope Miceli
8thB: Samantha Schell
8thL: Andrew Ricupito
Math (Cifelli): Lucia Sprague
Math (Sands): Amanda Nguyen
Earth Science: Katelyn Zehler
Art: Emma Fitch
Music: Elizabeth Lankford
Physical Education:.. James Fanara
Spanish:..... Matthew Rogers
Golden Note Award: .. First Grade

The MAMMOTH Returns

The approach of spring means that we are just two months away from one of our school's largest fundraisers: the 13th annual "Super Sale" (formally known as the "Mammoth" Sale).

This is a one-of-a-kind quality garage sale featuring tens of thousands of items! It is very well known throughout the region.

The sale committee has been busy since May processing donations on a weekly basis. In fact, due to the high volume of donated items the committee is excited to announce that they are returning to the sale's

former name: "MAMMOTH".

To date most of our donations have come from church parishioners and members of the community. However, St. Joseph School parents are welcomed and encouraged to donate items for the sale as well. The sale accepts most everything except clothing, electronics, Christmas decorations (they are already at their maximum) and broken items. They will accept baby clothing (newborn—2T). Small furniture and costume jewelry is

especially welcomed.

Please bring your donations to the school cafeteria or call Kathy Stefani for more information at 585-344-2701

Thank you...and please spread the word: The Mammoth has returned!





Family Bowling Night

On Friday, April 28, 2017

From 6-8 p.m.

This fundraiser is to benefit the Michael Napoleone Memorial Foundation
Sponsored by SJS National Junior Honor Society

The St. Joseph School chapter of National Junior Honor Society invites you to a bowling night at the Mancuso Bowling Center in order to benefit the Michael Napoleone Memorial Foundation.

The Michael Napoleone Memorial Foundation was started in memory of Michael Napoleone. He was a student at SJS. At the age of eight he lost his battle to cancer. He is remembered in many ways today. One of these ways is by helping other children who are in need through the Foundation.

Tickets will be available for pre-sale in the school's main office, as well as at the Bowling Center the day of the event. Tickets will be on sale for \$12 and 100% of the proceeds will go to the Michael Napoleone Memorial Foundation.

SJS's National Junior Honor Society hopes that you will help us by participating and by telling your friends and family, too!

10 Activities for Catholic Families During Lent and Holy Week

Attend Mass on Ash Wednesday

Wear your ashes out into the world as a witness of our faith

Attend Some of the Holy Week Masses and Activities at Your Parish

Make at least one of your meatless Friday meal together as a family.

This can be a great testimonial for younger children as you remember, together, one of the unique features of our Faith.

Commit to reading the Bible (even if it's a Children's version) every day together as a family.

On Holy Thursday, do a foot washing with your family members.

Have a pancake dinner the night before Ash Wednesday or Make a King Cake

This day is known as Mardi Gras as well as Shrove Tuesday. Pancakes were a traditional dish for this day to use up things that weren't allowed during Lent. Here is a recipe for a King cake:

<http://bit.ly/XWq78G>

Use this printable Lenten calendar to track the season:

catholicicing.com/printable-lenten-calendar-for-children/



Attend Stations of the Cross (especially one for children, if you have small children)

Make cards of encouragement to those in your parish's RCIA program – After a lot of study and prayer, most of them will be received into the Church at the end Lent.

Choose a Lenten Sacrifice to Do As a Family.

Is there something your family can sacrifice that might help another family in need? Consider donating what you might spend on a meal out to a food pantry instead.