



ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
NEWS & NOTES

Striving to form the MINDS, HEARTS, and SOULS of its students in the likeness of Christ.

From the Desk of the Headmaster

Greetings from St. Joseph's Catholic School!

Spring is definitely in the air, at least it was on the day I wrote this. While I know we're not out of the woods yet for more wintry weather, I do love walking out of the front office at the end of the day to the sounds of the crack of a bat hitting a ball on the baseball field. This is arguably the busiest time of the year for our athletic department, and sadly it is RJ Beach's final season as our Athletic Director. I think you'll agree with me that he's done a great job for us the last three years, leading our Athletic Department to our first 2A Directors Cup, which is just one of the many accomplishments of our athletic program under his direction. I've very much appreciated RJ's wise counsel and steady hand as AD. Please do make a point to reach out to him in the final months of the school year to thank him and wish him well as he begins his retirement.

While it will be hard to say goodbye to RJ, I am pleased to be able to tell you that our next Athletic Director is Mr. Eric Nash. After sifting through the more promising of 150 resumes, interviewing 12 candidates, and taking a very close look at 4 of them, I decided, after a lot of thought, prayer, and consultation with the search committee, to offer the AD job to Coach Eric Nash. Eric is a graduate of Wofford College where he majored in Physics and played football. For the past 15 years, he has been the offensive line coach at Wofford under the legendary Coach Mike Ayers, who retired in December. Eric's experience as a leader in a very successful college program and his efforts recruiting college athletes will prove to be invaluable for both our athletes and their parents as they look for opportunities to play sports at the next level. Eric and his wife, Erin, also a Wofford graduate and a family physician, have three children ages 8, 6, & 3. They are active members at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Spartanburg, where Eric serves as a member of their school's advisory board.

After spending a lot of time with Eric during the interviewing process, I'm convinced that his passion for the role that excellence in athletics plays in the development and formation of character will have a lasting impact on our students. Moreover, I feel very confident that we can provide Eric the support that he will need to make the quick transition from college coach to school athletic director. While the official handing off of the baton from RJ to Eric is June 1, you should see Eric on campus throughout the spring as he will be shadowing RJ in order to begin to figure out the lay of the land here at St. Joseph's. Once he's settled, we'll schedule a meet-and-greet. In the meantime, please extend a warm SJCS greeting to him should you have a chance to meet Eric before then.

The month of March is a particularly busy month, not just for sports but also for meetings, events, and the arts. It kicks off with a one-day **Women's Conference** sponsored by the Diocese of Charleston here on our campus on Saturday, March 3. Click [HERE](#) for more details. **Parent2Parent** meets on Monday, March 12 at which St. Joseph's religion teacher, Michele Houmis, and Campus Minister, Gabe Lewis, will talk at 7:00 PM about the spiritual lives of teenagers. That Friday, March 16, is the **Lenten Fish Fry** coupled with the **Middle School Campus Ministry Youth Night**. The **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** for the new building is Thursday evening, March 22. This by-invitation-only event will coincide with the Founders' Spring Musical Preview of St. Joseph's production of **Little Women**, which will run Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, March 23-25. I hear it's a great show that's not to be missed.

In closing, please keep our seniors in your prayers as they will be traveling to Florida for their annual mission trip during Minimester Week. Fifty-eight members of the Class of 2018 are going on the trip where they will be repairing homes with Habitat for Humanity and working at a food bank. Also, please join us in praying for the following members of the SJCS family: for Audrey, Lauren, and Sarah Osburn and their family on the loss of their father; for Will Bergman and his family on the loss of his grandfather; for the Baliker family (Camille '05, Michael '10 and Christian '16) on the loss of their grandmother; and for the Assinesi family (Kelly '11, Landry '14) on the loss of their grandmother.

With Love and Prayers,
Keith F. Kiser
Headmaster

Calendar Clarification

- The daily bell schedule for March 28 and March 29 have been switched. This means that students are dismissed at 3:00 PM on Wednesday, March 28 and at 1:15 PM on Thursday, March 29.
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- April 27 is a regular school day with student dismissal at 3:00 PM.

Things You Need To Know

Lenten Book Discussion

Michele Houmis, HS theology teacher, is leading a book discussion on Saturday mornings during Lent at St. Mary Magdalene after the 8:30 AM Mass. The book, *Christ, God's Companionship with Man* by Fr. Luigi Giussani, is an introduction to the content she has been teaching in her 9th grade Theology class. She wants to help others become more certain about their faith by sharing how she is educated. This is great for those who love religious education. Questions or more info? Contact [Rosy](#) at St. Mary Magdalene.

Faculty/Staff Retreat, March 1-2

There will be no school on Thursday, March 1 and Friday, March 2 so that the faculty and staff may attend a retreat.

Interest Meeting for Trip To Greece, March 5

Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Trakas are leading a group to Greece from June 8-16, 2019. Visit the Parthenon, the Temple of Apollo in Delphi, Ancient Ephesus, Santorini, Patmos Monastery of St. John and the Cave of the Apocalypse, stand in the place where St. Paul preached to the Ancient Greeks about their Unknown God, and much more! If you would like to find out more about this exciting trip, there is an interest meeting for students and parents on Monday, March 5 at 7:00 PM in the Meeting Room.

Third Quarter Ends, March 9

Grading for the third quarter ends on Friday, March 9.

Final Admissions Testing, March 10

The last scheduled admissions testing date for new students for Fall 2018 enrollment is Saturday, March 10. Openings are still available for 6th grade admissions into our new Sixth Grade Academy. Please help us spread the word if you know someone who has a rising middle school child for fall.

Eighth Grade Class Retreat, March 12

All 8th grade students are expected to attend the class retreat on Monday, March 12. The retreat will be at Look-Up Lodge in Travelers Rest. Transportation will be provided by the school, with the help of some parent drivers. Pick-up will be at the school at 3:30 PM, a little after the regular afternoon carline is over. More information will be e-mailed to 8th grade students and parents. Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister, [Gabe Lewis](#).

Sophomore Course Selection Meetings, March 12-16

New this year: Course scheduling conferences with the College Counseling office are required for current sophomores. Conferences for sophomores will be held March 12-16. It is recommended that the student and one parent attend the meeting, but students can attend the meeting without a parent present. Please sign up for a 15 minute session [HERE](#).

SJCS Spring Art Show, March 12-25

The 2018 Spring Art Show will be held in the SJCS library from March 12-25. Students in all grades are encouraged to participate. Categories include Drawing, Painting, Photography, Sculpture, Mixed Media, and Computer Graphics. Entries will be accepted in the art room from March 7-9. For entry requirements, contact [Deborah Pickard](#). The student artwork can be viewed during school hours and during the spring musical, March 22-25. The Jubilate Arts Guild will also be hosting a reception in the library on Friday, March 16 from 7:00-8:00 PM.

Freshman Course Selection Meetings, March 14-20

The Dean of Student Support will be providing one-on-one class scheduling meetings for freshmen students and their families March 14-20. Please note: these meetings are optional. However, any freshman considering a course appeal must have a conference. If you have questions regarding your course selections for next year or if you are planning to submit a course appeal, then please sign up for a 15 minute session by clicking [HERE](#).

Lenten Penance Service & Adoration, March 15

On Thursday, March 15, several priests from nearby Catholic Churches will come to St. Joseph's for our annual Lenten Penance Services, where all SJCS students are offered the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Lenten Season. The MS Service will take place from 9:26-10:30 AM, and the HS Service will take place from 10:37-11:30am. Both services will take place in the gym, where there will also be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and time for personal prayer and reflection.

Third Quarter Grades Emailed March 16

The link for third quarter report cards will be emailed on Friday, March 16 after 4:00 PM. Please remember to check your *junk mail*. If you **do not** receive the link or have problems viewing the report card, please email the Registrar, [Carol Curry](#). Any questions regarding your student's grade, however, should be directed toward his/her teacher.

Annual Lenten Fish Fry, March 16

The SJCS Sixth Annual (Pre-St. Paddy's Day) Fish Fry will be held on Friday, March 16 from 5:00-8:00 PM. We have dine-in and carry-out available (great if you are heading out to watch your favorite SJCS athlete). Click [HERE](#) to place your order. Once again, we will have SJCS Alumni Parent, Charlie Sutter, frying up delicious fish, and will again feature, for separate purchase, Green Beer (for those 21 and over). You will not want to miss this special night! We need many volunteers to make this event the huge success it has always been. Click [HERE](#) if you are able to help.

Mass for Solemnity of St. Joseph, March 19

In honor of St. Joseph's patronal feast day we will begin Team Day with a special All-School Mass on Monday, March 19. We will still have Weekly All-School Mass on Thursday, March 22 at the usual time.

HS Spring Musical, *Little Women*, March 22-25

Be sure to mark your calendars for the spring musical, *Little Women*. Based on the classic novel of the same name, journey into the lives of the March family. The bonds of sisterhood run deep as the wild stories and antics unfold among the four sisters. The girls struggle with maintaining a connection to their family's roots as they fight to fulfill their dreams. Performances will be March 22-25 and tickets will be available to purchase on the school website in early March.

ACT Practice Test, March 24

We will be giving the Princeton Review ACT Practice Test here at school on Saturday, March 24, from 9:15 AM-1:45 PM. This test is geared toward juniors who have not yet taken the ACT, but interested sophomores and freshman may also attend. The experience will help students become familiar with the ACT format and learn about which areas to focus on to improve their scores when they take the actual ACT for college admissions purposes. Please click [HERE](#) to register. Information can also be found on the school website under College Guidance-Upcoming. Questions? Contact [Melissa Broering](#).

Mills Uniform On-Campus Sales Event, March 27

Mills Uniform Company will be on campus on March 27 for a mobile store event in our gym. Mills will bring a fully-stocked mobile store directly to our campus, complete with Mills staff, sizing specialists, portable fitting rooms, and a full-selection of garments for try-on and purchase. The hours will be from 10:00 AM-6:00 PM for parents, and students would be able to shop with their parents during lunch or after school. Students will not be allowed to miss class to go over to the gym.

Class Rings & Graduation Supplies Distributed, March 27

Representatives from Herff Jones will deliver class rings and graduation supplies (e.g., announcements) during the HS lunch period. You will receive a mailing from Herff Jones letting you know how to pay if you have a balance due. Graduation caps and gowns will be distributed April 11 at the Senior Graduation Meeting.

Holy Wednesday All-School Mass, March 28

This is a 3:00 PM dismissal day (Thursday dismissal at 1:15 PM). All-school Mass will be offered.

Campus Ministry Downtown Stations of the Cross, March 30

On Good Friday, March 30, from Noon-1:30 PM, campus ministry will lead Stations of the Cross through downtown Greenville. Any HS and MS students and their parents are invited to attend. More information will be e-mailed to families as the event approaches. Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister, [Gabe Lewis](#).

Easter Break, March 30-April 8

Easter Break will begin on Friday, March 30. The school and school office will be closed. Classes will resume on Monday, April 9.

Seventh Grade Student & Parent Retreat, April 15

All 7th graders and their parents are invited to mark their calendars and plan to attend the 4th annual 7th grade "Student & Parent Retreat" from approximately 1:00-7:00 PM on Sunday, April 15 (the final times may be adjusted slightly). The retreat will be held at [Pleasant Ridge Camp and Retreat](#) just north of Travelers Rest. This is a day when both students and parents are together with other families for a time of rest, friendship, and prayer. More information will be sent out to 7th grade parents by e-mail. Sunday Mass will be offered for all, as well as childcare for those parents who have younger children. Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister, [Gabe Lewis](#).

Family Honor Chastity Education Program for Parents & 6th Graders, April 11 & 18

The Family Honor program has been successfully helping educate parents and students for decades on questions of sexuality from within a Christian-Catholic perspective. This year, SJCS is hosting a program for 6th graders and their parents geared towards helping to start the important, but sometimes difficult, conversation between parents and child about the meaning of their body. Information will be sent by mail to all 6th grade families. Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister, [Gabe Lewis](#).

Freshman Class Trip to St. Augustine, July 23-25

Current 8th grade parents and students, mark your calendars for the annual freshman class trip to St. Augustine, Florida, which will take place from Monday, July 23 until Wednesday, July 25, 2018. This trip is for any rising freshman at St. Joseph's and is a great way to kick off your high school journey. The trip is led by SJCS Campus Ministry students under the direction of Mr. Lewis and a team of high school teachers. More information will be sent out in the coming months. For questions, or if you are a parent who would like to be considered as a chaperone for this trip, please contact SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

Summer Exchange Students

SJCS was recently approached concerning an opportunity for our parents to host English speaking Catholic exchange students from Lycee St. Cecile (sponsored by Terre Des Langues) in France from June 12 to July 7. SJCS host families would provide room and board for the students (14 to 17 years old) to experience your family life. The students arrive at GSP with spending money, are insured, and are accompanied by an adult chaperone. If you think you might be interested, our contact is Dr. Andre Goineau. Dr. Goineau, retired from Milliken Research, lives in Spartanburg, and has been matching up exchange students with Upstate host families for 43 years. Contact him directly at mrgoineau@aol.com or call 864-585-3945.

NEW Parent Communications Committee Forming

Do you enjoy attending SJCS sporting events or Fine Arts performances? Photography or sharing stories? The Communications Department is seeking interested parents to help gather and share stories about all the amazing things happening at our school. This could be as simple as texting a final score after a game, sharing what is happening in your child's clubs, or as detailed as submitting fully written articles with photos - it's up to you! For more information or to volunteer, please contact [Sarah Pelicano](#), Director of Communications.

Cafeteria Service

Flik Dining Services provides cafeteria service during the day. Breakfast items are served from 7:30-7:45 AM, lunch is served during MS and HS lunch periods, and snacks are sold for 45 minutes at the end of each school day. In addition, à la carte items, pizza, and Stromboli are served during Household on Wednesdays. Also, trays for Household snacks, Household lunches, and/or team meals are available for purchase. To see the options available for purchase, please click on the following links: [Household Lunch Options](#) and [Household Snack Options](#).

From the Academic Dean

As we begin to set the wheels in motion for the 2018-2019 academic year, I want to update everyone on some new courses we're offering, as well as some changes in the course scheduling procedures.

We're adding a few new courses next year, including a one-semester course in the Music and Literature of the Civil Rights Movement. There is a rich vein of artistic production flowing from the American Civil Rights Movement, and this course will explore a good bit of this work as well as the role of art in social protest. We are also adding a one-semester course that will build on our European Literature curriculum by taking up the second and third volumes of Dante's incredibly influential work *The Divine Comedy*. Sophomores already read *The Inferno*, but this classic work is an extraordinary accomplishment that connects literature and theology in a way that is often imitated, but never surpassed. My only regret is that I don't get to take either of these great new classes!

There are additions in the Science Department as well. First, for those students that are considering a career in the health sciences, we are pleased to add a one-year, full-credit laboratory class in human anatomy and physiology at the Honors level. We already offer a one-semester course in this field (and that will remain a part of our curriculum), but there is so much ground to cover here that we want to expand that opportunity. Many consider human anatomy something of a "make or break" class for those interested in healthcare, and we want to give our students more exposure to this challenging field. Also in the Science Department, we are pleased to offer a two-semester sequence course (that means you can take the fall semester for ½ credit without necessarily taking the spring course) introducing students to the field of Aerospace studies. This is a growing field, and this course will include instruction and lab experience in a variety of related topics.

Finally, we are also offering an introductory Latin course for those students who have finished their world language course of study. This one-semester class will familiarize students with the basics of Latin grammar and syntax, but also explore the rich ways in which Latin has been so integral to the Church's history.

See the Course Catalog for more information on all these new opportunities!

On the procedural front, we want to continue working with families on identifying the best courses for their students. In that spirit, all sophomore students will now meet with a college counselor as part of the course selection process. These will be scheduled for later this semester, and you'll hear more about it soon. Additionally, students that file course appeals (for instance, to get into an Honors or AP course) will now be required to meet with either a college counselor or the Dean of Student Support depending upon grade level. There are a number of factors that should go into this decision, and every year we see more students who appeal into a higher level course but then experience significant levels of stress throughout the year, and often don't do as well as they might have in another course option. We want to ensure that everyone who appeals recognizes what might be required of them in order to be successful. The Course Catalog has more information on this procedure, but please do note that course appeals are due when the student turns in their course requests for next year. This will help us build a much more responsive schedule for the whole student body.

As the school grows, the challenges multiply, but so do the opportunities. That's why we're adding courses and trying to work more closely with students and families to make sure that every Knight has the best chance not just to make it at St. Joseph's, but to thrive!

From the Athletic Department

Summer Sports Camps 2017

Summer Sports Camps dates and sessions are posted on the SJCS website. Please click on the following link for more information: [SJCS 2018 Summer Camps](#).

Knight's Athletic Booster Club

The Athletic Booster Club is excited to announce that the new football scoreboard with the Knights signage has been installed and it looks great! We have also installed advertising boards on both the football and baseball fields providing a venue for the community to support our Knights! The Booster Club has also purchased new flooring for the weight room that is scheduled to be installed over Easter Break. These improvements are made possible through your support! Spring sports parents can still become Booster Club supporters. Click [HERE](#) if you'd like to join. Lastly, we are looking for parents to become Board Members for next year. Interested? Contact [Gary Walajtys](#).

From the Business Office

Re-enrollment for 2018-2019 School Year

In order to provide our families with a re-enrollment process that is both seamless and paperless, while maintaining options as well, SJCS has moved to continuous re-enrollment beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. Under the continuous re-enrollment process, students are continually re-enrolled from their initial admission into the school until they graduate from SJCS. In late January, when the next school year's tuition rates were published, parents received an email with a link instructing them to select a payment plan for the upcoming school year. In addition, students will be automatically re-enrolled, with a \$300 yearly re-enrollment fee billed to their account on March 1. Should a parent desire that their child not to return to SJCS for a subsequent year, written notice must be presented to the school's Admissions Office by the end of February.

Tuition Statements

- Minimester fees have been charged to student accounts.
- A Graduation fee of \$150.00 will be charged to all senior students on March 1.
- Eighth grade retreat charges will also be posted to student accounts in March.
- Tuition account details can be viewed at any time via your family My Backpack portal. You can find the link [HERE](#). Please contact [Melody Thompson](#) if you need help with your user ID or password.

Tuition Assistance

The Tuition Assistance application deadline for the 2018-2019 school year was February 15. If you have not completed your application, do so as soon as possible. Please note that you must use your 2017 tax information (actual or estimated) to complete the tuition assistance forms. To get to the FACTS application website, click [HERE](#).

From the Parents Guild

Many Thanks To...

- Katie Saad and Suzanne Willson for planning a wonderful staff and faculty luncheon to celebrate Catholic Schools Week.
- Heather Malone-Grippe for organizing another successful Used Uniform Sale. The Used Uniform Sale not only allows our families to have affordable uniforms, but it also raised \$3,000 for our school last year!

After Prom

Prom is a little over a month away. Make plans for **After Prom** to be the final stop for food, fun, and PRIZES on Sunday, April 22 from 12:30-2:30 AM at Sports Club Five Forks in Simpsonville. This is a safe and FUN way to continue the celebration. Tickets are \$15 and will be sold in April. Everyone will have a chance to spin the **prize wheel** and we will have our popular **senior raffle!** So, we need lots of donations for prizes, like \$10 gift cards (think Subway, Chick-fil-A, Starbucks, ice cream, movies, QT etc...) or larger prizes for our senior raffle (think college gifts like Keurig, Bluetooth speakers, TV, headphones, Yeti tumblers, ENO hammock, Visa gift card, drone, etc...). We also need **volunteers** to set-up and chaperone. If you would like to volunteer or make a donation (cash donations accepted too and we shop for you!), please click [HERE](#) to sign up. If you would like to volunteer or make a donation (cash donations accepted too), contact [Blair Bailey](#).

Graduation Reception

We love to celebrate our graduates! Each spring, the Parents Guild hosts a simple reception following the graduation ceremony. We are in need of prep/set-up/clean-up assistance. If you are willing to help, contact [Catherine Puckett](#).

Looking Ahead to Next Year

Are you interested in getting involved at SJCS? We are now making plans for next year and would love your input. We have many opportunities: to serve on the Parents Guild Board, as committee chairs and much more. Contact [Catherine Puckett](#) for more information.

From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office

Course Scheduling

- In February teachers submitted their course recommendations for HS students and will be included as part of the scheduling packets distributed in March. The College Counseling Staff will meet with students at grade level meetings held during lunch or Study Help to distribute the scheduling packets and explain the scheduling process. The grade level meetings are scheduled as follows: juniors will meet March 5, sophomores will meet March 6, freshmen will meet March 7, and 8th graders will meet March 21.
- An email alert will be sent to parents when the scheduling packets are distributed to students. Parents should review the graduation requirements, student transcripts, teacher recommendations, and the instructions included with the course scheduling packet with their students. Please pay special attention to the grade-specific due date for submitting completed and signed course selection forms. **All Course Appeal Requests must be submitted with the course selection packet.** Once the master schedule is set, course changes will be limited; it is important to give your courses careful consideration at this time.

Senior College Acceptances/Scholarships

Please continue to share your good news and advise the College Counseling Office of college acceptances and scholarship awards. With nearly 90% of the senior class reporting acceptances so far, they've been offered over \$10 million in scholarships.

Financial Aid Reminder for Seniors

Please make sure that you have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and (if applicable) the CSS Profile. Both of these forms were available beginning last October and many schools have February and March deadlines. The federal government, along with the colleges to which you applied, requires you to fill out the FAFSA form in order to receive federal aid and financial aid packages.

SAT & ACT Testing

- Juniors, make sure you register to take both the ACT and SAT at least once before the end of your junior year. Click [HERE](#) for SAT test dates and [HERE](#) for ACT test dates. Remember to take the ACT with Writing as many colleges now require it.
- Also, check to see if your college/university requires SAT Subject Tests and register accordingly. If you have taken an AP course, it is strongly recommended that you take the corresponding SAT Subject Test at the end of the year. Please remember that you cannot take the SAT Test and the SAT Subject Tests on the same day.

Juniors: Individual College Planning Meetings

Don't forget to schedule your individual family college planning meeting with your College Counselor. All juniors should meet with their College Counselor at least once before the end May. Students should complete the Game Plan survey prior to this meeting and parents should complete the Parent Survey as soon as possible.

College Match Program

In March, we will begin our College Match program with the junior students. It is important that the students know their Naviance login information and that they have completed the *Strengths Explorer* survey in Naviance (located under the *About Me* tab).

NACAC National College Fair

- The Upstate will be hosting the NACAC National College Fair on Thursday, March 15 from 5:00-8:00 PM. The National College Fair will provide opportunities for HS students in Greenville County (and surrounding counties) to speak with admissions counselors from hundreds of colleges and universities.
- They are also looking for student (and parent) volunteers. This can be a great opportunity to interact with hundreds of college admission representatives from across the country as well as earn community service hours!
- If you are interested in volunteering, register [HERE](#). It is recommended that students sign up for the 3:30-6:00 PM shift as that will allow them plenty of time to still attend the Fair.

College Visits

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors who would like to visit colleges should register for visits through the colleges' websites or with the admissions offices and then email Mrs. Hawkins to let her know what date(s) you will be attending the college visit. Juniors and second semester sophomores get two college visit days and seniors are permitted four college visit days per year. Please remember to bring back the proper documentation to Mrs. Hawkins (College Visit Record Form with required signatures and official documentation). See form for complete details.

From the Development Office

Gala Update 2018

By now, you should have received your Save the Date for our 2018 SJCS Annual Auction Gala. It's hard to believe we are under two-months away! A huge thanks to Sharman Armstrong, our Gala Committee Graphic Designer, who did a fabulous job. It was important for us during our 25th Anniversary Celebration year to pay tribute to our late Founding Board Chair, Mrs. Margaret Ann Moon. You will notice our design includes a moon shining bright that encompasses our theme. The moon represents Margaret Ann and we know that her spirit shines brightly upon SJCS and encompasses all who have and continue to pass through our doors.

Our parents, students, faculty, and staff are diligently preparing for Friday, April 20 by assembling silent and live auction items and preparing to magically transform our gym into the twinkling starlight skies of *A Starry Knight: Shining Christ's Light for 25 Years*. Come mingle with friends, enjoy the entertainment, dine on the delicacies of Table 301 Soby's, and dance the night away. The evening will include live and silent auctions. Tickets will be available for purchase the week of March 20. Be sure to get yours right away... there are only 500 available!

Where Does The Money Go? Every dollar raised at the Gala goes directly to support Annual Fund. **The Annual Fund supports every SJCS student** by impacting all aspects of student life at St. Joseph's, including tuition assistance, academics, campus ministries, student life, fine arts, and athletics.

Wondering how to get involved?

Silent Auction Donations: Please consider donating a basket or silent auction item. Contact [Donna Frank](#) to donate or simply drop your donation off to [Rachel Neubauer](#) in the Development Office. Your help is needed and appreciated.

Live Auction Donations: Our High School classes will again be contributing towards a specific Class Experience. If you have an experience that would benefit one of our other grade levels (9th-A Knight Under the Stars (Camping), 10th-Game Knight (Day), 11th-A Culinary Knight (Foodie), 12th-Star for A Knight (Broadway/Hollywood) please email Live Auction Co-Chairs: [Kiera Egan](#) or [Tara Ann Garrett](#).

Volunteer: Consider volunteering for fun and fellowship! This is a great way to meet new people and to support this wonderful event. To volunteer, please email [Michelle Dumit](#).

Sponsorship: Multiple levels of sponsorships are still available ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. Contact [Kevin Meyer](#) in the Development Office for more information.

Annual Fund

Our goal this fiscal year (July 2017–June 2018) is to engage the financial support of 100% of our school families, faculty, and staff in giving to the Annual Fund. As of February, an impressive 86% of faculty and staff and over 30% of our school families have contributed. Congratulations to the 7th grade which is leading with a grade level participation of 37%! We will continue to track these participation numbers through the Gala in the Spring.

The Annual Fund provides approximately 7% of the school's budget that is not covered by tuition. These dollars are raised every year through the generosity of our community, and provide tuition assistance, support for academic programs, athletics, fine arts, campus ministry, and enrichment of student life. Our Annual Fund goal for this year, which includes proceeds from the Gala, is \$450,000. Questions? Contact [Kevin Meyer](#) and download your [Annual Fund Donation Form](#) today!

2017 Tax Statements

Giving Statements for 2017 were mailed in January. These statements are meant to assist with tax preparation. Questions regarding these statements? Contact [Kevin Meyer](#).

From the Fine Arts Department

Fine Arts Summer Camps

Be on the lookout for more information on the Fine Arts Summer Camps in the April *News & Notes*.

Youth Art Month

Three pieces of student artwork will be part of the 2018 Youth Art Month sponsored by the South Carolina Art Education Association. The reception will be held on March 4 at the Governor's School for the Arts.

Upstate High School Art Exhibit

Nine pieces of student artwork will be part of the 28th High School Art Exhibit hosted by Greenville Technical College, Benson Campus in Greer. The exhibit runs from March 19-April 20.

Jubilate Arts Guild Officers Needed for 2018-2019

We are looking to fill several positions for next school year. The Jubilate Arts Guild is our Fine Arts booster organization and provides support for all the Fine Arts programming at SJCS. If your child is involved in chorus, dance, visual arts, theatre, band, or strings, then you already know how enriching these programs are. Help us support these programs, become more involved, and have a rewarding experience by becoming an officer. Interested? Questions? Contact [Amy Poinsette](#) or [Ann Canello](#).

Jubilate Knight for the Arts Talent Competition, Saturday, May 5

The Event: The Fine Arts Department's annual "Jubilate Knight for the Arts Talent Competition" is a family-friendly event, highlighting our artistically-gifted school community. Doors will open at 6:00 PM and the Talent Competition will begin at 7:00 PM. Patrons will enjoy an evening of fabulous entertainment and can vote on their favorite acts to benefit our theatre, choral, dance, strings, band, and visual arts programs. Visit the school website in April for event and ticketing information.

Auditions: Auditions will be Thursday, April 12 (3:10-7:00 PM) and Tuesday, April 17 (3:10-7:00 PM). Any member of the SJCS community is welcome to audition and students can earn points for their Household simply by auditioning. Traditional and non-traditional talents are welcome and performances may be up to four minutes in length. Be sure to start preparing your performance act now and work on it over the Minimester break. Audition information and form can be found [HERE](#). Sign up for your audition time [HERE](#). Questions? Contact [Teresa McGrath](#).

To Volunteer: Lend your talents and time to the Jubilate Knight planning committee. Our next meeting will be March 9 at 8:00 AM in the cafeteria. Questions? Contact [Amy Poinsette](#).