



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

Dear St. Joseph's Catholic School Family,

Well, we made it to the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Congratulations! I'm guessing that you are as relieved as we are that "homeschooling" is over for the time being. What an unexpected turn of events we have experienced over the last of couple months. I am extremely thankful for this school community and how we all pulled together to make the most of a difficult situation for our students.

Honoring our Seniors

Our attention is focused now on making final preparations for Commencement Exercises for the Class of 2020 on Friday, June 26 preceded by Baccalaureate Mass on Thursday, June 25. Both events will be held outside on the football field (a SJCS first) beginning both evenings at 7:00 PM. Because of the ongoing need for social distancing, unfortunately both events are limited to the seniors, their parents and two additional family members (four total seats per family), and the faculty and staff. Despite those limitations, I hope our whole community will look for ways to congratulate and encourage these extraordinary young women and men as they matriculate to college after a most unusual and challenging end to their high school years. I'll be sharing some highlights of their accomplishments in the next *News & Notes*.

Planning for August 2020

Our hope and expectation is to be able to return to in-person classes at least in part when school resumes in August. We are currently working on models for how we will do that. The most likely scenario is that we will begin the school year with a hybrid approach that will utilize both in person and online learning. Because of ongoing social distancing recommendations, it is likely that we will need to divide the student-body into two or more cohorts/groups and alternate days when each cohort/group will be on campus. We are currently working on what that would look like. We are still holding out hope that all of these contingency plans will not be necessary and that school will resume as normal, but we want to be prepared in the event that this is not possible. Similar planning is being done for the resumption of school activities and athletics. Eric Nash, our athletic director, will be in communication with athletes and coaches regarding our plans for the resumption of sports at St. Joseph's. As a trusted advisor and friend recently said to me, there is no playbook for what we are dealing with right now and we are going to need to be flexible and nimble, all with the goal of resuming full-day in-person schooling as soon as it is reasonable and prudent to do so. We will certainly keep you informed as our plans solidify in the coming weeks.

With this mini-edition of *News & Notes*, we are restarting our normal communication of our monthly newsletter that contains all the information for the weeks ahead. Please be sure to keep it on hand as a reference for the coming month.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to sort out all the details for the most effective and safe way to be back on campus for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, and thank you for continuing to entrust your children's education to our exceptional faculty and staff. That last two and half months have confirmed for me how blessed we are to have them teaching our sons and daughters.

In closing, please join us in praying for the following members of the SJCS family: for Billy '15, Maria '17, and Julia Bartell on the passing of their grandfather and for Patrick '19 and Ryan Meyer on the passing of their grandfather.

With love and prayers,
Keith Kiser
Headmaster

Things You Need To Know

Summer Hours

Although the school building remains closed due to COVID-19, and the administrative staff will continue to work remotely, please keep in mind our summer office hours. The staff is available from 8:00AM-1:00PM, Monday-Thursday. The staff is off on Fridays, as well as the week of June 29-July 3. If you should contact a staff member outside of these summer hours, please be aware that you may not get an immediate response.

Summer Reading

All students have required reading to complete before classes begin in August. Both the [Middle School Summer Reading List](#) and the [High School Summer Reading List](#) are linked to the home page of our website.

Final Report Cards June 8

Fourth Quarter/Semester II report cards will be emailed on June 8 after 4:00 PM. Please remember to check your *junk mail*. If you do not receive the report card, please contact [Carol Curry](#). Any questions regarding grades should be emailed to the student's teacher. The link to the report card will expire after 14 days. Please either print a copy or save as a pdf file for your records, car insurance discounts, and/or the DMV. During the summer, parents and students will not have access to Report Cards in Family Portal.

Band Program Instrument Fair, June 23 & July 23

Any incoming 6th grade students interested in joining the Band ensemble next year should drop by the Musical Innovations Music Store on Tuesday, June 23 (11:30 AM-1:30 PM) or Thursday, July 23 (4:00-6:00 PM). SJCS Band Director, Marjorie Malphrus, and other music professionals will be available to assist you in having a "hands on" experience with several band instruments and to discuss options in leasing/purchasing an instrument. If you already have an instrument in the family, Musical Innovations can also evaluate it for playing conditions. This is a session designed for parents and students to make an informed choice about their music classes for next year. Please remember 6th grade is the only year beginning band instruction takes place. Questions? Contact the SJCS Band Director [Marjorie Malphrus](#) or Musical Innovations (864-286-8742). The location is 150 Tanner Rd., Greenville, SC 29607.

New Student Final Transcript/Final Report Card Due June 30

Parents of new students are reminded to turn in the Final Transcript Request Form (found in the New Student Packet) to their child's current school office. It is imperative that we receive your child's final grades by the end of June in order for him/her to enter our school.

Lands' End Uniform Samples

The school has received some sample sizes in the new Lands' End Uniforms. Please *contact* [Jennifer DeForest](#) in the Admissions Office if you'd like your name added to a list of parents we contact to set up appointments. We will let you know the parameters and restrictions in place for entering the school building at that time.

Change to Outerwear Policy

We are changing our policy on outerwear for the upcoming school year. Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, **only Lands' End outerwear will be allowed on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday** (ie casual uniform). As our new uniform vendor, they have several high-quality options available through their online store. Wednesdays will still be Dress Uniform days for the all-school Mass (with a few exceptions throughout the year). Fridays will still be spirit wear days, and students may wear any SJCS outerwear (athletic teams, clubs, etc.) on those days.

BNC Services (formerly MBS Direct) Textbook Store Opens July 6

The school's new online textbook vendor, BNC Services, will open for business on July 6. BNC provides free shipping for St. Joseph's families on all orders over \$99 during the week of July 20. BNC carries the majority of our books, but they are sometimes unable to stock some of the older editions we use. Parents are welcome to buy from other sources, but the BNC site does provide a good guide for verifying that the right book is being purchased. In order to ensure you have all the necessary materials for each course, please consult the 2020-2021 SJCS Textbook Lists found on our website under Academics/Bookstore.

Used Textbook Sale, July 16

Although not a school-sponsored event, parents may purchase, swap, or sell used textbooks in the high school parking lot on July 16 beginning at 10:00 AM- **Arrive at 10:00 AM For Best Selection!** Arrive early for best selection. Parents

who choose to participate should raise their car trunk lid, display a red sign with the grade level(s) you wish to purchase, and/or a green sign with the grade level(s) you wish to sell. Be sure to check our 2020-2021 Textbook Lists ([MS List](#) and [HS List](#)) to ensure you purchase books with the correct ISBN number. It is the sole responsibility of parents to verify that the correct used book is purchased - old ISBN numbers are not acceptable books for use. Workbooks may not be sold or purchased since workbooks need to be new and unused. NOTE: It is our hope to have the high school schedules released by this time. If you choose to purchase textbooks via this sale, please be aware that you may need to purchase different books based on your student's final schedule.

All Sports Parent Meeting, July 30

If you have a son or daughter who plans to play on any of our sports teams during the 2020-2021 school year, you must attend the mandatory parent meeting on Thursday, July 30 at 7:00 PM in the school's JPII Center.

New High School Student Makeup Placement Testing, August 4

Most new high school students completed our placement testing in June. However, if your child is new to SJCS for the 2020-2021 school year and he/she enrolled in the high school after June 5, he/she may still need to complete this testing. A make-up date has been set for Tuesday, August 4. Questions? Contact [Jennifer DeForest](#) in the Admissions Office.

Second Annual SJCS Athletic Department Golf Tournament, August 7

Please plan to attend the second annual SJCS Athletic Department Golf Tournament at The Preserve at Verdae golf course on August 7, 2020. The Athletic Department will be hosting this fundraiser for all sports teams. These funds will be used to support all 49 teams that make up St. Joseph's athletics. This has replaced many of the individual fundraisers that each team has done in the past. We strongly encourage the whole St. Joseph's Community to participate in the golf tournament. All alumni, families and friends are welcome! Click [HERE](#) for more information and to sign up to play or sponsor this wonderful event.

Help Needed for the School Store

Help is needed in the School Store for the 2020-2021 school year. This is a great way to get involved and meet other parents. If you are interested in helping with the School Store, please contact [Lisa Hunnicutt](#).

School Supplies

A list of middle school supplies will be provided in July. Middle school students should arrive the first full day of classes with their book bag, textbooks, and all supplies. Teachers will furnish high school students with a list of any particular supplies needed for their classes once school begins; however high school students should plan to arrive the first day of classes with their textbooks, a book bag, paper and/or notebooks, and a supply of pens/pencils.

From the Athletic Department

Fall Sports First Day of Tryouts/Practice

Friday, July 31

Rising 9-12th Grade JV and Varsity Football: 8:00 AM-12:30 PM

Rising 7-12th Grade Girls JV & Varsity Tennis: 9:00-11:00 AM

Rising 7-12th Grade Cheerleading: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM

Monday, August 3

Rising 7-12th Grade Girls and Boys Swimming at Pelham Falls Pool: 7:00-8:30 AM

Rising 6-12th Grade Girls and Boys Cross-Country: 7:30-9:00 AM

Rising 7-12th Grade Girls JV and Varsity Volleyball: 1:30-3:30 PM

Rising 6-8th Middle School Football: 3:30-5:00 PM

Rising 7-12th Grade Girls Golf at The Preserve at Verdae: TBD

Monday, August 10-12

Rising 6th Grade Girls Cheerleading: TBD

Wednesday, August 12-14

Rising 6-8th Middle School Girls Volleyball: 2:00-4:00 PM

For a full list of fall coaches and contact information, click [HERE](#).

Sports Participation Requirements

Any student participating in a sport at SJCS for the 2020-2021 school year must have a physical dated after April 1, 2020 and complete the required forms ONLINE prior to the first practice. NO PAPER FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS! The required forms that must be filled out online prior to participation are: Pre-Participation History and Pre-Participation Sports Physical Exam, Parent Consent Form, Concussion Form, a copy of your athlete's birth certificate, and Steadman Hawkins form. All required athletic forms must be submitted through PlanetHS found [HERE](#). For the updated forms and information on how to create the parent and student login at Planet HS can be found [HERE](#) and look for the Athletics box. Be sure to type St. Joseph's Catholic School in the search line when looking for our school.

From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office

Final Senior Transcripts

Senior transcripts with final grades and CWA will be sent out the second week in June to the college you indicated in your Graduation Survey. If your college requires a form to be included with the transcript, please make sure the College Counseling Office has this form—please note that this does not include the Final Report Form for Common App schools as we already have these forms.

Course Schedules

High school families will be notified in July via email when the high school schedules are available in the Family Portal. Middle school schedules will be distributed to students during orientation in August.

Student-Athletes: NCAA Eligibility Center:

Seniors who have committed to play a sport in college or are planning to try-out must register with the NCAA and request that their final transcripts be sent to them. Juniors who are going through the recruitment process and are thinking about playing at the collegiate level must also register with the NCAA and request that their end of year transcripts be sent to the NCAA.

From the Fine Arts Department

Another Successful Jubilate Knight

On behalf of the Fine Arts Department, many thanks to all who shared their artistic talents on and off the screen that week! We also thank the members of the Jubilate Knight Planning Committee, led by Christine Balts and Ann Gushue, who worked enthusiastically throughout the school year to plan this event: Ann Canello, Bob Castello, Kelly Donovan, Marjorie Ferguson, Michele Houmis, Rod McClendon, Kevin Meyer, Kathy Malone, Rachel Neubauer, Amy Poinsette, Katie Saad, Desiree Spikings, and Jackie Zannino.

From the Jubilate Arts Guild

• Thank you to all who have patronized the Jubilate Arts Guild and Fine Arts programs this year. Your support enables the Guild to assist our students and faculty in their creative efforts in music, art, drama, and dance and in doing so, reflect God's beauty and goodness. As our Fine Arts programming has grown and our students have enjoyed classroom instruction throughout middle school and into high school, it is amazing to see the progress of our talented students throughout the school year.

• A sincere thanks to all the Board Members: Christine Balts, Ann Canello, Kelly Donovan, Ann Gushue, Kathy Malone, Michelle Mullins, and Amanda Warlick.

• Lastly, if you've thought of becoming more involved but were uncertain of possible roles, responsibilities, and commitments, now is the time to ask questions. We would love to know how your gifts of talent, ideas, enthusiasm, and time might benefit the arts programs by helping you to find a role that best meets your schedule and commitment level. The Jubilate Arts Guild also has a few roles open on the board. Contact [Kelly Donovan](#) or [Amanda Warlick](#) for details and more information.

From the Development Office

Annual Auction Gala, Serengeti Knights: One Village United in Christ

- Our first-ever (and hopefully only-ever) 2020 Annual Auction VIRTUAL Gala, *Serengeti Knights: One Village United in Christ* was held on Friday, April 24. We truly cannot express our gratitude for our incredible SJCS community who in a time of great trial and uncertainty banded together and helped us surpass our \$250K goal! We believe it was of no coincidence that this year's theme, *One Village United in Christ* truly embodied the living spirit that spread through each of you, to help us continue to support Tuition Assistance at St. Joseph's Catholic School.
- We are beyond grateful not only to you, our community, but also for our sponsors, vendors, parent volunteers, Faculty & Staff, Prom Committee, Mary Cummings, Karen Miros, Bob Castello, SJCS Facilities Staff, and Advancement Representatives who worked so selflessly to make our Gala the success it was.
- A special thanks to Jen Collins and the Yearbook Committee for their generous support and donations. Thank you to the Gala Committee who put in many hours behind-the-scenes to organize the wonderful event: Megha Lal (Gala Co-Chair), Sharman Armstrong, Michele Dumit, Susanne Norwood, Amy Cassidy, Tara Ann Garrett, Shannon Cole, Mary Salgado, and Donna Frank. Special thanks to our Gala Chair, Kiera Egan, who finished her Gala Chair-ship and brought such joy, hope, and vibrant goodness to our Gala during a very challenging time.

Thank You!

A huge thank you to our incredible SJCS Parents Guild who generously kept the spirits up of our Faculty & Staff and Class of 2020 through gift cards, ribbons on mailboxes, Chick-fil-A Biscuits, and personal delivery of Graduation signs! We are grateful for their thoughtfulness!

Annual Fund

- Our goal this fiscal year (July 2019–June 2020) is to engage the financial support of all of our school families, faculty, and staff in giving to the Annual Fund. The Annual Fund provides approximately 6% 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 enrich student life. Our Annual Fund goal for this year, which includes proceeds from the Gala, is \$500,000. As of mid-May, the **Annual Fund contributions for the fiscal year had surpassed \$460,000!** Thank you for your generous support of our students!
- Not sure if you have been included in the Annual Fund giving this year? Please contact [Kevin Meyer](#) with any questions. You can also give online [HERE](#) or download your Annual Fund Donation Form [HERE](#) today!