



ST. JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

NEWS & NOTES

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

St. Joseph's School Prayer

Glorious Saint Joseph, spouse of the Immaculate Virgin and Foster-Father of Jesus Christ; obtain for me and all the members of my family, a pure, humble, and charitable mind, and perfect resignation to the Divine Will. Be my guide and model throughout life that I may merit to die as you did in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Help us, Saint Joseph, in our earthly strife, to fulfill our responsibilities and ever to lead a pure and sinless life. Amen.

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From the Headmaster

Spring Greetings from St. Joseph's Catholic School!

A few weeks ago, while I was walking the path around our lake at Heart Ridge Retreat Center as I like to do after returning from a day at school, I noticed something I hadn't heard in months: the frogs were chattering away loudly, each with its own unique tone and pattern together forming a beautiful chorus of sound. It was a reminder that spring has definitely sprung.

With the arrival of warmer weather and the COVID vaccine becoming more readily available, the mood in the school building is more upbeat and optimistic than it has been in quite a long while. Thankfully, the number of COVID positives at school has come way down since our early February high when we had 29 students test positive in a ten-day span. During the entire month of March, we had only three students test positive for COVID. Taking all of this into consideration, we are resuming activities that we had to forgo entirely last year. Spring sports are in full swing; a couple dozen of our high school students are attending Youth in Government at the state house in Columbia; and plans are also in place to hold the Kairos Retreat for juniors, a senior Prom, and the Gala, all as in-person events while taking reasonable precautions at each event.

Thank you for your patience as we shifted to "no-classes Wednesdays" for the eight weeks leading up to Easter Break. I can't overstate how important this change was for all of us. After Easter Break, we will return to our normal bell schedule with students back in the building on Wednesdays with a 12:05 PM dismissal.

I hope you are making plans to attend this year's Gala, Bollywood Knights, on Friday, April 23. Our team of talented volunteers, led by Chairperson Megha Lal working alongside of staff members Rachel Neubauer and Kevin Meyer, is doing an incredible job of recreating this event from the ground up (literally!) as we've moved the Gala to an outside celebration under a tent on the softball field. It's shaping up to be a not-to-be-missed experience. Be on the lookout for an email from Development around March 29 with details on how to secure your spot at this not-to-be-missed event and support the school's most important fundraiser.

Later this month, contractors will begin a months-long project to paint the exterior of the school building. I've seen renderings and this overdue facelift should help to modernize the appearance of the building by using a color palate that matches the UKnight addition. You may recall how good we all felt when the interior of the building was painted a few years ago. It was stunning what new paint and LED lights did for the school's hallways, giving them a clean and fresh appearance. I think we will all feel the same way about the exterior of the building when this project is finished. It will take us a while to complete the project because the painters will be working around school and athletic schedules. I'm hoping that you won't be terribly inconvenienced by this, but there will be times when the traffic patterns and parking might be altered temporarily, particularly this summer.

Finally, I began this letter mentioning my daily walks at Heart Ridge Retreat, and you might be wondering what that is. Almost exactly a year ago, my wife and I purchased a 37-acre former residential facility for youth in Sunset, SC that we've been developing into a Retreat & Cultural Center. Thanks to the tireless efforts of my very talented wife, Tami, who is the Director of the Center, we are ready to begin hosting retreats.

One of the motivating factors for opening a retreat center is the role that retreats have played in our family's life, particular the family retreats and camps we have attended together over the years. These experiences have helped the members of our family to reconnect with one another and to what's most important in our lives. The desire is to offer similar experiences for families here in the Upstate. We have several events planned for the summer including family retreat/camp experience. For more information on the retreat center, click [HERE](#).

In closing, please join us in praying for all those in our community who are facing health issues.

With Love and Prayers,  
Keith F. Kiser  
Headmaster

## Things You Need To Know

### Schedule the Week of March 29-April 2

With the continuation of "no classes Wednesdays" in March, we have had to make a schedule change the week leading up to Easter Break (previously communicated in March News & Notes). In order to give families a chance to observe Maundy Thursday, we have switched the schedule for Wednesday and Thursday of that week. This means that Monday through Wednesday (March 29-31) will be full school days (students will have all 7 classes and dismissal is at 3:00 PM each day) and Thursday, April 1 will be the "no classes Wednesday" that we have done for several weeks. Friday, April 2 is the official start of our Easter Break.

### Mandatory Senior Graduation Meeting, March 31

There will be a mandatory Senior Graduation Meeting on Wednesday, March 31 at 11:30 AM (during HS lunch) in the JP II Center. Every senior must attend this important meeting. Dress code, arrival times, and graduation practice are just some of the topics covered. You will be given your cap and gown at this time.

### Easter Break, April 2-11

Easter Break will begin on Friday, April 2. The school and school office will be closed. Classes will resume on Monday, April 12. We will return to the bell schedule used before February. It can be found [HERE](#).

### Kairos Retreat for Juniors, April 16-18

Nearly 50 members of the junior class will be attending the annual Kairos Retreat from Friday, April 16 until Sunday, April 18. This retreat will be taking place under different circumstances than normal due to the pandemic, but is still a cornerstone of the St. Joseph's HS experience. Please pray that these days are an opportunity for each of them to grow in their knowledge of themselves and their openness to God's love at work in their lives. Information has already been communicated with the juniors who are attending. Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

### Middle School Aspire Testing, Week of April 19

ACT Aspire standardized testing is administered to all middle school students, usually in the fall and the spring. Students will be informed of their specific testing days and times. Please avoid taking them out during testing, if possible.

### Class Rings & Graduation Supply Delivery, April 21

Representatives from Herff Jones will be on campus on Wednesday, April 21 from 1:00-3:00 PM, to deliver class rings and graduation supplies (e.g. Graduation Announcements, sweatshirts, mugs, etc.). You should receive a mailing from Herff Jones letting you know how to pay if you have a balance due.

### Mid-Quarter Progress Update, April 21

An email will be sent at the mid-quarter point, April 21, as a reminder for you to check your student's progress in FACTS Family Portal. Please contact the teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

### Important Reminder of the Dress Code for Senior Prom\*, April 24

Many seniors have already begun to think about outfits for Prom. General guidelines outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook apply, but the following are more specific for Prom (pg. 29):

- Boys Attire: tuxedo, suit with tie, or sport coat with slacks and a tie
- Girls Attire: dress, two-piece dresses, dressy pants outfit
- NOT Permitted: excessively tight or baggy pants (male and female), shorts, dresses/skirts shorter than 4 inches above the knees, dresses/tops that show cleavage, under garments (including bralettes) or dresses/tops that plunge below waistline, bare midriffs. Please remember the guidelines when shopping.
- If you have any specific questions, please speak with Mrs. Koffskey or Mrs. Brace.
- Students that are not within dress code will be asked to rectify the issue before entering.

\*As a reminder, Prom 2021 is for SJCS seniors only. Seniors are not permitted to bring outside guests, or guests from other grades.

**St. Joseph the Worker Day, April 30**

Traditionally St. Joseph the Worker Day is a day that all SJCS students go into the community to be of service. However, due to COVID circumstances this year, Friday, April 30 will be a regular school day with a 3:00 PM dismissal. We look forward to our traditional St. Joseph the Worker Day next year.

**Exam Schedules for AP, Senior, & Final Exams**

Please see the Exam section of this News & Notes for full details of exams.

**Attention Parents of New High School Students! Placement Testing is May 10 & May 11**

Newly accepted and enrolled high school students who are entering grades 9-12 and who are currently completing high school courses in math and/or any level of world language for high school credit at their current school and wish to advance to the next level at St. Joseph's need to take SJCS Placement Tests. The tests will be held at SJCS on Monday, May 10 (Math) and Tuesday, May 11 (World Language) beginning at 3:30 PM. Information regarding these tests was sent home in all new high school student acceptance packets. Questions? Contact [Jenny Starks](#) in the Admissions Office.

- New rising ninth grade students who have completed a high school level math course in their current middle school must take the St. Joseph's Math Placement Test in order to receive credit for their current class/classes as well as secure their correct placement at SJCS.
- New high school students (entering grades 9-12) who have completed a high school world language course in their current school must take the St. Joseph's World Language Placement Test in order to receive credit for their current class as well as secure their correct placement at SJCS.

**New Student Nights, Monday, May 10 & Monday, May 17**

All newly accepted and enrolled students (students new to SJCS for fall 2021) and their parents are required to attend one or both of these informative sessions. Monday, May 10 is a virtual event from 7:00-8:00 PM for ALL new students and their parents. Monday, May 17 is an on-campus Class Night. New middle school students should report to campus for a 5:30-6:30 PM program. All new rising freshmen should report to campus for a 7:30-8:30 PM program. Counselors will contact new 10-11-12 grade students individually to review course selections, etc. Information about these nights was included in all new student acceptance packets mailed in mid-March.

**HS Academic Awards Ceremony & Class of 2021 Red Door Ceremony, May 12**

The HS Academic Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 12 in the JPII Center at 12:15 PM. Only seniors and their parents will attend this ceremony. Grades 6-11 will be dismissed as normal at 12:05PM. All seniors should wear their dress uniform that day. All parents are invited to attend and you will be notified, in advance, if your child is receiving an award. The Academic Awards Ceremony will conclude with the Class of 2021 processing out through the Red Door in the school's annual Red Door Farewell Ceremony. This program marks an end of one spiritual journey and the beginning of a new one for our seniors. Parents will need to RSVP for this event as seating will be assigned. Please look for an email at the beginning of May with RSVP information.

**Eighth Grade Convocation and Awards, May 19**

The 8th Grade Convocation Mass and Awards Ceremony will be held at 12:15 PM on Wednesday, May 19. Only eighth graders and their parents will attend this ceremony. Questions? Contact [Melissa Broering](#).

**Third Annual SJCS Athletic Department Golf Tournament, August 6**

Save the date for the third annual SJCS Athletic Department Golf Tournament at The Preserve at Verdae golf course on August 6, 2021. The Athletic Department will be hosting this fundraiser 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! Let us know [HERE](#) if you are interested in volunteering to help organize this event. Look for more details soon.

**Outerwear Policy for 2021-2022 School Year**

A new policy on outerwear, first announced in the summer of 2020, will go into effect for the upcoming school year. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, only Lands' End outerwear will be allowed on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday (ie casual uniform). Lands' End has 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, including hoodies.

### Travel to France & Spain in 2022

Are you itching to travel internationally again? Well, you are in luck! The trip to France & Spain has been moved to 2022. The exciting itinerary leads us from Paris to Madrid, with the Mediterranean Coast in between. From touring the Arc de Triomphe, to gazing at the awe-inspiring stained-glass windows of La Sainte-Chapelle, to visiting the top of the Eiffel Tower, to a scenic, illuminated boat ride along the Seine river, we will visit the most famous landmarks in Paris. From Paris we will head south via fast train to Avignon and the picturesque Provence region. The highlight of our stay in the south of France will be a horseback ride through the Camargue and a tour of the Pont du Gard, a 161-foot Roman aqueduct in nearly perfect condition. We will continue along the Mediterranean Coast to Barcelona, known for its artistic treasures and fine architecture. There, we will explore all the major sites, including Gaudi's masterpiece, the still-unfinished Sagrada Familia. Students are sure to delight in all the sites as we discover Barcelona by bike. Once in Madrid, we will see the Plaza de España, with its statue of Don Quixote, the majestic Alcalá Gate, the famous bullring Las Ventas, and the impressive Prado museum. Students will experience culture first-hand as we learn flamenco from a professional dancer. If you are interested in providing this opportunity for your child, contact [Madame McCoy](#). An interest meeting will be announced soon.

## From the Middle School Director

*"For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love and self-discipline."*

**2 Timothy 1:7**

A few weeks ago, I took the opportunity to remind all of our 6th grade students (87 in all!) what it means to be a member of the St. Joseph's school community. At this time of year, behaviors can tend to get, well ... a little sloppy. It was good to review expectations and remind them that all of us - students, teachers, staff - have to work together to create and sustain the community we desire.

This time of year is difficult because we teeter on the edge of anticipation. Spring is here, we're in the fourth school quarter, and - in this year-of-all-years - we see an end in sight to the pandemic that rocked the world as we knew it. Is it really possible that - without fear, worry or judgement - we will soon be able to return to ways of doing things that support the social, emotional, and spiritual parts of us? We are hopeful. Relief is on the horizon.

It is tempting, particularly for our youngest students, to let go of expectations and coast to the end. This happens every year, and it's not a surprise to us. At school, we counter the temptation to let go with a steady dose of structure, accountability, and consequence. The skill of self-discipline is learned; it is not innate, and its development is critical to their success ... not just in the classroom, but in life. Our desire is not to see them suffer, but to engage in productive struggle. Our desire is that our students learn to push through and persevere, even when it's hard and even when it's something they don't want to do.

As we move through this final quarter, our students have a good opportunity to really practice their self-discipline skills. These are specific strategies we have shared with our students all year, and they are a good reminder once again.

1. Set yourself up for success. Surround yourself with the tools you need to get your work done: class materials, Chromebook, writing utensils, calculator (if allowed!).
2. Prepare your mind and body by eating a nutritious snack and getting some physical activity before you start your homework.
3. Put away the phone, turn off the TV, and work in a space that is free of as many distractions as possible. Check your phone or tune in to TV or YouTube only on your study breaks.
4. Create a schedule for the evening. Plan on working in 20 to 30 minutes stretches.
5. If you hit a roadblock on your work, develop an action plan for help. Email your teacher, phone a friend, or ask a parent or older sibling for help. Don't give up too easily, but don't spend too much time on something and get overly frustrated.
6. Stay up to date on your work. If you have late work or missing assignments, you won't be prepared for the quizzes or tests on the material. Check FACTS and Google Classroom daily to be sure you have your assignments turned in.
7. Finally, remember that what we always expect is your best work and your best effort. We aren't perfect and we make mistakes.

The challenge of this year exhibits itself in many ways. If you feel your child needs extra help or support, please let us know.

*"For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction,  
so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."*

**Romans 15:4**

## From the High School Director

As we enter the fourth and final quarter of the 2020-2021 academic year, I can sense a cautious optimism about the future. Without question, this has been the most challenging academic year in recent memory, and no doubt we're all ready for a return to normalcy in both our professional and personal lives. I know I am!

While I am eager to get back to "schooling as normal", my real excitement about next year is rooted not in going backward, but in moving forward with the St. Joe's Way. I believe this can be a transformative moment not just for our students but for our whole community. The four major points of the St. Joe's Way (that we have infinite worth, that reality is positive, that fulfillment is found in Christ, and that we are here to accompany one another) **are both a base and a summit**. They're the basis of how we want to interact with our students and with one another, but they're also a summit in that we aspire to them as high points of our whole philosophy. I can hardly wait to talk about them with our students, both in group settings and in individual conversations.

Each of the four points has implications for our daily practices. For example, recognizing that we all have infinite worth should inspire us to see the best in one another, *and to give one another our best as well*. We want an atmosphere that promotes mutual respect and courtesy, and a genuine willingness to work for the good of everyone in our community. This should impact the sublime (a commitment to pray with and for one another) and the mundane (appearance, the language we use with one another, etc.). It's all part of our way, because St. Joseph's isn't just a collection of classrooms, school books, and extracurricular events. We are a community destined, as Margaret Ann Moon would say, to change our world.

## Exam Schedule

### AP Exam Schedule

Monday, May 3	7:30 AM – US Government and Politics
Tuesday, May 4	7:30 AM – Calculus AB/Calculus BC
Wednesday, May 5	7:30 AM – English Literature and Composition 11:30 AM – Physics 1: Algebra-Based
Thursday, May 6	7:30 AM – United States History 11:30 AM – Art History
Friday, May 7	7:30 AM – Chemistry 11:30 AM – European History
Monday, May 10	7:30 AM – French Language and Culture
Tuesday, May 11	7:30 AM – Spanish Language and Culture
Wednesday, May 12	7:30 AM – English Language and Composition
Friday, May 14	7:30 AM – Biology
Monday, May 17	11:30 AM – Statistics

Students must report to the Achievement Center (former Meeting Room) at the times listed above for most AP exams. Biology and Statistics exams will be held in the Gym. AP students are excused from all of their classes on any day they have an AP exam and they may arrive later or leave campus early. However, if it is beneficial to attend other classes on that day, they should do so. If they stay on campus after an exam, they must check in at the front office before reporting to class. They may not leave campus after a morning exam and return to school for a later class.

### Senior Exam Schedule

Monday, May 17	8:05–10:00 AM: History 10:20 AM–12:15 PM: Math
Tuesday, May 18	8:05–10:00 AM: World Language/Electives 10:20 AM–12:15 PM: Science
Wednesday, May 19	8:05–10:00 AM: Theology 10:20 AM–12:15 PM: English
Thursday, May 20	Make-ups as needed

### Final Exam Schedule, Grades 8-11 for Non-AP Courses

Monday, May 24	8:05–10:00 AM Period 1 Exam 10:20 AM–12:15 PM Period 2 Exam
Tuesday, May 25	8:05–10:00 AM Period 3 Exam 10:20 AM–12:15 PM Period 4/5 Exam
Wednesday, May 26	8:05–10:00 AM Period 6 Exam 10:20 AM–12:15 PM Period 7 Exam
Thursday, May 27	8:05–10:00 AM Period 8 Exam 10:20 AM–12:15 PM Make up Exams

### Exam Guidelines

- **Students are not allowed to test early.**
- SJCS Exemption Policy: Excepting math courses, juniors and seniors can exempt exams in year-long courses if they have a 90 average in the course by the Friday before final exams are scheduled to begin. Exemption averages are calculated by averaging the fall semester grade with the third and fourth quarter grades. Students on probation or those who have certain disciplinary actions may not be eligible.
- Eighth grade students should go to morning Household on exam days.
- High school students should report directly to their exam room and must be seated by 8:00 AM. Anyone not in attendance after 8:00 AM will be considered tardy. No students are to be admitted to the exam once the exam has been distributed. Likewise, for the second exam, students should be seated and attendance taken by 10:15 AM and no student will be admitted after the exam has been distributed.
- Students should bring review materials for other exams and study quietly if they finish an exam before the end of the exam period. Silence should be maintained from the moment exams are distributed until all exams are collected at the end of the exam period. Students with questions should raise their hands quietly.
- Once an exam begins, students are not permitted to leave the room. Restroom trips should be for emergencies only and then only after the student has turned in their exam.
- Students with only one exam on a given day need be present only for that exam. If they do not have a 10:20 AM exam they may leave at the end of the 8:00 AM exam period. Similarly, if a student does not have an 8:00 AM exam, they do not need to report until the 10:20 AM exam period (by 10:15 AM). All students leaving or arriving between the exam times should enter/exit through the front office.
- Exemptions apply only to end-of-year tests. Papers and projects are not part of the exemption policy.

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## **From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office**

### 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 the [Front Office](#) with the 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 the Front Office (College Visit Record Form with required signatures and official documentation—see form for details).

### Junior Student Athletes

All students thinking about playing a varsity level sport at the college level (NCAA Division I or II), should register with the NCAA Eligibility Center, have your official test scores sent to them (SAT and/or ACT) and request that your transcripts be sent to them at the end of your junior year.

### Senior College Applications

Please continue to share your good news and advise your college counselor of college acceptances and scholarship awards. If you have made your final decision on which college you will be attending, then you can send in your enrollment deposit confirming your place in the freshman class. When you do this, remember to notify the other colleges that accepted you that you will not be attending their institution. You should send a note, which can be done via email, to the colleges to thank them for their consideration and the time spent on your application. This is very important as it will open up spots for other applicants who may be on the waitlist.

### FAFSA Reminder for Seniors

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. With financial aid, sending your FAFSA in earlier is always better. There are limited funds for financial aid, which are distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Apply later, and there may not be as much money to go around, especially when more and more people today are seeking out financial aid.

**Seniors: Finish Your Year Strong**

Remember that colleges will receive your final transcripts and that all acceptances are conditional based upon you consistently completing your senior year with the grades that were previously sent to them. If you are struggling in any classes, please stop by to see your college counselor so that you can discuss a plan of action.

**SAT and 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. Although many colleges will remain test optional through next year, test scores can enhance your application. In addition, the SC state scholarships (Life and Palmetto Fellows) still require the SAT or ACT to qualify.

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## From the Athletic Department

**Athletics Summer Camp Schedule****BOYS/GIRLS FOOTBALL CAMP**

DATE: JUNE 7-JUNE 11  
TIME: 9:00 AM-Noon  
AGES: Rising 1<sup>st</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
COST: \$150

**BOYS/GIRLS SOCCER CAMP**

DATE: JULY 12-JULY 17  
TIME: 9:00 AM-Noon  
AGES: Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
COST: \$150

**BOYS/GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP**

DATE: JUNE 14-JUNE 18  
TIME: 9:00 AM-Noon  
AGES: Rising 4<sup>th</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
COST: \$150

**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CAMP**

DATE: AUGUST 2-AUGUST 6  
TIME: 9:00 AM-Noon  
AGES: Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
COST: \$150

**GIRLS SOFTBALL CAMP**

DATE: JUNE 14-JUNE 18  
TIME: 4:00-6:00 PM  
AGES: Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
COST: \$150

**GIRLS CHEER CAMP**

DATE: AUGUST 2-AUGUST 6  
TIME: 9:00 AM-Noon  
AGES: Rising 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
COST: \$150

**BOYS BASEBALL CAMP**

DATE: JUNE 21-JUNE 25  
TIME: 9:00 AM-Noon  
AGES: Rising 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
COST: \$150

**Sports Participation Requirements for 2021-2022**

Any student participating in a sport for the 2021-2022 school year at SJCS must have a physical dated after April 1, 2021 and complete the required forms ONLINE at [Planet HS](#) prior to the first practice. NO PAPER FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS! If you were an athlete in 2020-2021 please use your existing login. The required forms that must be filled out online prior to the first practice are: Pre-Participation History and Pre-Participation Sports Physical Exam (please print and take with you to your doctor and then upload), 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 Planet HS (formerly Arbiter Athlete). Information for new athletes on how to create the parent and student login at Planet HS will be available on the SJCS website under Athletics. Be sure to type St. Joseph's Catholic School in the search line when looking for our school.

**Knights Athletic Booster Club**

The Knights Athletic Booster Club supports all of our student-athletes and coaches. Each year, we raise money and work directly with our Athletic Director, Eric Nash, to supplement the athletic budget to better serve our athletic teams. Over the past few years, we have helped purchase the HUDL Focus camera system for the gym, a portable water dispenser, scoreboards, weights and flooring for the weight room, a new score table for the gym, team seating and bleacher repairs in the gym, tennis court benches, stadium concessions stand

enhancements, iPads, Pep Band t-shirts, the annual coaches' appreciation dinner, and more. Thank you to all who have joined this year. Remember to use your key tags at any home game, except for playoff games. Go Knights!

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## From the Business Office

### Re-Enrollment Deadline

The deadline to re-enroll for the 2021-2022 school year has passed. If you have not yet re-enrolled your student, please contact [Jenny Starks](#) in the Admissions Office to see if there are any remaining spots.

### Flexible Tuition

Flexible Tuition offers individualized tuition rates for families based on a family's documented financial ability to pay. Any family that is unable to pay the full price (which is set based upon the real cost to educate a student at SJCS) is invited to apply for an individual rate. That rate will be determined based upon a strictly confidential analysis of the family's financial position with the assistance of FACTS, an independent, third-party organization. Flexible Tuition is awarded on an annual basis and must be applied for each year. To get to the FACTS application website, click [HERE](#).

### Tuition Insurance

- St. Joseph's has, for several years, maintained a no refund policy related to tuition. After July 1 of each year, tuition is owed for the entire year whether or not the student completes the school year. St. Joseph's incurs expenses, such as faculty salaries, based on the expectation that our families will pay for the entire year and is, therefore, not in a position to cancel or reduce those financial obligations when a student withdraws.
- To help overcome some of the uncertainty for our families, St. Joseph's now offers an **optional** tuition insurance policy for our families. All families have the option to accept or decline the policy during enrollment. **If the family declines to purchase the insurance and their student withdraws, the family will be expected to pay tuition for the remainder of the school year.** More details about the tuition insurance program will be provided with your student's re-enrollment.

### Senior Tuition Accounts

**In order to participate in Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation, all senior tuition and fees must be paid in full, except for the June tuition, by May 20, 2021.**

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## From the Development Office

### Annual Auction Gala, Bollywood Knights: Though Many We Are One In Christ, Friday, April 23

It's hard to believe we are just a few weeks away from our Annual Auction Gala, *Bollywood Knights: Though Many We Are One In Christ*. Our Gala Committee and incredible volunteers have been working hard to prepare a safe, vibrant, and lively celebration. Gala is the school's single most important fundraiser, as we raise critical dollars that evening for tuition assistance, which enhances student programs and makes it possible for us to grant tuition assistance to nearly 30% of the school's families.

There are still opportunities to be part of this memorable event:

- **Tickets:** Support our Gala by attending this incredible evening. Tickets will be going on sale the week of March 29. Stay posted for an email explaining how to purchase!
- **Sponsorship:** Multiple levels of sponsorships are still available ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. Contact [Kevin Meyer](#) in the Development Office or [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.
- **Silent Auction Donations:** If you are interested in donating a basket or silent auction item, please contact [Aimee Lonergan](#) to donate or simply drop your donation off to [Rachel Neubauer](#) in the Development Office.

- **Live Auction Donations:** Our HS classes will again be contributing towards a specific Class Experience. All HS parents should have received an email explaining their class experience. If you have an item that would benefit one of our other grade levels, please email Live Auction Chair [Tara Ann Garrett](#).
- **Wine Donations:** If you have any bottles of wine you would like to donate to the Gala Wine Pull, please drop them off in the Development Office.

### Annual Fund

- Our goal this fiscal year (July 2020– June 2021) 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 46% of our school families have contributed. Congratulations to the **7<sup>th</sup> grade**, which is leading with a **grade level participation of 58%!** We will continue to track these participation numbers through the Gala in the Spring.
- 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. The **Annual Fund total through February was \$303,000!** Please contact [Kevin Meyer](#) with any questions, download your [Annual Fund Donation Form](#) or give [online](#) today!

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## From the Fine Arts Department

### Ornament Design Contest

As Pope Francis has declared this to be "*The Year of St. Joseph*", to mark this special year and connection to our school community, the Jubilate Arts Guild will be sponsoring an **Art Contest** to create a unique ornament that will be available in the Fall. This contest will be open to all students as well as alumni. Details regarding the specifications for the artwork will be posted on the school's website with the submission deadline of May 21. We look forward to seeing the creative submissions as well as sharing the final St. Joseph ornament with our St. Joseph's family!

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## From the Parents Guild

### What a wonderful Fish Fry!

Many thanks to **Catherine Puckett** and **Michelle Mullins** for heading up the incredible team of volunteers and **Charlie Suffer** for preparing his famous fried fish with the dedicated help of his team of fish fryers. We'll see you next year for another night of Lenten blessings.

### Used Uniform Sale

This is a special event, with an extra inventory of new items from Mills. Stay tuned for an email from Parents Guild with date and time and details on how to schedule an appointment. Want to volunteer? Those that volunteer will have first shopping access! Contact [Debbie Cruz](#) to volunteer.

### After-Prom Donations Needed

Thank you for the senior raffle donations that have helped to supplement what we have and that will be raffled off during Prom. We have an Apple Watch, Air Pods, instant camera, Keurig, Longchamp tote bag, Patagonia duffel bag, an Eno, and a TV. Each senior will be given 5 raffle tickets and can choose where they want to try their luck. In addition, we allow each senior to spin a prize wheel to determine which gift card they are guaranteed to win. We have plenty of Starbucks cards but donation of cards to any fast-food place, like Chick-fil-A, Waffle House, Zaxby's, an ice cream place, or even a gas station like QT or Spinx, etc. would be appreciated. If you choose to donate, we ask that each gift card be in the amount of \$10 so that they are all the same value. If you would like for something to be picked up, that can be arranged. Contact Devon Pace via text (864-630-9196) or [email](#). Thank you and we are excited to celebrate our great group of seniors.

### Graduation Yard Signs

- Calling all senior parents! We have partnered with [VIPdecals.com](http://VIPdecals.com) for you to purchase graduation signs customized for your son or daughter. These are white outdoor yard signs that are 24" wide x 18" tall and include a stand. The price for a single-side personalized sign is \$25, double sided is \$35. Check out the signs at [VIPdecals.com](http://VIPdecals.com).
- There is final order date and delivery is FREE to the school for pick up or you can send direct to your home (at an additional cost). Due to the concerns and restrictions regarding COVID, we will work with you to ensure a safe delivery, however our plan is to have all signs placed outside the front office. **The final order date is April 25 with free delivery by May 5.**
- This is a great way to showcase your son/daughter! Plus, for every sign sold, the school will receive monies to support future initiatives sponsored by the Parents Guild, including promethean boards, iPads, water bottle fountains, etc. For questions or more information, contact [Anne Stein](#).

### Get Involved at SJCS

The 2021-2022 school year will be here before we know it. Are you interested in getting involved at SJCS? We are now making plans for next year and would love your input. There are many opportunities to serve: on the Parents Guild Board, committee chairs, and much more. Contact [Kimberly Masters](#) for more information.

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## Technology Services Director

### Senior Chromebook Return Information

- All seniors are required to return their Chromebooks to the Library on May 20, immediately following the end of the last senior exam.
- Chromebooks may be returned to the library earlier than May 20 if it is no longer needed for classes or exams.
- Chromebooks are to be returned with the charger and case. The case should be emptied of all items except the Chromebook and charger.
- Your student account will be charged for any items not returned or for any damages.
- The charges for non-returned items are: Chromebook \$300, Charger \$15, and Case \$25. The damage charge is \$25.
- All students will be given a receipt at turn-in and if damages are found, they will be noted and the appropriate fee will be billed to your student account.

### Grades 6-11 Chromebook Return Information

- All students in grades 6-11 are required to return their Chromebooks to the Library on May 27, immediately following the end of the last exam at 10:00 AM.
- Chromebooks may be returned to the library earlier than May 27 if no longer needed for classes or exams.
- Chromebooks are to be returned with the charger and case. The case should be emptied of all items except the Chromebook and charger.
- Your student account will be charged for any items not returned or for any damages.
- The charges for non-returned items are: Chromebook \$300, Charger \$15, and Case \$25. The damage charge is \$25.
- All students will be given a receipt at turn-in and if damages are found, they will be noted and the appropriate fee will be billed to your student account.