

St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

Jet Gazette Newsletter

February 11, 2022

News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Greetings,

I bet if you go back through all of Jet Gazettes you will notice how I really don't know how to start these things. Haha. So, I'll go with my canned, "What a week here at St. John School!" However, in all actuality it was a crazy, awesome week coming on the heels of our weather interrupted Catholic Schools Week. So because I don't know exactly what to write about in this intro, let's jump right to the Friday after the two week Catholic Schools week celebration.

- The PSA Big Game Auction: I want to personally thank Cherish Miotke, Michelle Pagnani, Krystal Payne, Kelly Ahn, Stephanie Claborn, Kim Rogers, Kelly Boike, Kristi Hosner, Kelli Doherty, Hillary Valko, Patti Bonura, and Adrienne Kane for all the work that was done (and that continues) to make this year's auction so successful. I want to thank everyone who donated their time and money to the ongoing effort. We had a great turnout last Saturday (not enough to make the goal of 250) and it was definitely a fantastic evening.
- Covid: The GCHD continues with their strict quarantine and close contact protocols despite the encouraging news regarding the dropping positive case rate in the county and state. The Genesee County Catholic School leadership will be meeting next week to discuss any future changes based on the guidance from the Health Department. Many of you have shared your frustration with the continued mask wearing within our school so please know I am hearing what you are sharing but because the GCHD makes the protocol so much more difficult for those not wearing masks we continue to wear masks in our classrooms.
- Prayer Room: Some of you will hear your child talking about the opportunity to pray in our brand new Prayer Room. I need to thank Deanna McCrate, Barb Walstrom (with backing from the Educational Foundation), and several others for putting together this new room for our school. Today after the Eucharistic Processions, Deacon Larry brought Jesus into the room for two hours of Eucharistic Adoration. Mrs. Roche's class was the first to use the room and the students shared with her how they really enjoyed being able to spend time in prayer like that in one of our schoolrooms. God is good. (The Prayer Room is located down the stairs, next to the music room and across from the art room.)
- Open Enrollment: Our Open enrollment period began last Thursday. Despite having to postpone our Open House and move it to yesterday, we had 12 new families visit. Our National Junior Honor Society students did a fantastic job of leading these prospective families on a tour of our school. All of the homerooms did a great job decorating the school with all kinds of artwork and activities that exemplify our Catholic values. Thank you to the SJS faculty, staff, students, and volunteers who helped make our Open House a great success!

God is always working on us and our hearts. It's amazing how life, a situation, or a song, or a conversation can be used to get our minds and hearts right with Him. I was driving back from a day long meeting at the Diocese yesterday and a worship song by Jesus Culture entitled "Miracles" came on my playlist. This song is so powerful. The artist performing the song is also the song's creator. The background of the song is what gets me. He wrote the song in the depths of despair after he and his wife lost their baby son. "I believe in you, you're the God of miracles." The entire song is a heart wrenching affirmation of a faith rooted in our Creator despite the crud and ugliness of life. I mean, if a guy that just lost his son can write those lyrics and perform this song with astounding strength and belief, then I need to let go and let God. Continuing with this life lesson, this morning we had our Eucharistic Procession. As Deacon Larry and the Altar Servers processed around the school our 4th grade sang their hearts out over the PA system. What was amazingly beautiful was how our students were singing in all parts of the building. God was moving. It was a truly awesome experience. It was good. It was powerful. It was hope-filled. It was an opportunity for our kids to know and experience "the God of Miracles" in a personal and profound way. Let's allow God to work and get out of the way.

Have a blessed weekend.

Andrew Schmit
Principal

Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY



Monday	14	Valentine Spiritwear Day
Friday	18	Half-Day-Dismissal at 11:30 AM
Monday	21	No School-Presidents Day



MARCH

Tuesday	1	Tuition Assistance Applications for Diocesan Grants Due
Wednesday	2	Ash Wednesday
Thursday	3	Happy Birthday Ms. Adams!
Thursday	3	Half-Day for students-Parent Teacher Conferences 11:30 AM Dismissal
Friday	4	Half-Day for staff and students 11:30 AM Dismissal
Monday	7	Happy Birthday Mrs. Boyle!
Wednesday	9	Happy Birthday Mrs. Cislo!
Thursday	10	Happy Birthday Mrs. Anderson!

Tuition Assistance

The window to apply for tuition assistance is now open. Applications are due by March 1st if you would like to be considered for grants from the Diocese of Lansing. You must fill out this application to be considered for any form of tuition assistance from the St. John School Scholarship Fund or from the Diocese of Lansing Scholarship Program. Please note that tuition assistance is only available for students in grades K-12. Preschool students are not eligible for tuition assistance.

The link for the application is : <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>



A HUGE ST. JOHN THANK YOU!!!

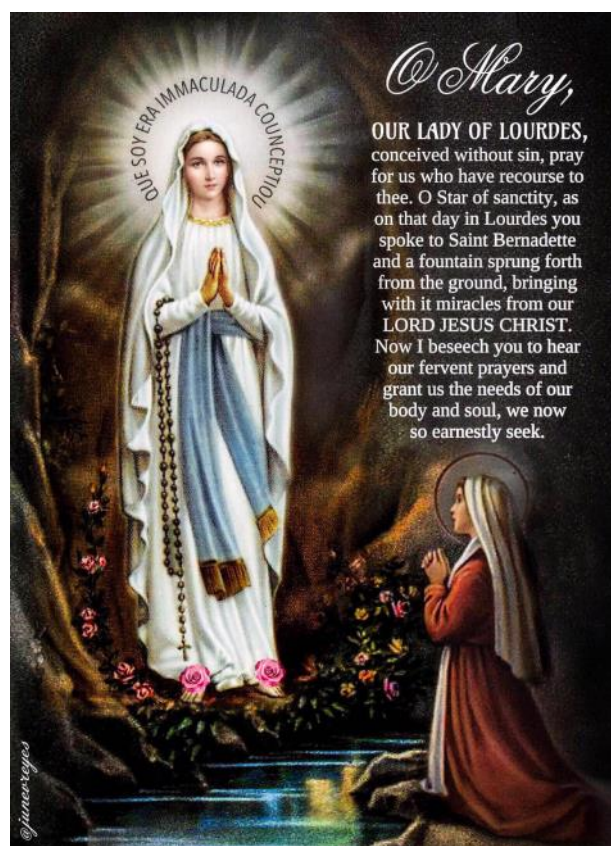
TO OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES OF SJS,

Words cannot express how thankful we are for your support of 2022 St. John Big Game Auction. Your UNWAIVERING commitment to this school continues to BLESS AND AMAZE US EACH YEAR. Your contributions helped us to raise much needed funds to support the students of St. John School. These resources will go directly towards programs, experiences, and materials necessary to enhance a full, quality education for each one of our students. We love this community and are most PROUD of our partnership with our families and local businesses. This active and IMPORTANT relationship is an essential piece to our CONTINUED success. On behalf of the students, staff, and families of St. John School, THANK YOU for your ongoing support FOR THE BIG GAME. We couldn't do it without you!

The Online Big Game portion of the auction will be open until 12 PM Noon on Sunday if anyone wishes to contribute or donate if they didn't get a chance to yet! Thank you for your continued support.

<https://sjpsa2022.ggo.bid>

The St. John PSA and Auction Committee



Save the Date!!



From the Applefest Committee

Happy New Year to all!! It's been a long time, but we are happy to announce that we do plan on celebrating the return of Applefest and it will be our 50th Anniversary!! The core team recently met and would like to invite all of you for an all committee meeting to discuss Applefest 2022. We hope that you can be in attendance:

Wednesday, March 9th @ 7 PM

Founders Hall

Hosting a "festival" during a pandemic was no easy feat!! The last two years were difficult, but as a parish and with some creativity we still were able to provide our community some celebration and present the parish with nearly \$200,000!!! Thank you to all for your prayers, support, and encouragement! Again, we look forward to planning for 50th Anniversary of Applefest and we will need all hands on deck. Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

Please feel free to reach out to me directly with any questions or concerns.

Miriam Sage

810-287-2060

Log Your Volunteer Hours

To log your volunteer hours, go to our school website and click on the "Good Stewards" tab. Then, you can click on "Submit Parent Volunteer Hours." If you have questions, about how to log hours, please contact the office.



Athletics Update



Basketball Prep Clinic for 3rd and 4th graders

Starting this Sunday, students in Grades 3 and 4 are invited to participate in a basketball skills clinic. The clinic will be from 1 PM to 3 PM in the gym. Please remember to bring dry shoes and a water bottle. Questions? Contact Wes Nolde at 810-625-0275 or wesnolde@gmail.com.

Boys Basketball

Admission: Adults \$2, Students \$1, 5 and under FREE



7/8 Grade

Gold Team

Sat 2/12 vs. St. Robert Blue	11 AM @ Powers
Mon 2/14 vs. Holy Family White	6 PM @ Holy Family

Green Team

Sat 2/12 vs. Holy Family Blue	10 AM @ Powers
Mon 2/14 vs. St. Robert White	7 PM @ St. John
Wed 2/16 vs. Holy Family Gold	7 PM @ St. John

5/6 Grade

Green Team

Mon 2/14 vs. St. Robert White	6 PM @ St. John
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Gold Team

Wed 2/16 vs. Holy Family White	5 PM @ St. John
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GO JETS!

A special thank you to those who made this day happen

Andrew Schmit
Angie Haiss
Matt Forsleff
Cherish Miotke (Auction Chair)
Michelle Pagnani
Krystal Fatolitis-Payne
Stephanie Claborn
Kelly Boike

Kim Rogers
Kristi Hosner
Kelly Ahn
Kelli Doherty
Patti Bonura
Hillary Valko
Adrienne Kane

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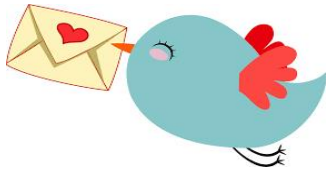
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ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

Prayers:

- Of sympathy for Mrs. Trollman and her family on the passing of her mother-in-law,
- For Annette Kennedy, the mother of Mrs. Anderson and grandmother to Sam Anderson, who is ill and hospitalized.

Thank You:

- To EVERYONE who supported our PSA Auction. We are so thankful for all of you!
- To Auction Chair, Cherish Miotke, for your hard work and dedication to a wonderfully successful and fun night.
- To Michelle Pagnani, Krystal Fatolitis-Payne, Kelly Ahn, Kim Rogers, Stephanie Claborn, Kelly Boike, Kelli Doherty, Kristi Hosner, Patti Bonura, Hillary Valko, Adrienne Kane, and many countless others who assisted Cherish with the auction.
- To Coach Val and the St. John cheerleaders for planning a fun pep rally to conclude our Catholic Schools Week celebrations.



We are loving
our new Prayer
Room.



Building Foundations of Faith

Today's #microchallenge from bustedhalo.com



To stay up to date with parish events, here is a link to the weekly parish bulletin: <https://www.stjohnfenton.org/bulletin.html>





Staff Spotlight

Mr. Garbutt

6th Grade Homeroom

Middle School Math and Social Studies

How long have you worked in education? I have been teaching for 11 years. **How about at SJS?** 3 years

What is your alma mater? I have a Bachelor's degree from Madonna University and my Master's degree is from UM-Dearborn.

What is your favorite thing about working in a Catholic school? The community that is centered around Jesus and talking about Jesus in class.

Tell us about your family: My wife of 10 years, Sami, and 3 boys, Elijah (1st grade), Patrick (preschool), and Noah (16 months)

Do you have any pets? No pets

What are your favorite hobbies? I enjoy playing golf and hockey. Golf is more an obsession than a hobby though.

What are your favorite foods? My wife's cooking. Her pasta, BBQ Ribs, city chicken, and tater tot casserole.

What is one thing you will NOT eat? Outside of shrimp, seafood is a no-go and eggplant.

If I could go anywhere on vacation, it would be: Vegas with my wife or Disney with the family.

What is your favorite sports team? The Red Wings, but I will watch ANY sport on TV.

What is your favorite Winter Olympic event? Curling and Hockey

What is one of your favorite topics to teach in Math and Social Studies? I enjoy teaching how to solve equations in math and teaching about the Constitution is a lot of fun.

What is one of your favorite Bible stories? Jonah and the whale.

What is your favorite movie? Top Gun and The Departed

What is your favorite season and why? Summer for golf and time on the lake.

This or that? WINTER EDITION

Hot Chocolate or Coffee

Ice Skating or Sledding

Chocolate or Conversation Hearts

Winter Olympics or Super Bowl

Six More Weeks of Winter or Early Spring

