



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

Jet Gazette Newsletter

December 4, 2020

News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Greetings,

Hello, St. John Catholic School community! We hit the post-Thanksgiving ground running, some may argue sprinting. We have plenty going on within the school, maintaining our COVID protocols while attempting to keep some of our SJS December traditions going, all while the students and staff remain immersed in the learning process. I see the hustle and bustle of daily instruction and student engagement going on in our classrooms. It is a blessing and a sight to behold. We have two weeks until Christmas break. We can do this! Here's my December 4th, Day 65 rundown:

- The parish is showing The Nativity Story on the parking lot screen tonight at 6:30 PM. Come and watch the movie, then check out our beautiful Advent/Christmas light displays throughout the campus.
- Our first day of Merry Mail was a success! The process is different this year so our third grade rooms are adjusting procedures to stay in line with our health and safety protocols. We will add a box at the end of our morning loop each morning next week if you want to drop a note to your student(s).
- Thank you for all who have participated in our Virtual Santa shop. We did miss having the shop in our library this school year. However, our staff and students have done a great job decorating our hallways and classrooms, helping to spread the Christmas cheer throughout our school!
- The Education Foundation Christmas Tree Lighting will be on Monday, December 7 at 6 PM. Here are the three ways to experience this modified Tree Lighting ceremony: Drive by Christmas Tree View, Christmas Tree View from your parked car, View Live on St. John School Facebook Feed.
- Our 2nd-8th Grade students will be able to attend a school-only Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass at 10 AM while our Preschool-1st Grade will be viewing the livestream link to our mass within the classrooms.
- Come join us for the Second Sunday of Advent Mass this weekend. We will continue with the three options for participating in our Eucharistic celebrations: In the church, in the Activity Center, or in your car. Our mass times are Saturday at 5 PM, Sunday at 830 AM, 10 AM, and 1130 AM.
- There will NOT be an in-person Christmas program this year. However, each grade will be individually recorded singing their prepared songs in the church, socially distanced, with masks on throughout the school day on Tuesday, December 15. The videos will be edited together for a "Symbols of Christmas" program. The link to the program will be sent out at a later date. Stay tuned.
- Our athletic program and after school band program are still on pause. I hope to have more information soon.
- We will continue forging ahead with in-person learning. We continue to do an amazing job as a school community to adhere to the health and safety protocols of our school. Keep all of our families' health and safety in your prayers. In particular, please keep in your prayers all of our community's medical professionals who are dealing with this virus on a daily basis.

I pray that you have a safe and relaxing weekend. God is good! Be well and be safe!

Andrew Schmit

"The Lord does not delay his promise... but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

PARENT CALENDAR



December

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| Fri | 4 | Happy Birthday Mrs. Dawes! |
| Fri | 4 | Merry Mail begins. |
| Sun | 6 | St. Nicholas Feast Day |
| Tues | 8 | Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Grades 2-8 will attend School-only mass at 10 AM. |
| Thurs | 10 | Happy Birthday Mrs. Ratke! |
| Sat | 12 | Happy Birthday Father Ryan! |
| Sun | 13 | Happy Birthday Mrs. Davidson! |
| Mon | 14 | Christmas Spiritweek Begins! |
| Fri | 18 | Half-Day—Christmas Break Begins at 11:30 Dismissal |
| Thurs | 24 | Happy Birthday Mrs. Farella |
| Fri | 25 | Merry Christmas! |
| Sat | 26 | Happy Birthday Mrs. Marinelli! |

On Tuesday, December 15th, all students in grades K-8 should wear their Christmas best to school. We will be recording our Christmas music program that day. (Grade levels will be recorded individually).

****Preschool will be recorded on a different day to accommodate MWF only students. Please look for instructions from your preschool teacher regarding changes to preschool spirit days.**

MERRY MAIL

We had a record breaking first day of Merry Mail. Tune into announcements on Monday to hear the amount. Encourage your students to continue to write and send letters to their friends, siblings, and/or teachers.

Parents—we will have a mailbox at the very end of the loop line every morning next week if you would like to send Merry Mail to your children.

HAPPY MERRY MAIL!

Christmas Spiritweek

December 14-18



Monday

A Long Winter's Nap

Come to school in your PJs.

Tuesday

Deck the Halls

Dress in your Christmas best for the recording of our Christmas music program.

Wednesday

Family Picture Day

Wear your flannels or Ugly Christmas sweaters.

Thursday

Santa's Workshop

Break out all those Christmas accessories, socks, light up necklaces, etc. and let us see how festive you can be. Dress as your favorite Christmas character from the North Pole. Be creative! Accessorize with elf hats, reindeer antlers, or decorate yourself as a Christmas Tree.

Friday

Christmas Spiritwear Day

Wear your choice of Christmas Spiritwear.





COLD WEATHER REMINDER

Colder weather is upon us!! Please be sure students come to school everyday prepared to go outside. Our policy is to have outside recess everyday as long as temperatures are 10 degrees or above (factoring in the wind chill). Please be sure your children bring warm coats, hats, and gloves. It is also a good idea to label all items. Our lost and found always starts to grow at this time of year.

Sunday, December 13th is the LAST day to submit weekly Scrip orders to receive them in time for Christmas break. Be sure to get all orders in on time. eScrip-cards through Scrip Now will still be available anytime.

Do you need prayer?

We'd like to pray for your intentions through the intercession of St. Nicholas beginning the first weekend of Advent (November 28) through Christmas Day. Drop them into the contribution boxes located in the Church or in the red mailbox in the school vestibule. We recommend that you place them in a sealed envelope marked 'To: St. Nicholas.' You can sign your name or leave it anonymous. Every week throughout Advent we will collect the letters, gather as a staff, and pray specifically for these requests through the intercession of St. Nicholas.

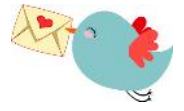


"Hibernation Day" in preschool



Christmas Mass Schedule
December 24: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm Masses are available in Parking Lot Only
8:00 pm and 10:00 pm Vigil Mass
December 25: 12:00 Midnight,
8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12 Noon
Overflow seating available in the Grand Hall of the Activity Center, as well as limited space for Parking Lot at all Masses.
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:
Thurs., December 31, (NO morning Mass) 5:00 pm
Wed. January 1, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

ON A PERSONAL NOTE



Thank you:

- All families who donated to our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Our students collected over 1061 items for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.
- To Miss Robin for decorating our entryway and making it look so welcoming and festive



Building Foundations of Faith

As Catholic parents, we are called to provide moral education and spiritual growth for our children. What better example than to learn and grow in faith yourself? Visit this Jet Gazette feature weekly for thoughts, articles, and tips to strengthen and deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith.

We are almost into our second week of Advent. It's not too late to start something new to bring yourself more mindfulness and joy. Check out "[10 Meaningful Advent Traditions to Try This Year.](#)"

Today's #microchallenge from bustedhalo.com



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



Staff Spotlight



What is your favorite Christmas movie?

Mr. Forsleff: It's a Wonderful Life!

Mr. Schmit: For a laugh? Christmas Vacation. But to watch over and over? A Christmas Story.

Ms. Bade: Elf! I laugh at all the same parts every time!

Mrs. Anderson: Hard to choose...I love Christmas Vacation and Elf. Both are a must see multiple times throughout December!!

Ms. Wharff: My favorite Christmas movie is Elf! "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!"

Mr. Garbutt: My favorite Christmas movie is Elf. The one-liners are fantastic!

Mrs. Farella: We watch Elf every year with the kids.

Ms. Adams: My favorite Christmas movie is Elf. "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!" **

Ms. Feazel: Elf

Mrs. Dawes: My favorite Christmas movie is A Christmas Carol. My favorite comedy is Christmas Vacation.

Mrs. Ratke: Most recently, Christmas Chronicles has become my favorite.

Mrs. Whitney: A Christmas Story and Holiday Inn

Mrs. Wright: It's hard to pick just one! Some Christmas movies I enjoy are Miracle on 34th Street, The Polar Express, and The Nativity Story.

Ms. Werschky: A Christmas Carol

Ms. Jennings: My favorite Christmas movie is Elf!

Mrs. Forsleff: The Snowman mainly because I love the music!

Mrs. Salzano: Elf!

Mrs. Minnick: I love Elf!

Mrs. Boyle: We LOVE Christmas Vacation. My mom is collecting all of the special Hallmark ornaments for it too!

Mrs. Haiss: I love The Santa Clause and Elf! Holiday Inn is such a great classic movie too!

Mrs. Adams: I like the Home Alone movies.

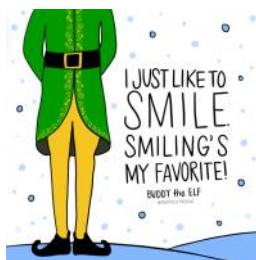
Mrs. Cislo: A Christmas Story, Elf, and the one with the Heat Miser. ;)

Mrs. Roche: It's a Wonderful Life and Christmas Vacation are my two must watch movies. White Christmas is up there too!

Mrs. Olkowski: A Christmas Story

Mrs. Flannery: Elf or Christmas Vacation

Mrs. Davidson: Christmas Vacation



** (Editor's note: This is not a typo. Yes, Ms. Adams and Ms. Wharff shared the same quote!! Everyone loves Elf!)

