



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

## Jet Gazette Newsletter

### May 22, 2020

#### News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Happy Memorial Day Weekend!

While the school year is winding down and we are trying to make plans for the conclusion of the year, graduation ceremonies, awards ceremonies and some of the other traditional end of the school year revelry, the GCCS principals continue to meet, discussing and planning what the reopening of our schools will look like for the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year. We have been meeting with our own building committees as well as together as principals, trying to make sense of the CDC recommendations for reopening, while awaiting the State of Michigan's guidelines and recommendations. There is plenty of noise out there in social media land about what could happen in the fall but please know that I, along with Kasey Cronin and the other GCCS principals, will create a plan that will best serve our communities. If you haven't had an opportunity, please read the GCCS letter that was emailed to you earlier today. Please keep the committee members and this process in your prayers!

Remember that next Friday, May 29 at 3:30 PM we will honor our 8th Graders with a "honk out" to celebrate their upcoming graduation from St. John School! If you would like to participate, please arrive at the upper loop at 3 PM so cars can line up and form a tunnel for 8th Grade families to drive through at 3:30 PM. I ask that everyone practice social distancing and remain in your cars to celebrate our 8th Graders. We are also trying to plan the normal end of the year celebrations for our 8th Graders so more information will be available soon.

On Friday, June 5 at 4PM, the St. John School faculty and staff will be lined up along the drive in front of the school to celebrate our families as we wrap up the 2020-21 school year. Please feel free to drive through the parking lot so we can honor and celebrate all of you!

We are hosting a virtual Zoom Open House on Wednesday, May 27 at 5 PM. If you know anyone interested in our school, please have them email me so I can send them the Zoom information.

The week of June 1 we will be collecting books and materials that went home for remote learning, along with parents picking up belongings that were left behind in the classrooms. We will update you with the specific day and times but more than likely we will follow the same process we utilized on March 17 for packet/material pick up.

A huge thank you goes out to Tracy Jennings for hosting our virtual book fair. Thank you to all the St. John School families who purchased nearly \$1,000 worth of books and materials which helped to raise just over \$300 for our library.

Our teachers are busy wrapping up instruction for this school year, finalizing grades, and preparing summer learning opportunities, while prepping for upcoming professional development. I appreciate the time and energy they continually put forth to help make St. John School a special place!

Please keep in your prayers all those affected by the devastating flooding in the Midland area. Also, please keep praying for Fr. Ryan as he continues to recover. He misses all of you greatly!

In this weekend's Gospel, we hear, "The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted." Even through it all, with everything the Apostles witnessed and experienced, the Apostles doubted. Mind you, this is right before Jesus' ascension into Heaven. What speaks to me is that it is okay to doubt, to have questions. However, we have to be open and ready for God to use us. The Apostles had their doubts but were obviously willing to be used by God because only days later they were filled with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the Church was born! I have my doubts about our current situation. I have my questions. I'm sure you do as well. However, let's be ready for God's answer to those questions and doubts and be willing to help make disciples of all nations.

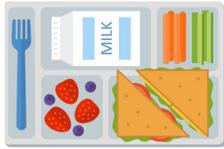
Thank you and God bless,

Andrew Schmit

## Food Service Update

If you are in a situation where you are in need of meals for your children, please contact the office. We will help you coordinate a time and place for food distribution.

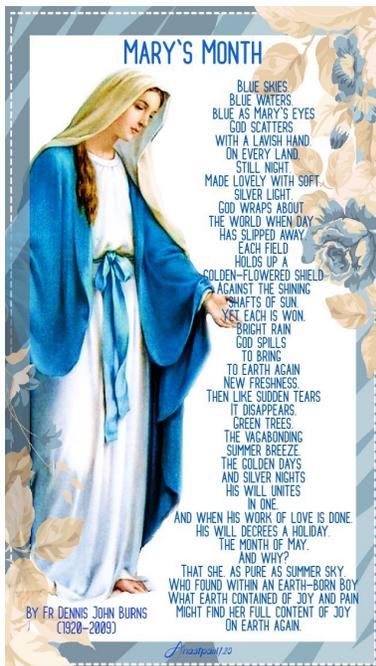
Additionally, if you have experienced a change in your income, you may qualify for the free and reduced meal program for this school year. If your family qualifies, this will carry over into the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. Please fill out an online application at [lunchapp.com](http://lunchapp.com). If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Davidson at [ddavidson@stjohnfenton.com](mailto:ddavidson@stjohnfenton.com).



## Crim Foundation Mindfulness Initiative

The Crim Foundation Mindfulness Initiative has put together an array of free recourses for our community during this stressful time. There are adult options, and they have recently added youth options, for little ones and teens! Please check it out on their website:

<https://crim.org/mindfulness-resources/>



# PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE 8TH GRADE HONK OUT Friday, May 29th

We would like to invite all St. John families to a Honk Out to celebrate our 8th grade graduates next **Friday, May 29th**. This will take the place of the traditional 8th Grade Clap Out. St. John staff and families will create a tunnel with their cars for our 8th graders and their families to drive through as we cheer them on. We are asking families to begin arriving at **3 PM** so that we may line cars up and the Honk Out can begin at **3:30 PM**. We ask that all families remain in your cars and maintain proper social distancing and a safe environment. We hope that you are able to join us for this celebration.

Check out the 8th grade Spotlight pages at the end of this Jet Gazette to get to know more about our 8th graders!

## TUITION ASSISTANCE

If you are facing financial hardship due to the pandemic, it is not too late to apply for tuition assistance from the St. John Scholarship Fund. At this time, the window for Diocesan Grants has closed. Families interested in Tuition Assistance for the 2020-2021 school year should use the Facts Management Link provided below to apply:

<https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3YS8Q>

Please note the following requirements:

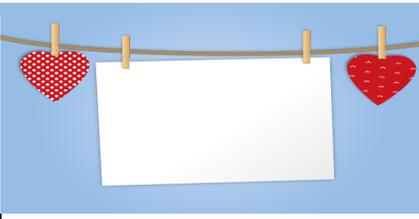
- You must provide your 2019 W-2 forms AND a copy of your tax returns from either 2019 or 2018.
- There is a processing fee of \$30.
- This application is only available online. There are no paper applications.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

We hope that you have been enjoying our weekly announcements that have been posted to Facebook. We sure have a lot of talent at St. John School. If your family is interested in recording one of our daily segments, please contact Mrs. Haiss. We would love to have more participants.



# ON A PERSONAL NOTE...



## Prayers:

- For an end to the COVID-19 pandemic
- For all who are suffering from the coronavirus to recover
- For the health and safety of health care workers and all essential workers, especially for those in our SJS family.
- For all who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic
- For strength for Father Robert and Father Ryan as they continue to shepherd their flock while being physically separated from them
- For political leaders, that they make wise decisions that create unity

## • Thank you:

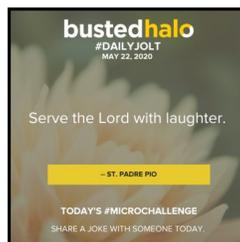
- To the PSA for delivering signs to celebrate our 8th grade graduates.
- To the Pagnani family, the Roche family, the Fatolitis family, and Ms. Wharff for doing our morning announcements over the last two weeks.
- To the families who supported our virtual Book Fair. You helped earn over \$300 in supplies for our classrooms!
- To Ms. Jennings and Mrs. Wright for organizing our virtual Book Fair.



If you have a prayer request for the Jet Gazette, please let Mrs. Haiss know.

## 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://stjohnfenton.org/bulletins>

## Staff Spotlight



What is your favorite ice cream flavor or ice cream treat?

**Mrs. Stichel:** I like to have chocolate and strawberry ice cream on a sugar cone.  
YUM!

**Mrs. Wright:** I love Uncle Ray's frozen raspberry yogurt.

**Ms. Bade:** This is tough, but I am going to have to go with a cookie dough turbo blast from Uncle Ray's.

**Mrs. Whitney:** Chocolate or chocolate ice cream over a brownie with hot fudge drizzled on top...so yeah, chocolate.

**Mrs. Farella:** My favorite ice cream treat is Uncle Ray's chocolate ice cream with double hot fudge over the top.

**Mrs. Boyle:** Growing up, the ice cream man knew to pull into our driveway because I ALWAYS had 1.00 for a sno cone-the original flavors, no bubble gum at the bottom. I can't wait for this summer so I can buy them "for Natalie." ;)

**Mrs. Ratke:** I love a Reese's blast, concrete mixer, or blizzard. Really, I will eat any ice cream treat.

**Mrs. Dawes:** I have several favorites when it comes to ice cream. Chocolate Almond, chocolate mint chip, and butter pecan are probably my top three!

**Ms. Feazel:** Chocolate anything is my favorite.

**Ms. Jennings:** My favorite ice cream is chocolate chip.

**Mrs. Custodio:** Vanilla ice cream

**Mrs. Werschky:** My favorite is the cotton candy blizzard from Dairy Queen. My son and I have been known to go twice a week to get one.

**Mr. Schmit:** Oreo Blast from Uncle Ray's

**Mrs. Salzano:** SUPERMAN in a cone. Or dark chocolate. I love mint chocolate chip when it's heavy on the chocolate. I just picked up some of the new mini Klondike bars in Reese's Peanut Butter Cup flavor so I am excited about that

**Mr. Garbutt:** An Uncle Ray's chocolate milkshake

**Ms. Wharff:** My favorite flavor is ice cream is mint chocolate chip or Mackinac Island Fudge. Yum!

**Mrs. Haiss:** I could never pick one favorite because ice cream is my all time favorite treat. I love banana splits, hot fudge sundaes, and chocolate malts. My favorite flavors of ice cream are chocolate, Neapolitan, and anything that has chocolate and coffee combined.

**Mrs. Adams:** I do not have ice cream very often, but in the summer if we go to the ice cream places, I love something that is a mix of caramel, chocolate, and pecans!

**Mrs. Minock:** A scoop of chocolate with a scoop of orange sherbet on top.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Charlie Baur



- **Where will you attend high school?** Powers Catholic High School
- **What are your future plans?** Attending college and a racing career
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** I know more about Jesus and how I can use his teachings in my everyday life.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** A good work attitude
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** Playing team sports.
- **Have you tried something new during the Stay at Home order?** Yes, simulator racing and rebuilding a gokart.
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie ?** I watched the movie, Six Underground, on Netflix.
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** I would start a non-profit that helps feed the hungry, especially kids.
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** 15 years
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** To provide an education which included teachings of the Catholic faith and a smaller class size enviroment.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Owen Brennan



- **Where will you attend high school?** Powers Catholic High School
- **What are your future plans?** Go to college and meet new people, but also stay close to friends from grade school and high school
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** St. John has helped me grow my relationship with God through all the school mass days, reconciliation, and the Eucharist.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** My friends that I am not going to see next year.
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** Seeing my friends.
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie?** I am reading Racing in the Rain which I have not read before.
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** Covid-19
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** Since my mom was a student at St. John School
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** We have always been a St John family.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Vinny Claborn

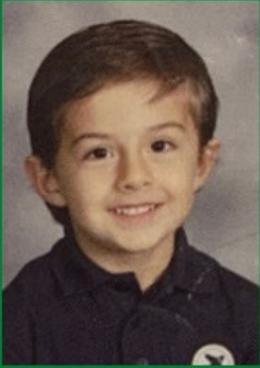


- **Where will you attend high school?** Fenton High School
- **What are your future plans?** Either join the Navy or go to Michigan State
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** Religion classes helped me get closer to God.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** All my friends
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** The 8th grade activities, like being able to go to Washington DC
- **Have you tried something new during the Stay at Home order?** I am starting to sell old things we had in our garage.
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie?** I have been watching a few different TV shows.
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** I would support helping the homeless.
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** 20 years
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** To have God be the center of education and have daily lessons regarding religion. So we could grow up in a Catholic environment and have prayer and mass a part of the daily/weekly routine. We have stayed for 20 years because it feels like home. Our entire family has formed friendships that will last a lifetime.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Christian Dedivanaj



- **Where will you attend high school?** Powers Catholic High School
- **What are your future plans?** After high school, I would like to go to college to play D1 basketball.
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** St. John has taught us a lot in religion class.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** Teachers
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** I miss not being able to do everything we had planned for the end of 8th grade ..
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie ?** I have found a show called The Sopranos.
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** I would start a non-profit to help find a cure for cancer.
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** Since 2009
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** Our family chose St. John because of the faith based learning and constant reminder that God is always there with us wherever we go.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Maria Gavulic



- **Where will you attend high school?** Powers Catholic High School
- **What are your future plans?** Go to college
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** St. John has helped me grow my relationship with God and see him in new ways.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** All my friends
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** My classmates
- **Have you tried something new during the Stay at Home order?** I guess online learning is new.
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie ?** I haven't discovered any new ones, but I have rediscovered some old ones.
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** Childhood disease
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** Since 2004
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** It was important that our education was in a faith-based environment.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Emma Gordley



- **Where will you attend high school?** Powers Catholic High School
- **What are your future plans?** Go to college, have a job, and start a family
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** St. John has helped me grow in my faith and learn more about getting closer to God.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** Being kind to others and making time for friends is always important.
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** Seeing all my friends and teachers everyday.
- **Have you tried something new during the Stay at Home order?** I have tried cooking and doing more art related things.
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie?** I have read a few new books.
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** I would support children diagnosed with certain diseases .
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** 3 years
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** For the faith based education



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Mary Haiss



- **Where will you attend high school?** Fenton High School
- **What are your future plans?** Go to college and have a family
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** St. John has taught me so much about faith and God and Jesus. I was also able to attend mass multiple times each week.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** My friends
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** All my friends and teachers
- **Have you tried something new during the Stay at Home order?** I have painted and baked.
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie?** I have been watching Grey's Anatomy.
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** I would support helping the poor and giving them food and clothes.
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** 15 years
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** They love our parish and wanted the structure and foundation that SJS would provide.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Damion Ketchmark



- **Where will you attend high school?** Powers Catholic High School
- **What are your future plans?** Go to college and play football. If that doesn't work out, I want to become a pulmonary critical care physician.
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** I have gotten closer to God by going to mass two times a week and taking religion classes.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** My personality
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** My friends and not being able to see them for my last year
- **Have you tried something new during the Stay at Home order?** I have tried cooking.
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie?** I have been watching the TV show, Parks and Recreation.
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** My family has belonged to the parish since 1971.
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** Because it is faith-based and provides excellent structure.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Anna Safford

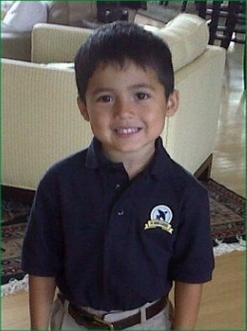


- **Where will you attend high school** Powers Catholic High School
- **What are your future plans?** Go to college, get a good job, and start a family
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** St. John has allowed me to put my faith first and helped me to understand it and learn more about it.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** The people. I wish I could still be with all my friends and teachers.
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** I miss my friends and teachers. I miss the laughter and being able to see them everyday.
- **Have you tried something new during the Stay at Home order?** I have played a lot of new card games and spent more time with my family.
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie ?** I have been watching a lot of shows and movies. I have especially liked watching old Disney shows from when I was younger.
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** I would support the kids who do not have technology to get an online education.
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** 6 years
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** We believe a faith-based education is important.



# St. John School Class of 2020

## 8th Grade Spotlight



# Jack Siwek



- **Where will you attend high school?** Powers Catholic High School
- **What are your future plans?** Hopefully to play hockey at a D1 college
- **How has St. John helped you on your faith journey?** St. John has given me great friends that have helped me grow in my faith.
- **If you could bring one thing from St. John with you to high school, what would it be?** Recess
- **What do you miss most about not being in school right now?** My friends
- **Have you tried something new during the Stay at Home order?**
- **Have you discovered a new TV series, book, or movie ?**
- **If you had to start a non-profit, what would you support?** I would start a non-profit to support soldiers because I have had many family members serve and my oldest brother is on active duty in the Air Force.
- **How long has your family been an SJS family?** 12 years
- **Why did your family choose St. John School?** We moved to Fenton in 2008 and wanted to attend a Catholic School

