

St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

Jet Gazette Newsletter

December 13, 2019

Prayer for the Third Week of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

Gaudete means “rejoice,” making the pink candle a symbol of joy over the birth of our Savior.

Joy-filled Giver of Life, let the anticipation of your birth fill us with overflowing joy. May our excitement and anticipation be a sign to the world that you are always near. AMEN.



News and Views from Mr. Schmit

The Jet Gazette this week will be divided into two sections: the first section will be an expression of gratitude and the second will be styled more like a commentary/sermon (because this section is what you will read in the parish bulletin for the third week of advent...why reinvent the wheel? Can I get an amen?)

Last Saturday, some of our Preschool through Third Grade students and families along with their teachers, were able to participate in the Fenton Rotary Club Tree Decorating activities for Jinglefest. Thank you to Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Minock, Ms. Wharff, Mrs. Salzano, Mrs. Cislo, and Mrs. Roche for helping our students decorate our school's trees!

Thank you to all who participated in this week's Merry Mail-Giving Tree fundraiser. Our second and third grade classes collected over \$500, which has been used to purchase gifts for the parish Giving Tree. The students sold stamps each morning and collected and sorted mail each afternoon. It is an undertaking, to say the least but one that is layered with educational lessons, from academic instruction to faith instruction. A special thank you to Mrs. Roche, Mrs. Cislo, and Mrs. Salzano for spearheading this activity!

My last thank you for this part of the Gazette goes to Melanie McPeake, Kelly Ahn, and Scott McPeake for helping our students put on “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.” I was impressed at the sheer number of students who participated from first grade to seventh grade. The students have been working diligently for the last two months to learn the music, the script, and the choreography and it showed in their two Thursday performances. I cannot wait to see what our Drama Club has in store for us with their next performance.

Brace yourselves. We rejoice every day but especially with the Third Sunday of Advent because we have hope as we prepare our hearts to receive Christ. There are so many elements of being in education, especially Catholic education, that we as educators and parents experience that gives us pause to rejoice in this weekend's message. Some lines from Sacred Scripture that explode from the pages are, “Be strong, fear not,” and “Be patient, brothers and sisters.” These lines mean a great deal for educators and parents!

At St. John School we have the opportunity to instruct students in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, science, and religion, all the while watching our students grow as people who serve, who love, and who follow Jesus Christ. We participate in their young lives from when they enter our school, many as three and four year olds, and witness as they grow in faith and academics and leave our school as confident young men and women ready to handle the challenges of high school. The transformation from preschool to the end of eighth grade may seem to some like it goes by in a flash. Yet, for us in the school it is an extremely rewarding and worthwhile experience that takes patience, endurance, and strength over time. Praise God that we are given this opportunity!

Finally, Congratulations to our 2019-2020 St. John School Geography Bee Champion, Morgan McPeake from the 5th Grade.

Please continue to pray for the students, faculty, staff, and families of St. John School. One more week until Christmas Break!

Mr. Schmit

PARENT CALENDAR



December

Mon	16	NJHS Candy Cane Sale begins
Mon	16	10 AM Deadline for Weekly Scrip Orders
Tues	17	Christmas Program 6:30 PM
Wed	18	All School Mass
Wed	18	NJHS Induction immediately following Mass
Thurs	19	Prayer Service-2:45 PM hosted by 1st grade
Fri	20	Christmas Break begins at the end of the day
Tues	24	Happy Birthday Mrs. Farella!



January

Mon	6	Classes Resume
-----	---	----------------

NJHS Candy Cane Sale

Next week, NJHS will hold their annual Candy Cane Sale. Candy canes will be sold at lunchtime for 50¢ each. For \$1, you can send a candy cane to a friend with a special message. This sale will take place Monday through Friday or while supplies last.



Children's Christmas Eve Mass

The annual Children's Christmas Eve Mass, including the children's pantomime during Father's reading of the Gospel, will take place at the 4 PM Mass on December 24th. Children in grades K-8 are welcome to be part of the program. Children who want to participate will need to:

- Arrive on the 24th at 3 p.m. to get their costumes.
- Attend one mandatory rehearsal (for the child **and a parent**) on Monday evening, December 23 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the church.

Parts will be pre-assigned and announced at the rehearsal. If you have a child in 5th grade or older who would like one of the main parts (Mary, Joseph, Announcing Angels, Three Kings, Herod), please email Annie at annie@stjohnfenton.org. These will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

To sign up, please go to the parish website. You can link to the sign-up form on either the main home page, or the main "Religious Education" page.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK DECEMBER 16-20



Monday

HAVE A HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS

Make your SJS uniform look jolly with Christmas accessories. Wear your crazy Christmas socks, reindeer antlers, Santa hats, etc.

Tuesday

SILENT NIGHT

Wear your Christmas pajamas to school.

Wednesday

DECK THE HALLS

Come to school all decked out in your Christmas best.

Thursday

MELE KALIKIMAKA

Where do you want to go for Christmas vacation? Dreaming of warm weather? Wear your Hawaiian shirt. Going skiing? Wear your flannels and fuzzy scarves.

Friday

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Wear the Christmas Spiritwear of your choice. Wear ugly Christmas sweaters, Christmas movie characters, or Christmas shirts to show your Christmas spirit!

Christmas Program



Our Annual Christmas Program will be held on Tuesday, December 17th in the Church for all students preschool through 8th grade. The program will begin at 6:30 PM with a reception to follow. Families should arrive at 6:15 PM. Teachers will communicate where your child should be dropped off within the church to sit with their class.

Dress Code for the Christmas Program is Sunday Best. No jeans or t-shirts please. Please keep modesty in mind as the performance takes place in the church. For example, no short skirts or dresses and no spaghetti straps, please.

Mass Times for Christmas



Christmas Eve

4 PM
6:30 PM

Christmas Day

Midnight
9 AM
11 AM

Children Lectors Needed

Students in fourth grade and older who are confident readers, with a heart for sharing God's Word, are invited to train to be lectors at the Sunday Liturgies. For now, children and youth will be invited to read at special family-oriented liturgies. The first opportunity will be the Children's Christmas Eve Mass, but other occasions will arise throughout the year. If your child is interested, please contact Annie Kitching at annie@stjohnngenton.org to arrange training.

Gabriel Project Donations

The Gabriel Project is in need of baby wipes. Donations can be dropped off at the school office or the parish office.

PLEASE SAVE

The STEAM classes are in need of empty water bottles and 2-liter bottles for an big upcoming project. We will need a lot of them! Please send in your empty and CLEANED OUT bottles to the office.



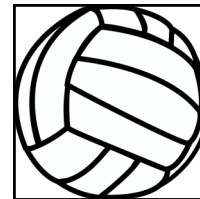
ST. JOHN JETS ATHLETIC NEWS



7th/8th Grade Volleyball

Dec. 14 vs. St. Robert/St. John Vianney

9 AM @ Powers



Children's Christmas Party

All St. John families are invited to bring your children to see Santa at the Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, December 15th, 2019 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM in the Knights of Columbus Hall. This event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. There will be entertainment, presents, treats, and fun!!



AUCTION 2020 UPDATE

From Auction Chair Kelly Ahn

Lights! Camera! AUCTION!!! will be a night among the stars!! We'll roll out the red carpet for YOU, St. John School's biggest fans. It will be a fun-filled, fundraising evening for you to dress as your favorite movie star and SHINE like a Hollywood celebrity! Prepare for games, prizes, food, and drink all benefiting our students, teachers and staff during this star-studded event of the year!! Please join us for a night at the movies.

Volunteer Hour Opportunity

Looking to earn parish volunteer hours?

Mon Dec 16 (3PM to 9 PM) They will be preparing for Christmas.

A quick reminder we will be preparing the altar for Christmas next Monday, Dec 16 beginning at 3 PM (a slight change from the original email stating 2 PM). We will work until we are complete. The school Christmas concert is the next evening so it would be nice to have it completed for this event.

As always, bring any and all helpers, stay for as little or as long as you'd like, or able. Please enter from the south doors, Joseph's side of the church. Please email if you have any questions

**Lights
Camera
AUCTION**

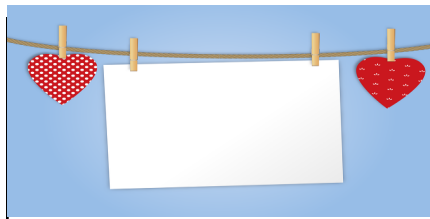
Coming soon: February 22nd @ 5pm

**St John School Presents:
Lights Camera Auction**

Dress as your favorite movie character or evening attire

More Details to Follow

Please contact Kelly Ahn (kahn@stout.com) with any questions.



ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

Thank you:

- To the 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms for spreading joy, kindness, and Christmas Cheer this week by organizing Merry Mail.
- To all families and staff members who participated in Merry Mail. Together, we raised over \$500 for the Giving Tree.
- To the McPeakes for directing a spectacular Drama Club performance.

Congrats:

- To all of our Drama Club performers on a spectacular job well done. Your performance of The Best Christmas Pageant Ever was AMAZING!
- To our Geography Bee Winner: Morgan McPeake
- To our Geography Bee Finalists: Johnny Boike, Madeline Widder, Sam Scully, Patrick Damouni, Adam Sterling, and Jack Siwek

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



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.



The count down is on. There are only 12 days until Christmas. This might be the perfect time to say NO to something on your to-do list. Read [“Can’t Force the Feeling: How Letting Go of Expectations Helped Me Enjoy Christmas”](#) to get an idea of how to embrace the good feelings that Christmas is supposed to bring.

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

It's hard to imagine Christmas without the many carols that we associate with this time of year. Whether it's songs that remind us of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ or songs that make you want to rock around the Christmas Tree, there is no shortage of music to get everyone in the Christmas spirit. As we look forward to our Christmas Music Program, we asked our staff to share with us their favorite Christmas carols.

Mrs. Wright: Silver and Gold and God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

Mrs. Werschky: Little Drummer Boy

Mrs. Salzano: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen...it is a 2nd grade favorite across the board

Mrs. Custodio: We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Mrs. Boyle: I love Silent Night and O Holy Night as traditional songs, and Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree.

Mrs. Stickel: Good King Wenceslas

Mrs. Minock: Little Drummer Boy

Ms. Wharff: I love all of them!

Ms. Jennings: My favorite is What Child is This?

Mrs. Dawes: Silent Night

Mrs. Farella: O Holy Night

Mrs. Ratke: Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

Mrs. Roche: Right now, I love The Christmas Waltz by Frank Sinatra. My favorite hymn is What child is This?

Mrs. Whitney: It's a tie between O Holy Night and I'll Be Home for Christmas

Ms. Alyatim: Emmanuel

Mrs. Haiss: It is impossible to pick a favorite...but nothing says it's Christmas quite like processing into the church to O Come All Ye Faithful on Christmas Eve. I'm also a huge fan of anything by Dean Martin.

Mrs. Adams: Silent Night

Mrs. Roberts: Do You Hear What I Hear?

Mr. Garbutt: Jingle Bells

Mr. Schmit: O Holy Night

