

# St. John the Evangelist Catholic School Jet Gazette Newsletter November 15, 2019

#### **Christ the King Novena**

A novena is a Catholic prayer that is said over the course of 9 days or 9 hours. When you pray a novena, you recite specific prayers with a special intention in mind. There are many different novenas and many are prayed with the anticipation of concluding with the 9th day being a special feast day. In this case, Christ the King Sunday is nine days away so today is the perfect day to begin praying the Christ the King Novena. Along with your personal intentions, let us all pray for the grace to let God reign supreme above all things in our lives. You can find the Christ the King Novena here.

#### News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Happy Winter, everybody! I'm happy everyone made it to and from school on Monday, despite the storm. When we were planning this year's academic calendar, we wanted to make sure to add a couple of days to the state requirement of 180 instructional days. We didn't think that by November 12, our two extra days would already have been used. However, these unexpected days off are a perfect time to encourage your student to read, get caught up with assignments, or to get on the computer and work on PASS.

Our 2019 Thanksgiving Feast was a delicious success. Thank you to Mrs. Dawn Davidson, Mrs. Diane Olkowski, and Mrs. Lisa Flannery for preparing the meal. I also want to thank Mrs. Robin Dybata and Mrs. Mindy Hamp for providing the decorations and taking time to prepare our cafeteria for the big feast.

In an effort to keep improving and adjusting to meet the needs of our students, I am amending the Kindergarten and First Grade lunch period to begin at 11:05 and conclude at 11:30. The extra five minutes will allow the students to have enough seat time to, not only get their lunches, but to finish their lunches by 11:30. Once the 11:30 bell rings, our young learners will clean up and gear up to go outside. If you are looking for service hours, we could use some help, especially during the first lunch period.

You are all invited to a November 18th St. John Parent Meeting with Mrs. Kasey Cronin. The event will begin at 6 PM and snacks will be provided. The conversation will center around the topic of supporting our children's social skills. We will also dive into the difference between bullying and teasing as well as fostering peer relationships. In preparation for this meeting, I recently read an article entitled "Stop Trying to Raise Successful Kids and Start Raising Kind Ones." Within the article, authors Adam and Allison Grant state, "Kids learn what's important to adults not by listening to what we say, but by noticing what gets our attention. And in many developed societies, parents now pay more attention to individual achievement and happiness than anything else. However much we praise kindness and caring, we're not actually showing our kids that we value these traits." This is a thought provoking statement for all of us parents. I look forward to our November 18th conversation. (I know this was from last week's but I felt it was worth repeating)

St. John School will be participating in a Eucharistic Procession next Friday, after the 8:20 AM morning Mass. Our middle school students will process with our priests and deacons as the Blessed Sacrament is carried from the church to the school. The procession will enter the school and continue to make its way throughout our hallways to the cafeteria, where our school community will gather for a short time of Eucharistic Adoration. If you would like to join the procession or attend Adoration, please plan on arriving by 8:50 AM.

All of our school families are invited to join us for the 11:30 Mass on December 1st. The Youth Choir will be singing for that Mass and our students and parents will be participating as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and ushers. This Family Mass is an opportunity for our school, religious education program, and youth ministry program families to come together and worship together for the first Sunday of Advent.

GO BLUE!

Mr. Schmit

### PARENT CALENDAR



### November

	8 1 2 4 4 5	•
Fri	15	7th/8th Grade Dance-3:30 PM to 6 PM
Mon	18	Washington DC Bottle Drive—Morning Loop
Mon	18	Parent Meeting with Kasey Cronin 6 PM
Thurs	21	Spiritwear Day
Thurs	21	Prayer Service Hosted by 4th Grade 2:45 PM
Thurs	21	Powers Informational Night for 8th grade Parents 6 PM at Powers HS Auditorium
Fri	22	Eucharistic Procession after morning mass—All students should wear SJ uniform
Fri	22	After School Movie Night-3:30 PM-5:30 PM
Mon	25	Happy Birthday Mrs. Wright!
Wed	27	Thanksgiving Break-No School
Thurs	28	Happy Thanksgiving

### **December**

Sun	1	Advent Begins
Sun	1	St. John Family Mass 11:30 AM
Mon	2	Makers Fair Informational Meeting 3:30 PM
Tues	3	St. John Education Foundation Tree Lighting 8:30 AM
Wed	4	Happy Birthday Mrs. Dawes!
Wed	4	Santa Shop Begins
Thurs	5	Powers HS Registrations

# MAKERS FAIR INFORMATIONAL MEETING



The date for the Makers Fair Information Meeting has changed. The meeting will be held on **Monday, December 2nd** after school until approximately 4:15 PM. All students interested in participating in this year's Makers

Fair should plan to attend this meeting. Parents are also invited to attend. Flyers with more information will be sent home next week. The Makers Fair will be on February 4th.

#### **Bottle Drive**



Help support the 8th grade Washington DC trip. Save your returnables after the big game on Saturday and bring them to the drop off loop on Monday morning. 8th

grade students will be in the morning loop (both lower and preschool loop) to collect your donations.

### **Scrip News**

There will be special Scrip bonus offers on November 21st for "ThankScriping" Day. This will allow you to make special purchases to earn extra bonuses and get your gift cards in time for Black Friday. We are going to do a special ordering period for ThankScriping Day. Orders placed by 3 PM on November 21st will be delivered by November 26th in time for Black Friday and Cyber Monday shopping.

We will still place our regular family order on Monday, November 18th for delivery on Friday, November 22nd. If you need scrip by Friday the 22nd, please be sure to place your order by 8 AM on Monday the 18th. There will be no family order placed on Monday the 25th.

### Volunteer Hour Opportunity

Looking to earn parish volunteer hours? There are a couple scheduled dates for preparing the altar for the upcoming Advent and Christmas seasons.

**Mon Nov 25 (2 PM to 7 PM)** They will be getting the altar ready for Advent.

Mon Dec 16 (2 PM to 9 PM) They will be preparing for Christmas.

Bring any and all helpers you'd like. Stay for as little or as long as you'd like. We will need many hands to assist with the giant trees and lights and all the decorations. It's going to be beautiful. Please enter from the south doors, Joseph's side of the church, for any of these dates. Put us in your calendars if you can make it a part of your Christmas participation.

### 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. Stay tuned for more details after Thanksgiving.

We are looking for a couple people who would be interested in being on a sub list for afternoon Jets Club help. If you are interested or know someone else who would be interested, please contact Mr. Schmit.

On Friday, November 22nd, all students should be in their St.

John uniform for our Eucharistic procession. Students may wear spiritwear on Thursday,

November 21st.

# ST. JOHN JETS ATHLETIC NEWS

The Athletic Department is looking for volunteers for scorekeeping, admissions, and concessions during volleyball games. If you are interested, please contact Katherine Carah at ad@stjohnfenton.com.

### **Upcoming Athletic Events**

#### 7th/8th Grade Volleyball

**Nov. 16** vs. Holy Family Panthers/Blue/Gold **Nov. 18** vs. Holy Family White and St. Pius

9 AM @ Powers 5 PM @ St. John



### **AUCTION 2020 UPDATE**

From Auction Chair Kelly Ahn

"Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens, red wines and white ones and gift cards to all of the eateries in Fenton. Brown paper packages tied up with strings. These are a few of my favorite things!"

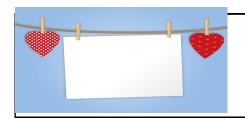
Yes! The Holiday Season has begun!...and we are all driving around listening to our favorite Christmas tunes on the radio (regardless of if we *intended* to or NOT!) As we PLUNGE into our holiday shopping, don't forget to use these 'money wise' TOOLS for your gift giving:

- **AmazonSmile:** Visit https://smile.amazon.com BEFORE you shop on Amazon to select St. John Parish and School as your non-profit organization of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to St. John Parish and school.
- <u>SCRIP:</u> Also, if you are enrolled in our SCRIP program, you receive reimbursement toward your tuition on gift card (and electronic gift card) purchases. AMAZON and many other retailers are available through our SCRIP program. (Earn money for St John School and toward your tuition on items you're going to buy anyway! Seems to make sense AND CENTS!) To register and begin ordering SCRIP go to <a href="www.shopwithscrip.com">www.shopwithscrip.com</a>. You will need an email/username and a password (please write down this password, the SCRIP coordinator cannot access it). St. John School code is LE548F286872. Checks may be made payable to St. John School. You may also sign up for Presto-Pay to debit your checking account for your orders (\$.15 fee per transaction).
- **Ship Direct:** While your shopping online, purchase a donation item for the 2020 Auction and ship it directly to the school: 514 Lincoln St, Fenton, MI 48430. Please copy Kelly Ahn @ kahn@stout.com regarding your online donated purchase.

\*\*\*Coming Soon: Watch for our Auction 2020 Amazon WISH LIST!! More helpful hints to make donating EASY! \*\*\*

Thank you for your continued support! form to make GIVING even EASIER!!!

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



# ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

## Thank you:

- To Mrs. Davidson, her food service staff, and all the parent volunteers for making our Annual Thanksgiving Feast such a wonderful celebration. The food was yummy, the decorations were festive, and a wonderful time was had by all. We are so grateful for this school tradition.
- To the St. John Educational Foundation for providing the pumpkin pie for everyone at our Thanksgiving Feast.
- To the middle school students who helped greet and serve dessert to our guests.
- To all the families who supported our Panera Fundraiser. You helped raise \$246 for our PSA.



## **Prayers:**

• For Linda Logan, grandmother of Ella Yake, who is ill.

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.

As our daily to do list starts to grow during the holiday season, so do feelings of stress and anxiety. We hear that our hearts should be full of gratitude for Thanksgiving, followed by Advent where we are supposed to clear our minds and hearts as we wait for the arrival of the newborn Christ. It is easy to feel pulled in multiple directions. Here are "5 Steps for Praying When You're Overwhelmed." Hopefully, these are a few simple ways to create a calm spirit when your emotions are taking over.

### Today's #microchallenge from bustedhalo.com

Take five minutes to meditate today. Take a restful position and focus on your breath. As you clear your mind and begin to relax, remind yourself that breath is a gift from God.

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

# Staff Spotlight

This week's Thanksgiving Feast is putting everyone in the holiday spirit. We asked our staff to tell us about their favorite Thanksgiving foods.



onion rolls...mmmm.

Mrs. Custodio: I love stuffing and pumpkin pie!

Mrs. Whitney: Mashed potatoes!

Mrs. Ratke: My family's stuffing and squash

Mr. Schmit: Joan Schmit's "sticky buns" (cinnamon rolls) and Pam Gilmore's

stuffing

Mrs. Werschky: I have a baked cranberry recipe that is my favorite! I also love

my mom's sweet potato dish as well.

Mrs. Brack: Joyce Nowak's stuffing

Mrs. Wright: Cranberry relish, turkey, and stuffing!

Mrs. Farella: Mashed potatoes, gravy, garlic squash, and stuffing!!!

Mrs. Boyle: Sweet potato Casserole! Natalie loves sweet potatoes, too!

Mrs. Roche: My mom's sweet potato spears and homemade stuffing

Mrs. Dawes: My sister-in-law's homemade Cheesecake and my aunt's homemade

dinner rolls

Mrs. Haiss: Pasta and stuffing (but it has to be cooked inside the turkey)

Mrs. Cislo: My dad's stuffing-I've been in training for about 15 years and I still

Can't make it as delicious as he does. Mrs. Stonehouse: Mashed potatoes! Ms. Bade: Stuffing and pumpkin pie!

Mrs. Stickel: Cranberry sauce from the can!

Ms. Jennings: Grandpa Jennings' liver pate is my favorite! It has been a long standing tradition at our Thanksgiving table. It has been handed down to me

and now I make it.

Ms. Wharff: Anything mom makes!

Mrs. Adams: Homemade mashed potatoes with homemade gravy

