

What's New at St. James

from the desk of Ms. Saunders

April Is the Month of the Holy Eucharist

The month of April is traditionally dedicated to devotion to Jesus in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. The Catholic Church teaches that the Blessed Sacrament is the real and living presence of Christ—His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—received into our souls with every reception of Holy Communion. Our Eucharistic Lord is the source and summit of our Christian life, the ultimate proof of His infinite love for us.

How Was Everyone's Easter Break????

I have to say; I think a break last week did us all a great deal of good. Tensions in the building (both staff and students) were beginning to run a bit on the high side. You could tell that spring break was later this year than normal. I hope everyone has come back feeling well-rested and recharged. I know I have! It also sounds like some families have taken some well-deserved vacations. How exciting! It was so good to see smiling faces and hear chatter as I walked through the halls this morning. This school truly feels like home!

With the end of break; however, we are ushering in the mad rush that is the end of a school year. Starting this week, we have only six weeks of school left. It will fly by, and there is much to be done.

We are also beginning to ease out of a few Covid restrictions. The students were excited to see that water fountains have been turned back on. No more cups in the classrooms when students forget a water bottle. Everyone is happy about that. Also, this week, kindergarten and 1st grade will be able to come back to all-school mass on Wednesdays. That is truly a blessing!

Thank you for being so patient with us this year! We are going to return very soon to having assemblies in the gym, with parents in attendance. And while we can't quite return to full-blown field trips, we are beginning to plan our end of the year field day. It will look a bit abbreviated from years past, but this year more than ever, the kids need it!

Stay tuned to more updates. Hopefully, we will find more "normal" St. James style activities very very soon.

Classical Update

By now, I'm sure that most if not all of you are aware of our introduction into classical education beginning next year. While it is true that we are planning to ease into our transition, I do have a few thoughts to share regarding a basic structure of implementation.

As I've discussed in an earlier newsletter, we will begin with history. Each grade level will be assigned a historical era. History and as much reading/literature as possible will revolve around that era. Students will learn the history of each designated era, but they will also create artwork and other projects of that time period. Each grade level will create a timeline of events of their historical studies. There is so much potential for projects for each class to complete!

Following is a possible plan for historical study:

Grade K: Cradle of Civilization (Creation to 530 BC)
Grade 1: Greek Civilization (1300 BC - 323 BC)
Grade 2: Roman Civilization (753 BC - 476 AD)
Grade 3: Medieval (476 AD- 1453 AD)
Grade 4: Modern Times (Renaissance/Exploration) (1453 AD - 1850 AD)
Grade 5: The American Year (1492 - 1945)
Grade 6: The Ancient Year (Creation - 476 AD)
Grade 7: The Christendom Year (400 AD - 1650 AD)
Grade 8: The New World Year (1492 AD - 1968 AD)

If you notice, the later grades repeat the time periods of the early grades. This will allow teachers to cover material in the greater depth that older students need.

Mrs. Goettemoeller will also be participating in training for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, level 1 this summer. We are hoping to begin implementation of what she learns in our preschool this fall. We are so excited about this new endeavor! It truly is an exciting time for St. James students.

Once we feel comfortable with our progress in our historical implementation during next school year, we will then most likely move into reading, aligning our reading and literature instruction with our historical implementation. Art and (hopefully) music will also reinforce this historical emphasis. I also anticipate that at some point during the next school year, we will be able to begin basic Latin instruction.

Please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns or thoughts concerning classical education and our progress. I'd be happy to chat!

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Geranium Sale

Don't forget: our annual geranium sale has begun. Please see the following flier for details. To pay via Venmo, use the following account: @Elizabeth-Marek-5

As always, thank you so much for your support.

St. James Geranium Sale

\$ 6.00 Each - 6" Pots

Orders & Money Due:

April 20th

Pick Up Day:

Saturday, May 1st

St. James Church Basement

10:00 am - 2:00 pm



Colors: Red - Pink - Salmon - Magenta - White - Neon Orange - Lilac

PLEASE NOTE: Payment is due when placing order
(Please detach and keep upper portion for your reminder)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

of Plants: _____ @ \$6.00 = _____ Total amount due

Payment Type: Check _____ Cash _____ Venmo _____

***Colors may be preselected when ordering and will be reserved
on a first ordered basis.

Please fill out & mail with payment to:

Elizabeth Marek

Attn: St. James Marketing Committee

308 Illinois Avenue St. Joseph, MO 64504

OR

Drop off at School Office - 120 Michigan Avenue

Questions? Elizabeth 816.351.1672 Katelyn @ School Office 816.238.0281

Thank you for your support! Sponsored by St. James Marketing Committee

Athletic Assembly, Shoe Drive, and Registration Packets

A few last housekeeping items:

There will be no athletic banquet this year since there were basically no MSHSAA athletics due to covid. We will, however, recognize students who participated in inter-mural sports. This assembly will be held next Thursday, April 22 in the gym. Parents are welcome to attend. Masks will be required.

Next, St. James is participating in a city-wide shoe drive. This is a competition between St. James, Cathedral, St. Francis, LeBlond and St. Joseph Christian. The winning school will receive a school-wide pizza party. Send your shoes as often as you like. Shoes will be collected each Friday. Collection will continue through May 3. Go Tigers!

Finally, registration packets can be turned in to the office at any time. Turn in before May 1st to get the early bird registration fee. Our annual preschool/kindergarten open house was held last night and was a big success! Thank you all who attended!



YES, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

SHOE DRIVE FOR AREA KIDS

We are asking each school family to purchase at least one pair of brand new shoes ranging in sizes from child 10-adult 12

COLLECTION FROM APRIL 13TH-MAY 3RD

All donations turned in to your school will be distributed throughout schools in Saint Joseph to needing and deserving children.



*This is a friendly competition between St. Francis, St. James, Cathedral, Bishop LeBlond and St. Joseph Christian. The school donating the highest average of pairs of shoes/registered school families **wins a pizza party!***

Questions, contact Ashley Stroud @ 816-390-2551 or astroud@kw.com

School Board and Marketing Committees

Please remember that school board and marketing committee meetings are open for those who would like to attend. School board meetings are typically held the first Wednesday of every month in the school science room at 6:00 p.m. This month's meeting will be tomorrow, April 14. Our next marketing committee meeting will be held Monday, April 19th at 5:30 p.m. in the Casper Erk room. The marketing committee is always looking for new members. Let me know if you are interested in serving on this very worthwhile committee!

Upcoming Dates

Board Meeting. April 14. 6:00 p.m.

2nd Grade Sacristy Retreat. April 15

Second Grade Communion Mass. April 18. 9:00 a.m.
Marketing Committee Meeting. April 19. 5:30 p.m.
Geranium Sales End. April 20
Athletic Assembly. April 22. 2:45 p.m. Parents welcome to attend!
8th Grade Trip. April 27
Preschool Picnic. April 29. (Rescheduled)
8th Grade Dinner. April 30
Geranium Pickup Day. May 1
Shoe Drive Ends. May 3
May Crowning. May 5
Board Meeting. May 5. 6:00 p.m.
Graduation. May 6. 7:00 p.m.
Pay 4 Jeans. May 10
Last Day of Preschool. May 12. 11:30 Dismissal for Preschoolers.
Preschool promotion. May 12. 7:00 p.m. (Rescheduled)
Field Day. May 20
Last Day of School. May 21. 11:30 Dismissal.

For the Coming Month

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.




St. James Catholic School


 Facebook


"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:32

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