

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL



116 East Bishop Street
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Father Neil Dadey, Pastor
Kristina V. Tice, Principal

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Mrs. Tina Wendt, Office Administrator
Mrs. Susan Pollick, Financial Administrator
Mrs. Carol Fisher, Pre-Kindergarten
Mrs. Melissa Maggs, Kindergarten
Mrs. Debbi Miller, First Grade
Mrs. Michelle Davis, Second Grade
Miss Cara Marchione, Third Grade
Mrs. Denise Martin, Fourth Grade
Mrs. Mindy Stephens, Fifth Grade
Mrs. Karen Moore, Library and Music
Mrs. Susan Zellers, Art & Kindergarten Aide
Mrs. Karen Bossert, Physical Education
Mrs. Millie Watson, Head Cook
Mr. Mark Schnars, Physical Plant



IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 9: Santa's Workshop
Dec. 9: Victorian Christmas Opens
Dec. 12: Gr. 3-5 Reconciliation
Dec. 20: Christmas Pageant 7 pm
Dec. 22: Caroling
Dec. 23 - 31: No School
Merry Christmas!
Jan. 3: School Resumes
Jan. 29 - Feb 4:
Catholic Schools Week

<http://www.saintjohnsch.com>

It is again the most wonderful time of the year!

Advent is here: a time of anticipation and waiting. It can be difficult for young children to fully understand what we are waiting for. This year they will be bringing home an activity book that encourages them to Follow the Star. We hope that you enjoy the activities in this book with your family.

Also, in class your children have had opportunities to practice the changes that have been implemented with the new Roman Missal. Each child has their own prayer book that helps guide them with these changes that they will use for school Masses and will bring home later in the year.

Many wishes from all of us at Saint John for a very blessed Christmas season and a joyous and healthy new year!

In God's Love,

Mrs. Tice

December 6th

**Dine in or take out from
Jim's Italian Cuisine
And 10% of your purchase will return
To St. John Catholic School.**

Clip this coupon and Bon Appétit!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please be sure that students have appropriate outerwear for recess. Students will not be permitted to go outside if they do not have jackets, hats or gloves on cold weather days.
- Grades 3-5 will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday, December 12 at 8:45 a.m. Please have a conversation with your child prior to the date and encourage them to examine their conscience.
- December 20 will be our Christmas Pageant. The pageant will begin at 7 p.m. in the church. Please have your child to their classrooms or designated areas no later than 6:30 p.m. If possible, children are to wear khaki pants and white shirts with dark shoes, unless otherwise directed. Directly following the pageant, we will go to the school auditorium to celebrate Jesus' birthday with cupcakes.
- On December 22, the children will go Christmas caroling in downtown Bellefonte @ 12:15 p.m. School uniforms will be worn. Please ensure that your children have adequate outerwear to stay warm while caroling. Upon return, the children will enjoy hot cocoa and cookies while viewing a short holiday video.
- Giant A+ Program - We currently have 295 Giant Bonuscards designated for St. John Catholic School. Our school earned \$562.89 during the month of October. Thank you to those who have registered their Giant Bonuscards so that we are able to earn cash for our school. If you have not registered your card this year, extra forms are available in the office.
- Our Mixed Bag Designs fundraiser was a huge success, with the school earning over \$2900! Our top sales families were Nathan Capparelle family, Topper family, Tice family, Eckert family, Carmack family and McCloskey family. Thank you to all who placed orders!
- In all of the hustle and bustle, this thank you may have been missed: Our Cooking with the Spirit cookbook fundraiser last year raised \$938.75 for St. John Catholic School! Thank you to Rachelle Weiser for coordinating this project and to all of you who shared your 'top secret' recipes.
- Our current Race for Education total is at \$14,009.00! We are so blessed!
- SCRIP Shopping Cards - You can give our school a wonderful gift this Christmas season at **NO EXTRA COST** to you. By purchasing gift cards for grocery shopping, gift giving, gift buying, and dining out that you were going to do anyway, the school receives a profit.

The Green envelopes include an extensive list of national merchants that donate a portion of your purchase price to our school. **The next order dates for these national merchant cards are December 6 with delivery on Dec. 12, and Dec. 13 with delivery on Dec. 20.**

Red envelopes include a list of local grocery stores and restaurants that we keep in stock at all times.

Thank you!! We truly appreciate your continued support of this important school fundraiser!

May God Bless our volunteers!

Home & School Association News

The Home & School Association would like to take this time to thank everyone who joined us at our first St. John Ladies Extravaganza on Sunday, November 13th at the Nittany Country Club. Over \$2200 was raised through this event and fun was had by all. We would especially like to thank our table sponsors – Amy Clark, Jennifer Bloom, Carrie Lehman, Nicole Carnicella, Amy Carmack, Liz Dechow, Amy Dawson, Laurie Capparelle, Traci Capperella, Colleen Stock, Kristina Tice, Tanya Packer, Kelly Berkey and Natalie Stanton. They did a beautiful job decorating their tables and putting together their centerpiece baskets. We would also like to thank Lara Simmon and Lisa Gardner for volunteering their time to help with the raffles and our 5th grade girls – Annika Bjalme, Alyssa Brezler, Lindsey Carmack and Leah Simmon. Their extra hands made the afternoon a little easier on all of us. We are already beginning to plan for next year and hope to see you all again!

Upcoming Family Fun Events

- Jan 20: Snowball Dance ~ Father/Daughter, Mother/Son
- Jan. 28: Family Skate Night at Penn Skates 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 25: Family Bowling at Bellefonte Lanes 2-4 p.m.

Catholic Schools Week Info

Catholic Schools Week will be held January 29 through February 4, 2012. Our weeklong celebration of Catholic Schools will begin at the 10:15 a.m. Mass on Sunday, followed by National Food Day in the school.

States by class: Pre-K (Pennsylvania)
Kindergarten (Alaska)
1st (New York)
2nd (Texas)
3rd (Hawaii)
4th (Florida)
5th (Massachusetts).

Catholic Schools Week is our kickoff for Kindergarten and Pre- K registration. Please spread the word to interested families.



THANK YOU

To the parents who volunteered to help out with our Pajama Day reading activities: Amy Clark, Eric Clark, Rachelle Weiser, Amy Carmack, Dave Carmack, Sara Nagel and Colleen Cingle. A big thank you to our Race for Education Chairs Michele Calistri and Ann Grove and to Crystal Wierbowski for all of their help throughout the process.

THANK YOU

to Teresa and Mike Bruster for their participation in Verizon's Volunteer Incentive Program for St. John School. Their 50+ hours of volunteer time to our school earned a monetary donation from Verizon of \$750.00.



Advent Prayer

Henri J.M. Nouwen

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness,

send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We, who have so much to do, seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We, who are anxious over many things, look forward to your coming among us.

We, who are blessed in so many ways, long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We, whose hearts are heavy, seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Amen.

