

St. Joseph's Messenger

A BULLETIN FOR INSPIRING SCHOOL FAMILIES

"GROUNDED IN THE TRADITION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL IS A COMMUNITY DEDICATED TO FORMING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH FAITH, ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, AND SERVICE TO OTHERS."

FR. BLAKE'S FILES

Catholic Schools Week begins January 29. This week is always a great week for our students. The week has a lot of fun activities. As we begin a new year and anticipate Catholic Schools Week, I express gratitude for being a part of St. Joseph Catholic School. We all make up this great community with Jesus Christ and His Church at the center of who we are and what we do. We are blessed! I pray that in being part of St. Joe's during 2023 and in the years ahead that we may make the most of our experience.

Identity is spoken about a lot in our culture today. Our primary identity is given to us by God. Possibly a good portion of our time we try to identify with other things more so than God, like sports, hobbies, or our work. A person may refer to himself or herself as a person who likes to fish, or as the lawyer, or as the baker, or as the hockey player or parent. It is great to have a diversity of identities in relation to sports, hobbies, or work, so that society can function and recreate. Problems arise when we disproportionately identify with certain things more so than with God and His plan. God should be at the center of all that we are and do. Our primary identity is as beloved sons or daughters of God. We have a home in His Catholic Church. Catholic means universal. All people are welcome. Our faith identity is what will lead us to the Kingdom. It is not our identification with

sports, hobbies or work that will ultimately do that. Therefore, we should prioritize our faith every day and follow in the way of the Lord.

In choosing to send your kids to St. Joseph Catholic School, you should be making a statement about your priorities. St. Joe's is not simply a private school. Though we value excellent education and helping students to flourish, it is first and foremost a Catholic School. There are a lot of educated people not living for the glory of God. Our education should form us to orient ourselves to eternal life. We prioritize helping the next generation to live a relationship with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and we desire to raise up leaders who will be active members of God's Church. We are proud of our Catholic identity. We should not shy away from the word Catholic in our name. Moreover, if we live our identities correctly, that is by identifying with God first, we will recognize God's hand at work in everything else that we take part in. So let us live our faith by getting to church regularly, praying together, being good servants, and by leaning into the formation of our Catholic school, as families. I love St. Joe's!



~ Fr. Blake

January Feast Days

- 1 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God - *Mass @ 10:30 AM St. Joseph's*
- 8 - Epiphany of the Lord
- 9 - The Baptism of the Lord
- 17 - St. Anthony
- 21 - **St. Agnes**

- 24 - St. Francis de Sales
- 25 - Conversion of St. Paul
- 26 - Sts. Timothy and Titus
- 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas
- 31 - St. John Bosco

Upcoming Parish/School Events

Book Study



Unleashed: How to Receive Everything the Holy Spirit Wants to Give You
by Sonja Corbitt

smile.amazon.com/gp/product/1594715998

***Join us as we discuss Chapter 4 on January 5th @ 6:30pm
Bride's Room at St. Joseph's Church***

Mother/Son Dance

**January 21st
6:00 – 8:30 pm**

St. Joseph's Church Social Hall



Father/Daughter Dance

**February 11th
6:00 – 8:30 pm**

St. Joseph's Church Social Hall

January 29th - February 4th

Catholic Schools Week!
Kick-off Mass January 29th at 10:30am
St. Joseph's Church
Activities all Week!
Watch SchoolSpeak for more details

Wednesday Evenings

Family Faith Formation

State of the School

School Board meeting
February 2nd
More details to come on SchoolSpeak



Keep up to date with St. Joseph's Church events by signing up for flocknote! www.stjosephscatholic.org

January's Virtue is GRATITUDE

Gratitude is seeing everything as a gift-and being thankful.

January Saints include:



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI (1181-1226 Italy)

St. Francis is a familiar saint to most of us. He was born into a wealthy family but gave away all his riches to focus on and follow God. He loved to thank God continually for plants, animals and all creation. He taught others to see everything as God's gifts.

His feast day is October 4.

ST. JULIE BILLIART (1751-1816 France)

St. Julie is known as "The Smiling Saint". She smiled even when she was bedridden for 22 years! She started a group of religious sisters (nuns), whose purpose was to educate young girls. Her community was named "Sisters of Notre Dame".

Her feast day is May 13.



ST. JOSEMARIA ESCRIVA (1902-1975 Spain) St. Josemaria founded Opus Dei, a movement to help ordinary lay people (not priests, monks or nuns), to pursue holiness in the midst of their own work and make holy the world around them. Opus Dei now has more than 80 thousand members!

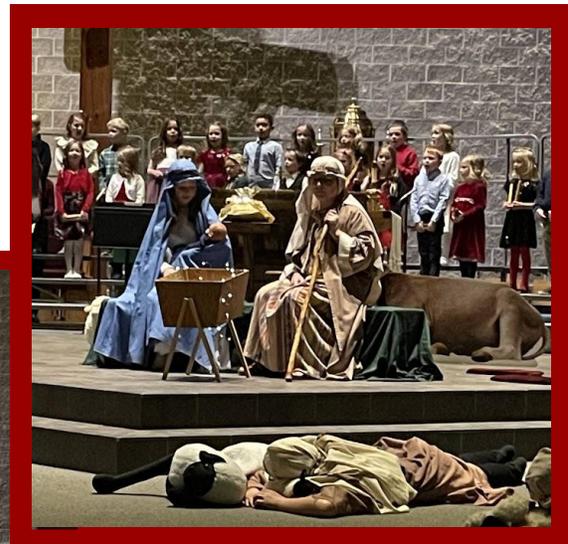
He believed that the family is the first school of holiness for children. He felt deep gratitude for the gift of his family.

His feast day is June 26.

Bishop Daniel Felton Visits St. Joe's!



Let There Be Light! *2022 Christmas Program*



Thanks to our students, teachers, staff and volunteers for putting together this year's beautiful Christmas program! A wonderful way to prepare our hearts and minds for the Christmas Season!

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth;
We have beheld His glory, glory as of the only-begotten Son from the Father.*

John 1:14