



# Notes from Mrs. Nash

*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts*

St. John Fisher School – Together, we've got this!

November 20, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

Thank you for the positive feedback regarding the change to our learning schedule next Monday and Tuesday. As I mentioned, our absenteeism continues to rise as cases from outside of our school continue to impact our students. Thank you for your continued caution and understanding with keeping your child (and his/her siblings) home when he/she has one symptom. Your cooperation with our schools' tight and safe protocols is the reason for our success. We just finished our eleventh week of in-person learning! I am so proud of our smart, resilient students. We look forward to meeting with you next week at your scheduled parent-teacher conference. Thank you for taking the time to foster this critical partnership with your child's teacher.

I hope you have an opportunity to decompress this weekend and enjoy the beautiful weather we are having today. Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education!

In unity and hope,

*-Mrs. Maura Nash*

## Important Announcements

- As a reminder, next **Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday November 24<sup>th</sup> have been changed to remote learning days**. Students should not come to school for in-person learning on those days.
- **Parent-teacher conferences** are *Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>*. If you have yet to sign up, please do so, by [clicking this link](#). **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students should be present** for the conference if your circumstances allow. We understand that parents may be taking advantage of logging into the conference from work. However, if it is feasible, junior high students should attend the conference.
- **Our buddy, Beau**: After years of an extremely intense fight against high-risk Neuroblastoma **our SJF Kindergartener, Beau Dowling**, was recently diagnosed with Thyroid Cancer. Please show your support by purchasing a shirt/sweatshirt from the link below to let Beau know we stand by him! All of the proceeds from this sale will go directly to the Dowling Family to help with any challenge they will endure during this difficult time. The **deadline to purchase is Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Thank you for your support!
- **Technology Update**: As of right now, we have not received our shipment of Chromebooks that was intended for grades 3 and 4. Like everything else, getting these devices is taking much longer than expected as everything is coming from China. We hope to receive them by January. We did receive our iPad shipment. Eventually, our K-2 students will have access to those while learning from home. For remote learning in the near future, we plan to have our 3rd and 4th graders utilize the iPads. Once we receive the Chromebooks, we will make sure our K-2 students are 1:1 with iPads for remote learning purposes. Although this isn't exactly as we had planned, we know that most families have at least one or two devices in their homes. Reach out to Mrs. Larmon with questions, [clarmon@sjschool.net](mailto:clarmon@sjschool.net).

- **S & T Pizza Set-ups!** Thank you for the overwhelming support of this fundraiser. Voucher orders will be sent home the week of November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Say cheese! Another **Picture Day Make-up** has been scheduled for **December 1<sup>st</sup>**.
- **Parish Newsletter:** Are you receiving our parish newsletter? If not, [sign up here!](#)
- **SJF Spirit-wear** makes great Christmas gifts. Shop our [squadlocker store here!](#)

## COVID Reminders

- The Archdiocese announced that all *Catholic elementary schools will be remote learning from January 6<sup>th</sup> through January 15<sup>th</sup> with a return to in-person learning on January 19<sup>th</sup>*. Please see the details of this important announcement [linked here](#).
- **Masks:** **Please make sure your child's mask fits appropriately.** Masks must fit snug and cover his/her nose and mouth. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe!
- Thank you for being so communicative to the office and faculty regarding your child's absence. Please be mindful that if/when you e-mail a teacher or the office during the day regarding your child's make-up work, we may not be able to respond to you until the end of the school day. We will happily respond as soon as we are able. Thank you for your patience!
- If a student or student's immediate family member is awaiting a test result from the lab **AFTER YOU RECEIVED THE RESULTS FROM A RAPID TEST, the student(s) must remain home until the lab results are returned and confirmed.**
- **Quarantined Cohorts:** Please be aware that **there is a process that we go through in order to quarantine a classroom.** This process includes communication and direction from the Archdiocese as well as the CDC and IDPH and can take several hours to complete. When we become aware of a positive COVID case in our community **we act as quickly and communicate as promptly as we are able.** We are so grateful for your patience and understanding.
- Here is a link to our **Health and Safety Plan [Decision Tree](#).**
- The Archdiocese has enacted a new policy that ***if a family knowingly sends their child to school when they are positive for COVID-19, the family will be subject to our remote learning option for the remainder of the school year.***
- As a reminder, here are answers to some of our most frequently asked questions:
  - ***If a student becomes ill at school and has 1 or more COVID symptoms, the student and his/her siblings will be sent home.*** The School Office will send an e-mail to parents communicating that in order for their family to return back to school, parents must share documentation of a negative COVID test result or a doctor's note indicating that the diagnosis is not COVID related.
  - When a student is absent due to an illness, the School Office will e-mail the parents:
    - ***If the symptom(s) persists for more than 24 hours,*** the School Office will send an e-mail to parents communicating that in order for their family to return back to school, parents must share documentation of a negative COVID test result or a doctor's note indicating that the diagnosis is not COVID related.
    - Homework cannot be sent home with neighbors or friends, but CAN BE SENT HOME WITH SIBLINGS. Please connect with your students' teacher(s) to coordinate missing work.
    - When picking up your child early from school for whatever reason, parents are expected to wait outside the main office doors.

- If your child's classroom has to quarantine, you only need to quarantine his/her siblings if he/she is showing symptoms of COVID-19. In an effort to keep everyone safe and protect our school community at large, ***please communicate with us any documentation you receive from your doctor regarding your child's symptoms/illness.*** In order to keep everyone safe, we must always make cautious decisions with the well-being of those around us at heart. Thank you for working with us!
- ***Please partner with us and keep your children safe while outside of school. If we all follow this guidance, we will have a greater chance of keeping our doors open.*** While your child is not in school, *please remind him/her to wear a mask, keep his/her distance, wash and sanitize his/her hands, and stay home if he/she is sick.*
- This year you need to **reserve your spot for Extended Day Care**. Due to the new Covid Safety Guidance, we can only serve 50 students at a time. [Here is the form](#) to reserve your spot.

## St. John Fisher Parish News

**Pro Labore Dei** continues to work for those in need in the Robbins, Blue Island and Posen areas. This month we hope to provide those communities with a Thanksgiving Feast! The following items can be dropped off at the rectory or in the Church Parking Lot on Saturdays from 10:30-11. Thanksgiving offerings are due to the rectory on November 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30. Thank you for our generosity and bless you for all you do!

### Thanksgiving Bag Wishlist

- 2 cans of: corn, sweet potatoes, green beans or peas, cranberry sauce, and gravy
- 1 large box of mashed potatoes, 2 boxes of stuffing
- 1 non-perishable dessert

Don't have time to shop? We will do it for you! Drop \$20 in an envelope marked PLD Thanksgiving at the rectory. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bridget Stalla, [bridget.stalla@gmail.com](mailto:bridget.stalla@gmail.com).



Don't forget to join us for mass! St. John Fisher is open for **Mass** at **4 PM on Saturdays, 8 AM and 11 AM on Sundays, and 8:15 AM every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday.** **Confession** is also available every **Saturday 3 PM - 3:45 PM**. If you would like to sign up in advance for weekend Masses, you may call the rectory, 773-445-6565 or sign up online [here](#). While you are not required to sign up in advance, it helps us ensure enough space for all.



# FALCON OF THE WEEK

Room 206, 5th Grade



**SJF's "Falcons of the Week" is 5th grade homeroom 206: Ryan McVicker, Leo Scarsella, Grace O'Malley, Joey Elfayer, Lyla Norris, Lucy Barrins, Mary Kate Guinane, Alyson Cahill, Quentin Lyons, Ryan Massaro, Connor Guinane, Nora Summers, Sam Johnson, Mary Gillian, Shannon Flynn, Tommy Casey and Seamus Fitzpatrick.**

Our school theme is "Fly Like a Falcon." At school, we are intentionally discussing *what it means to be a falcon*. Falcons soar above, capturing an aerial view of what is going on below. We are encouraging our school community to "soar above" things that might bring us down, not allowing us to be our best selves. We are on a school-wide crusade to "Fly Like a Falcon," lifting one another up, celebrating the positive interactions and kind behavior that our students and staff demonstrate each and every day.

Ms. Dunlavy's Room 206 is a group of incredibly kind kids. Each day they not only make life and learning

fun, but they work hard to lift each other up. They are grateful for being in school and work hard to be the best version of themselves each day. When they occasionally make a mistake, they own it, apologize for it, and move on. Ms. Dunlavy's kindness and positivity has rubbed off on these falcons. Room 206 gives each other, their teachers, and their administrators positive affirmations, support, and love each day.

Not only do these kids work hard each day at being good students and kind to one another, they are also so fun to be around! They joke, laugh, and keep things light. In fact each Friday, they have created a tradition, that they pull different "pranks" on Mrs. O'Shea. In a world where there seems to be so much stress and negativity around us, Room 206 lights up our day.

I, personally, am so thankful for them. They remind me each day to keep it light, laugh, and that this will all be okay. We are so proud that they are falcons. They make our school a better place. Keep flying like falcons, Room 206. You're making a difference!



### **Congratulations 2020-2021 Conner T. Lowry**

**Scholarship Winners:** Jake Frederking, Sam Houston, Bridget O'Connor, & Cormac Lacy!

**Conner T. Lowry** is an SJF Alum who was killed while serving in Afghanistan. Conner's motto was to live life large and to live life kind. Conner's mother, Modie Lavin, established a memorial fund in his honor providing financial scholarships to students attending St. John Fisher School and Br. Rice High School. This year's recipients were tasked with describing how they can bring peace to the world through an essay, a poem or a video. Please join me in congratulating our unbelievably talented 8th graders: **Jake Frederking, Sam Houston, Bridget O'Connor, and Cormac Lacy.** We are so proud of you. Thank you for making a difference in our world!

# HELP SUPPORT OUR BUDDY BEAU

WE WILL BE SELLING  
SHIRTS AND  
SWEATSHIRTS  
NOVEMBER  
13TH-22ND.



ALL PROCEEDS WILL  
GO DIRECTLY TO THE  
DOWLING FAMILY.

STUDENTS CAN WEAR  
THESE AS SPIRIT GEAR.



IF YOU WISH TO ORDER, PLEASE VISIT  
[HTTPS://BEAUSTRONG.ITEMORDER.COM/SALE](https://beaustrong.itemorder.com/sale)  
OR THE FOLLOWING QR CODE.





# 2020-2021 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern about...

- Assignments
- Homework
- Class Activities

Contact [Classroom Teacher](#) by email or note.

- Discipline
- Classroom Behavior
- Specific Incidents

Start by contacting the [Classroom Teacher](#) for an appointment.  
If further assistance is needed, contact SJF Assistant Principal, Mrs. Claire Larmon: [clarmon@sjfschool.net](mailto:clarmon@sjfschool.net)

- Attendance
- Calendars
- Schedules
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Miscellaneous Questions
- Public Relations

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Kate Spadoni: [kspadoni@sjfschool.net](mailto:kspadoni@sjfschool.net)

- Registration
- Admissions
- Medical Forms

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Linda Murray: [lmurray@sjfschool.net](mailto:lmurray@sjfschool.net)

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: [dmaxwell@sjfschool.net](mailto:dmaxwell@sjfschool.net)

- Virtus Training and Compliance
- Religious Education
- Extended Day Program
- Manna Program

Virtus, Mrs. Redmond: [mredmond@sjfschool.net](mailto:mredmond@sjfschool.net)  
Religious Education, Dr. Chermak: [echermak@sjfschool.net](mailto:echermak@sjfschool.net)  
Extended Day, Mrs. O'Grady: [dogrady@sjfschool.net](mailto:dogrady@sjfschool.net)  
Manna Team: [sjfmanna@gmail.com](mailto:sjfmanna@gmail.com)

- Counseling
- Student Support

Contact SJF Counselor and Assistant Principal, Mrs. Nichole Carey: [ncarey@sjfschool.net](mailto:ncarey@sjfschool.net)

- Parent Newsletter
- Financial Aid Applications
- School Procedures
- Administrative Matters
- Policy
- Further assistance on any matters listed above

Contact SJF Principal, Mrs. Maura Nash: [mnash@sjfschool.net](mailto:mnash@sjfschool.net)

- School Board
- Athletic Programs
- Family School Association
- Women's Club
- Holy Name Society

School Advisory Board: [sjfsab@gmail.com](mailto:sjfsab@gmail.com)  
Athletic Association: [stjohnfishersports@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnfishersports@gmail.com)  
FSA: [fsa@sjfschool.net](mailto:fsa@sjfschool.net)  
Women's Club: [SJFWomensClub@gmail.com](mailto:SJFWomensClub@gmail.com)  
HNS: [SJFHNS@gmail.com](mailto:SJFHNS@gmail.com)



# St. John Fisher Holiday Grand Raffle

Tickets are \$100 each

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First prize: \$25,000   Second prize: \$5,000   Third prize: \$2,000

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1 entry per 5 tickets sold will be entered into a \$1,000 prize raffle

Tickets can be purchased in person at the rectory, by calling the rectory at 773-445-6565, or visiting the church and school websites [www.sjfschool.net](http://www.sjfschool.net) or [www.stjohnfisherparish.net](http://www.stjohnfisherparish.net)

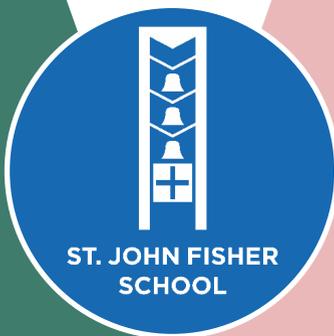


**Winners will be drawn  
December 6th after 11:00am mass**





Purchase **MANNA**  
for  
**SHOP SMALL**  
*Saturday*  
{ November 28 }



Visit the Convent on  
**Saturday, November 28**  
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

OR buy online at  
**[www.shopwithscip.com](http://www.shopwithscip.com)**

Santa  
is coming to  
The Falcons!



The Big Guy will be making visits to  
all the Falcons on the nice list!

Friday, December 11th

5:00 - 9:00 pm

Saturday, December 12th

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

\$35 per family

includes an outdoor visit from Santa, a 4x6 photo,  
Sweet treats for the kids, and  
Christmas cocktails for the parents

To receive a visit from Santa, sign up on the link below and send payment  
to school in envelope marked Santa Visit with family name.

[Santa Sign Up](#)

Space is limited, therefore, first come, first serve  
Sweet Treats compliments of Beverly Bakery & Christmas Cocktails compliments of Barney Callaghans  
Sponsored by St. John Fisher FSA

**St John Fisher FSA**  
**Family Advent Wreath Take Home Kits**

**Pick up: Sunday, November 29, 2020**

**After 8 AM and 11 AM Masses (9 AM – 9:30 AM; Noon to 1 PM)**



Join us just outside Kane Hall to pick up a kit to make your own fresh **evergreen Advent wreath** for your home. All supplies (including wreath, greens, candles, prayers) will be provided to make at home with your family.

A limited number of wreaths are available, so please reserve yours today!

You can **prepay \$25** by cash, check to “St John Fisher FSA”, or by Venmo or Zelle (email or text [bridget.stalla@gmail.com](mailto:bridget.stalla@gmail.com)/ 773-852-4698). Please email request for wreath or send form and payment to school office by Monday, 11/25 or to SJF Rectory by Wed., 11/27.

**\$25 / Wreath pre-paid before 11/25; \$30 at pickup Check or Cash only.**

**Post pictures of your wreaths on FSA Facebook with #AdventatSJF, or email us at [fsaatsjf@gmail.com](mailto:fsaatsjf@gmail.com)**

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To PRE-PAY return form to Rectory Office, School (**by 11/23**), or CFF Class no later than Wednesday, November 25th.

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

# of Wreaths \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



# Respect Life Wreath Sale

The Respect Life committee will be selling wreaths/gift items outside the south door of the SJF parking lot on **Sunday, November 29**. *Please come by anytime between 7:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.* These items will fill your home with the spirit and love of the Christmas season and make the perfect hostess gifts for friends and neighbors. All proceeds help support the work of the Women's Centers of Greater Chicagoland. Through your generosity, hundreds of teens and young woman facing a crisis pregnancy will receive the compassionate counseling, social service referrals and material goods assistance they need to help them through this most difficult period of their lives. Your support is greatly appreciated.

*Listed below are available items:*

Holly Plant	\$5.00	Bark Basket	\$30.00
Classic Swag	\$10.00	26" Noble Fir Wreath w/cones	\$35.00
24" Balsam Wreath w/cones	\$20.00	<b><i>Cash and checks accepted</i></b>	



Please contact Kerry McNicholas with any questions.  
[Kerrymcginnis@yahoo.com](mailto:Kerrymcginnis@yahoo.com)  
(708) 525-0705

*Each child is sent into the world by God with a unique message to deliver, a new song to sing, and a personal act of love to bestow.*

SUPPORT OUR STRUGGLING SMALL BUSINESSES WITH THE

19TH WARD

# Small Business \$uper raffle

Tickets are \$10 each and proceeds will benefit the local businesses listed below.

**1st Prize:** New 2020 Ford Escape S (MSRP \$26,725) or \$15,000\*  
(Winner choosing the car must pay taxes and license fees)

**2nd Prize:** \$5,000 and free pizza for a year from S & T Provisions

**3rd Prize:** \$3,900 in local business gift cards  
(\$100 from each participating business)

**4th Prize:** \$3,900 in local business gift cards  
(\$100 from each participating business)

**5th Prize:** \$3,900 in local business gift cards  
(\$100 from each participating business)



Purchase tickets at [www.the19thward.com](http://www.the19thward.com)  
Now through December 18th

Drawing will be held on facebook live on Sunday, December 20th

For more information please contact [Kelly@the19thward.com](mailto:Kelly@the19thward.com)

## RAFFLE PROCEEDS BENEFIT

A Relaxed You  
AndySunflower Café  
Bacon & Jam  
Baron's Shoes  
Barraco's  
Barre It All Fitness  
Bellé Up Boutique  
Big 'N Little Shoes  
Blackthorn Pub  
Burrito Station

Chicago's Pulse CPR Training  
Connections Learning Center  
F45 Training  
Face to Face Salon  
Fat Tommy's  
Firewater Saloon  
Franconello's  
Garrity Travel  
Gyro Grill  
Hippo's Neighborhood Bar

Joseph's Restaurant & Bar  
Kean Brothers  
Ken's on Western  
La Fiesta / Wonderburger  
Live & Believe Nutrition  
Nicole Marie Salon  
One 11 Salon  
Open Outcry Brewing Company  
Original Pancake House -  
Beverly

South Side Irish Imports  
Swanson's Deli  
Sweet Freaks Chocolate  
The Plug T-Shirt Store  
Tranquility  
Treadfit - Beverly  
Tuscher Signs  
Two Mile Coffee Bar  
Waldo Cooney's Pizza  
You Glow Girl Chicago

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**O'SHEA**  
19TH WARD ALDERMAN



**CountyFair**



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FORD**