



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts

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

November 7, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

We have 9 weeks of in-person learning in the books – check done! As the positivity rate continues to rise in Illinois, we remain grateful for each and every day we get to experience the privilege of in-person learning. Nothing about living or growing up during a world-wide pandemic, a time of civil unrest, or a tumultuous election year is easy. I reflect daily on how this is impacting our children and their future. Thank you for your on-going honesty, care, diligence and support for our school community. Together we are working hard to safely create a sense of normalcy for our kids which allows us to combat, in some ways, this unbelievable time period we have found ourselves in. We recognize that this could change at any time and therefore we are appreciative for the blessing of each day. Our amazing kids are resilient. They are smart. They are kind. Let's continue to take care of our children and each other. We are in this together.

Thank you for your commitment to Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School. Enjoy this beautiful weather!

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- Say cheese! **Picture Day Make-up** is Thursday, **November 12th**.
- We are inching closer to the end of the trimester (November 30th). The next 3 weeks are crucial. **Our kids are so bright and are working so hard!** Please continue to check Power School and talk with your child to ensure he/she finishes this first trimester strong! Older students should advocate for themselves and speak with their teachers about their grades and ways to improve when possible. **Let's go falcons!**
- **MANNA:** Please consider sharing the attached flyer with family, friends, and neighbors to help expand the MANNA program in the community. You can also process orders for others to help you achieve the \$300 School Earnings requirement - easier than selling girl scout cookies! To catch up to achieve the \$100,000 school goal for the year, we are encouraging families to try to sell \$1,500. Thanks for any support you can provide!
- **S & T Pizza Set-ups!** Please see the attached flyer discussing how purchasing **S & T vouchers** can support our school. Please reach out to Karen McDonagh with any questions, klak13@yahoo.com. Thank you!
- We are excited to announce the kick-off of **St. John Fisher's Holiday Grand Raffle!** Please support this important fundraiser and get a chance to win great cash prizes. We are hoping to replace the funding we count on annually from Fisher Fest. See the attached information for more detail. Thank you!
- Please see the attached flyer advertising our **Respect Life Christmas Wreath and Holly Plant Sale**. Thank you for your support!
- **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!](#)
- **Stay Safe:** While you are out and about, don't forget wear a mask, wash your hands, and keep social distance.

COVID Reminders

- The Archdiocese announced that all *Catholic elementary schools will be remote learning from January 6th through January 15th with a return to in-person learning on January 19th*. 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 **2 or more [COVID symptoms](#) or a fever**, 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:
 - **1 symptom** requires monitoring for fever or additional symptoms. The student can return to school after parents respond to the e-mail, documenting that all symptoms are gone and the student is 24 hours fever free without fever reducers.
 - **2 symptoms** require a doctor's note to return to school, a negative test, or a 14-day quarantine. ***All siblings must also stay home during that time*** either until a doctor's note is shared, a negative test is presented or the quarantine is completed.
 - 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. 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.



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.

We are always looking for friendly volunteers to help greet people with hand sanitizer and help disinfect pews after Church. If you are interested, please sign up online [here](#) or call or email the rectory, sjparishchicago@gmail.com.



FALCON OF THE WEEK

Joe Baxtrom, 7th grade



SJF's "Falcon of the Week" is 7th grader, Joe Baxtrom.

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.

Joe Baxtrom is the epitome of a quiet leader. Joe is consistent and someone you can count on. He has great self-discipline and an incredible work ethic. He values learning, his teachers, our school and his

classmates. Joe is always there to offer up an encouraging word to a peer or to help someone who might not understand a problem or assignment they are working on. Joe is bright and always willing to share his talents with others. He has quickly become his teachers' go-to student this school year because of his consistency, willingness to always lend a hand and positive attitude.

This year Joe joined SOAR, our student leader group. Like everything else this year, SOAR has to meet virtually. Joe is always the first person at the meeting and the first person to volunteer an idea or to help. He is a great asset to the group!

Joe is an overall fantastic kid. We are proud that he is one of our falcons and are grateful to him for making our school a better place. "Keep flying like a falcon, Joe. You're making a difference!"



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@sjschool.net

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

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Kate Spadoni: kspadoni@sjschool.net

- Registration
- Admissions
- Medical Forms

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Linda Murray: lmurray@sjschool.net

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: dmaxwell@sjschool.net

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

Virtus, Mrs. Redmond: mredmond@sjschool.net
Religious Education, Dr. Chermak: echermak@sjschool.net
Extended Day, Mrs. O'Grady: dogrady@sjschool.net
Manna Team: sjfmanna@gmail.com

- Counseling
- Student Support

Contact SJF Counselor and Assistant Principal, Mrs. Nichole Carey: ncarey@sjschool.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@sjschool.net

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

School Advisory Board: sjsab@gmail.com
Athletic Association: stjohnfishersports@gmail.com
FSA: fsa@sjschool.net
Women's Club: SJFWomensClub@gmail.com
HNS: SJFHNS@gmail.com



Support **SJF School** and Local Businesses during the holidays with **NO COST TO YOU!**
Purchase Holiday Gift Cards through our Manna Program.
Community Members can Earn Rebates, too (2 - 14%). Better value than credit card rewards!!

Choose from the following common packages or *Pick and Choose* select retailers and amounts from attached [form](#) with **100+ Retailers Available**. *SJF Families is aiming to sell \$1500 in gift cards this holiday season.*

Package 1: Holiday Meals

Retailer	Amount	SJF and Families Earn:
County Fair	\$100	3%
Town Liquor	\$50	3%
Swanson's	\$50	5%
Totals	\$200	\$7.00

Package 2*: Online Shopping

Retailer	Amount	SJF and Families Earn:
Amazon	\$100	2.25%
Kohl's	\$100	3%
Gap	\$100	14%
Totals	\$200	\$19.25

*(All available in ecertificates to quickly load in your cart or email as gifts)

Package 3: Stocking Stuffers

Retailer	Amount	SJF and Families Earn:
Dunkin Donuts	\$20	3%
Starbucks	\$20	7%
Panera Bread	\$20	5%
Beverly Bakery	\$20	6%
Chipotle	\$20	6%
Golf Galaxy	\$25	2.25%
Amazon	\$25	8%
Oberweis	\$20	5%
Total	\$200	\$8.98

Package 4: Local Dining & Carry-Out

Retailer	Amount	SJF and Families Earn:
Horse Thief Hallow	\$50	6%
Fox's	\$50	6%
Milano's	\$50	6%
Open Outcry	\$50	3%
Total	\$200	\$10.50

Package 5*: Teens, Kids and Grandkids

Retailer	Amount	SJF and Families Earn:
American Girl	\$100	9%
Target	\$50	2.50%
American Eagle	\$50	10%
Xbox	\$50	6%
TopGolf	\$50	8%
Build-A-Bear	\$25	8%
Disney	\$25	3%
Total	\$350	\$25.00

*(All available in ecertificates to quickly load in your cart or email as gifts)

Package 6: Home Décor & Improvement

Retailer	Amount	SJF and Families Earn:
Home Depot	\$100	4%
Bed, Bath and Beyond	\$100	7%
Home Goods & Improvement	\$50	7%
Total	\$250	\$14.50

Package 7: Look Good Feel Good!

Retailer	Amount	SJF and Families Earn:
Ulta	\$50	3%
Everything's Relative	\$50	3%
Core	\$50	3%
Total	\$150	\$3.00

Manna is our #1 School Fundraiser. We need to increase participation to balance school budget and maintain competitive tuition rates. Our Goal is to raise **\$100,000 for SJF School** through this program. Every effort counts! **Thank you for the support! You can purchase gift cards thru the program anytime of year.** See "Support us" tab on [website](#) for hours to stop in to buy or easy steps to purchase online at www.shopwithscrip.com. Email sjfmanna@gmail.com with questions!

Stop in! *Open everyday except Tuesdays:* Manna "Cash and Carry" Hours at the **Convent (on Fairfield side):** Monday 8-9:30 am, Wednesdays 6-7:30pm, Thursdays 8-9:30am, Friday 1-2:30 pm (school year), Saturdays 8:30-9:30 am, Sundays 11 - Noon



St. John Fisher Holiday Grand Raffle

Tickets are \$100 each

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

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 or www.stjohnfisherparish.net



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



St. John Fisher Pizza Set Up Fundraiser



Support SJF and Shop Local - Vouchers Never Expire - Save Money

3 Crusts to Choose From:

(3) 12" crusts, (10) 7" crusts, or (3) gluten free crusts

Set Ups include 1 lb. of mozzarella and a pint of homemade sauce

Sausage/Pepperoni set ups include 20 oz of pizza sausage or
1/2 lb of pepperoni

Use now or freeze for later!

Cash or Checks made out to St. John Fisher FSA

Family Name: _____

Room # _____

Thin Crust - (3)12"	Price	Quantity	Total Price
Cheese	\$13		
Sausage	\$16		
Pepperoni	\$16		
Thin Crust - (10)7"			
Cheese	\$15		
Sausage	\$18		
Pepperoni	\$18		
Gluten Free - (3)12"			
Cheese	\$18		
Sausage	\$20		
Pepperoni	\$20		
Totals:			

****ORDERS DUE NOVEMBER 13TH****

Redeem Vouchers at:

S&T Provisions 3804 W. 111th Street Chicago, IL.
Open Mon - Sat 9am-6pm



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	<i>Cash and checks accepted</i>	



Please contact Kerry McNicholas with any questions.
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.