



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

March 6, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

We are looking forward to a very busy weekend celebrating St. Patrick's Day with our Celtic Mass and Supper and St. Baldrick's fundraising event to battle childhood cancer. I'd like to give a shout-out to our Boys Basketball Program who hosted a basketball tournament last weekend, "Buckets for Baldricks", and raised \$600 in support of this event. Also, thank you so very much to our Women's Club and St. Baldrick's Committee who have volunteered so much time and effort into making this weekend's festivities a huge success.

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- **SJF MANNA Program - It's a Win-Win!** *We need your support.* Please see the attached flyer discussing the importance of the Manna Fundraising Program. Thank you!
- Come out and cheer on our **6th Grade Boys Basketball Team** led by Coach Mike Guinane as they compete in the **South Suburban Championship Game, at Marist High School this Saturday, March 7th @ 2:00 - Go Falcons!**
- **APRIL 5th - SAVE THE DATE** Mom/Daughter and Grandma's Roaring 2020 Luncheon! Invitations will be sent home in March. It should be a rip-roaring time!
- Calling all ladies! Save the date for the **Annual Women's Club Scavenger Hunt, April 24th beginning in Kane Hall at 7pm.** More details to come!
- *We are working closely with the Archdiocese of Chicago and closely monitoring the CDC recommendations to ensure we are doing all we can regarding the coronavirus.* Below is a letter from the superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. Jim Rigg.
- **Heart of the School Award** is now open for nominations. Visit this link for more information! <https://schools.archchicago.org/heart-of-the-school-award>
- **The Office of Catholic Schools** is administering the **5 Essentials Survey** at the district-wide level for parents, teachers and students. Below is the information and link regarding the survey. We appreciate your time and participation!
- **Our Gold-Ball Championship Football Team will be representing SJF in the Southside Irish Parade!** All school and parish families are welcome to join the football team and march in the parade!
- **EARLY DISMISSALS!** Please be mindful of the early dismissal schedule and make the necessary arrangements for your children on these days. **March 26th is our next 1:45 dismissal.** Thank you!

Lenten Goals – The season of Lent calls us to *reflect and prepare for Easter*. This Lenten Season I intend to put my family first and spend more intentional time with my husband and children. To make this a reality, I will be steering clear of all screens outside of my office hours. If I do not get back to you right away, please know that your e-mail or call is important to me, but that I will respond to you during my working hours.



Peek at the Week

Saturday, March 7th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ETC – Shamrocks & Shenanigans 9-12 • 6th Grade Boys Basketball competes @ Marist HS, 2:00 • Please join us for Celtic Mass @ 4:00 • SJF’s Junior High Scholastic Team Competes @ Northwestern University
Sunday, March 8th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass times are: 8, 10, 12 & 5:30. All are welcome!
Monday, March 9th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ETC – Leprechaun Lab 2:25-4 • ETC – ART STUDIO Irish Style 2:25-4 • ALICE JR. Play Rehearsal: 2:30-4
Tuesday, March 10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ETC – Little Leprechaun’s 2:25-3:30 • <u>HOMEWORK CLUB</u> 2:30-3
Wednesday, March 11th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ETC – Leprechaun Training Camp 2:25-3:30 • ETC – March Madness 2:25-3:30 • <u>HOMEWORK CLUB</u> 2:30-3 • ALICE JR. Play Rehearsal: 6:30-8
Thursday, March 12th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FUTURE FALCON FRIENDS: 10:30-11:15 • ALICE JR Play Rehearsal: 3-4:30
Friday, March 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisher Falcon spirt-wear Friday!



FALCON OF THE WEEK

America Fernandez, Molly Fudacz & Sam Fontaine, 6th grade



SJF's "Falcons of the Week" are 6th graders, America Fernandez, Molly Fudacz and Samantha Fontaine.

This year, 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. Our "Falcons of the Week" are 6th graders, America Fernandez, Molly Fudacz and Samantha Fontaine.

This week the girls were all nominated by Mrs. Corley for their consistent positive attitudes and helpful nature in Art Club. Mrs. Corley shared, "Sam, America, and Molly are a few of the older students who take part in Art Club. They are always setting a good example for the younger students and teaching them how to be kind and respectful. They often will go out of their way to help set up supplies and stay after club gatherings to ensure the art room is completely clean. They continuously step up each meeting to be the leaders SJF is proud to have!" Thank you, America, Molly and Sam, for setting such excellent examples for each of us. We are so fortunate that you are students at SJF. Keep "flying like falcons", girls. You're making a difference!

Concluding Black History Month in the morning prayer and announcements: honoring famous African American heroes who make our world, nation, and city a better place:

Ida B. Wells
 Jesse White
 Walter Lowe
 Will Smith
 Oprah Winfrey
 Maya Angelou
 Toni Morrison
 Rev. Martin Luther King & Coretta Scott King
 President Barack Obama & Michelle Obama
 Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, the Harlem Globe Trotters



Jesse Owens said, *"We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort."*

We reflect on these thoughts from Maya Angelou: Loving God, help us to remember that *people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.*

And *"If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."*

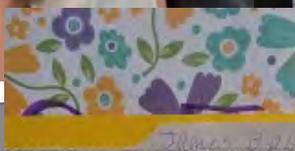
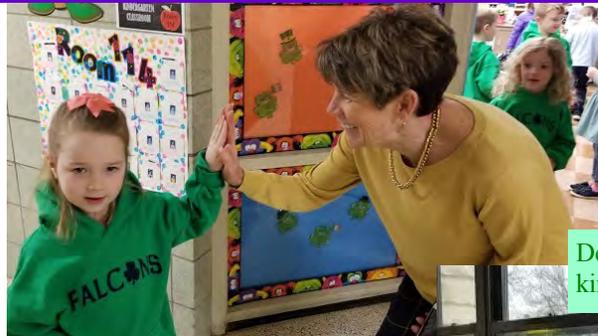
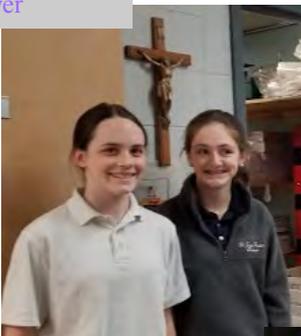
May God help us be positive, loving, and generous in our relationships with everyone. Amen.



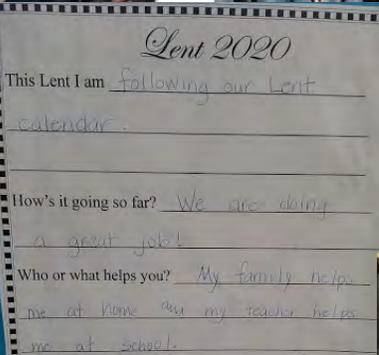
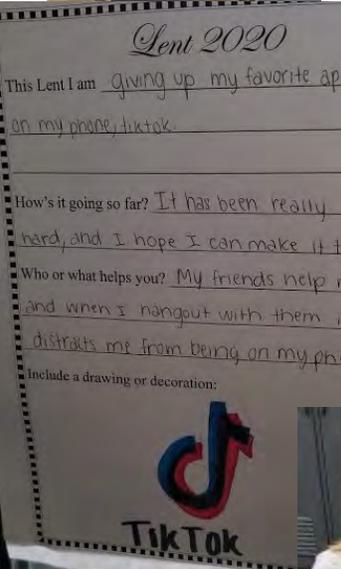
Describing Lenten goals: from kindergarten to 8th grade

The First Week of Lent: Pray, Fast, Do Good Deeds for Others

Students lead morning prayer



Sixth graders posting Lent reports and decorating our Lent Countdown calendar



Lent continues. On to Saint Patrick's Day!

SJF Manna Program

"It's a Win-Win"

We Need Your Support

The Manna Program is the #1 School Fundraiser. Tuition alone does not cover the school's expenses. SJF proceeds from Manna help to make up the difference between school operating costs and tuition. Participation is necessary and appreciated to balance school budget and maintain competitive tuition rates. We need to increase participation especially for school families to enable SJF to be accessible & affordable to all families, for generations to come.

Every Effort Counts

If Every Family purchased Manna all year for 4 places they frequently spend (One Restaurant, Groceries, Retail, Liquor), we'd meet our goal.

Example:

If you spend \$200/wk @ County Fair, \$100/wk @ Rosangela's, \$25/month @ Town and \$300 /year at Dick's Sporting Goods = \$475 tuition credit and \$315 school funds raised (annually)



How does it work?

1. You buy Manna gift certificates and shop with them.
2. The store gives a percentage of the card value to SJF (2-12%)
3. You get 60% of the store rebate credited to your tuition at SJF, high school or college.
4. SJF gets 40% of the store rebate towards meeting operational costs



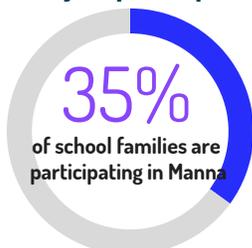
The Manna team is open to suggestions to make it easier to participate. Email @ sjfmanna@gmail.com. Check out <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/> or buy with cash/check at the convent. Also, check out special order form for events or other needs.

We are behind goal in 2020

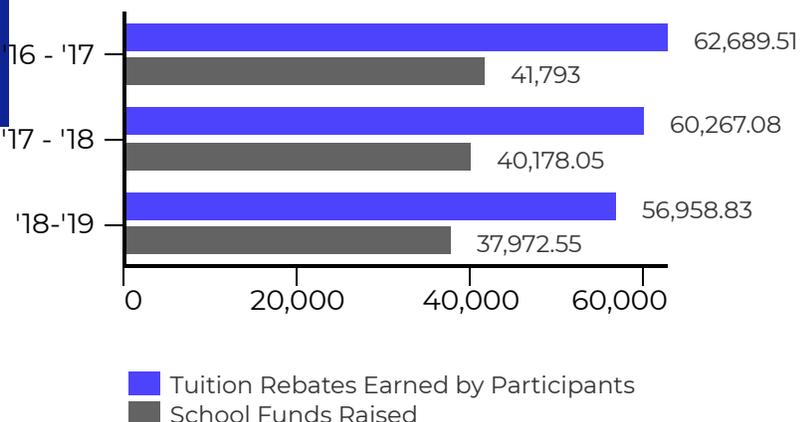
Did you know?

- Our top 5 spots for sales are Jewel, County Fair, Shell, Kohl's Amazon, Binny's. Join in!
- Tata's offers a 12% rebate?
- There are 25 restaurants that offer a 6% rebate? It adds up quick!

Are you participating?



Manna Sales and Funds Raised (annual \$ estimates)



Manna Sales are declining as parishioners "graduate" from the program. We need to enroll school families for continued success. Free Money for you and our school.

Manna Hours: Location @ Convent: Monday 8-9:30am, Wednesday 6-7:30pm, Thursday 8-9:30am, Friday 1-2:30 (School Year Only), Saturday 8:30am - 9:30am, Sunday 11-12

JOIN US FOR

ART CLUB

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY UNTIL
3:30 IN THE ART ROOM**

March dates:

03/03

03/17

03/31

Free to join

Email Mrs. Corley if interested

Mcorley@sjfschool.net



Catholic Schools
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March 3, 2020

Dear parents and families:

The health and safety of students and staff in our school community are of the utmost importance. We are writing to provide you with an update on the evolving coronavirus (COVID-19) health issue.

The Archdiocese of Chicago is closely monitoring the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Please note that all school staff have received the following recommended preventive actions, based on CDC guidance, to help protect your child(ren) and others from this virus and all illnesses:

- **Wash your hands regularly** with warm or hot soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Cover your cough** or sneeze with a tissue, then throw in the trash.
- **Clean and disinfect surfaces** or objects. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work, or school, especially when someone is ill.
- **Stay home when you are sick.** Stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness. When at home, if possible, try to distance yourself from people who are sick.
- **Contact your health care provider immediately** if anyone in your home experiences any of the following symptoms: severe cough; rapid noisy, painful, or other difficult breathing; and dehydration.
- **We ask that you notify our school if anyone in your home has any Coronavirus (COVID-19) or influenza symptoms.** COVID-19 related student absences will be excused. We will work with affected students' families in providing schoolwork and alternate education arrangements (e.g. e-learning) to ensure the continuity of your child's education to the best of our ability.

All principals and teachers are being asked to:

- Provide plenty of hand sanitizer, cleaning wipes and tissues through their offices and classrooms.
- Clean and disinfect transmission points (doorknobs, light switches, desks, tables, hand railings, water fountains, etc.) regularly throughout the day.
- Ensure school maintenance staff has additional resources needed to increase sanitation/cleaning activities.



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PARENT SURVEY

5Essentials

Dear Parent,

Beginning **February 18**, teachers, parents, and students across the district will have an opportunity to participate in the Climate, Culture, and Catholic Identity Survey utilizing the 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school.

The 5Essentials Survey will be administered online by UChicago Impact at the University of Chicago. The survey gathers data related to five indicators that can predict important student outcomes, including improved attendance and larger test score gains. These five indicators that affect and predict school success are:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environments
- Ambitious Instruction

Prior research has shown that schools that were strong on at least three of these "5Essential" indicators were 10 times more likely to improve student learning gains in math and reading than those that were weak on three or more Essentials.

All teachers and **4th through 12th grade students** will be responding to this survey. 5Essentials Reports will be generated for schools if their teachers and/or students meet the response rate threshold of 50 percent. These reports will be sent to schools and districts in **May 2020**.

Additionally, our district has chosen to provide the 5Essential parent survey. If at least 20 percent of St. John Fisher School parents complete this survey, a parent supplement report will also be generated.

Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

The 5Essentials Survey will be conducted **February 18 – March 20, 2020**. To take the survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/archchicago/survey/parent/>.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Maura Nash
Principal

10200 S Washtenaw Ave Chicago, IL 60655 (773) 445-4737 www.sjfschool.net



Travel-Related Recommendations ([cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers))

Per the CDC and actions being taken by other organizations, any travelers who enter the United States after being in a **level 3+ country on the CDC's travel advisory list** during the past 14 days should restrict their movements. If not already quarantined by government agencies upon return to the U.S., recently returned travelers from those countries are asked to closely monitor their health and practice social distancing for 14 days.

All non-essential, work-related travel to **level 2+ locations per the CDC** is suspended for Archdiocese of Chicago employees.

We will continue to provide updates and guidance as needed. Learn more at the CDC website ([cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)) or the CDPH website ([chicago.gov/coronavirus](https://www.chicago.gov/coronavirus)).

Your sincere cooperation is extremely important and is greatly appreciated.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Rigg".

Jim Rigg, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of Chicago

**St. John Fisher
St. Baldrick's &
Celtic Supper**



Saturday March 7, 2020

4:00 pm - Mass SJF Church

5:15 pm - Cross Keys Irish Dancers start us off in gym

*** Shaving Begins After Dancing**

5:30 pm Corned Beef Dinner in Kane Hall

(other food options for children)

6:00 pm - Dennehey Irish Dancers

DJ in Kane Hall playing Irish Tunes and fun for the kids

Dinner Prices / \$40 Family/

\$20 Couple/\$10 single

Cash Bar Available

Facepainting, Hair Braiding, Balloon guy

This is a family event, all children should be accompanied by a parent. It is important that all children are supervised by their parents in all areas of the school.

Please contact sjfwomensclub@gmail.com with any questions