



St. James School Friday Fodder

DECEMBER 16, 2016

WWW.STJAMESSCHOOLAH.ORG



From the Principal

REMINDERS

- Dec. 19 PK 4 Sing-a-long, 10:45, PC**
- Dec. 20 Gr. 1-8 Christmas Program, 1:30, PC**
- Dec. 21 Dismissal at 11:30**
- Dec. 22-Jan. 2 Christmas Break**

CALENDAR UPDATE



12.18 Fourth Sunday of Advent
~ADORE, 6:30, church

12.19 NO BUS SERVICE
~Spirit Wear
~ PK 4 on 12.19 @10:45- PC

12.20 NO BUS SERVICE
~1-8 Christmas Program, 1:30

12.21 NO BUS SERVICE
~Mass, 9:00, Church
~11:30 Dismissal

EAT & EARN @ PANERA-all day
12.22-1.2-CHRISTMAS BREAK



St. James School is now tweeting! **You can follow Mrs. Pappas on Twitter St James School AH@SJS_Principal**

During each week of Advent SJS students are reflecting on special attributes that apply to the season. This third week we worked on the attribute of **JOY**. Along with PEACE, our souls need another gift to stay spiritually healthy. **JOY** is different from happiness. Joy is our response to knowing God's presence. We are invited by God to participate in the giving and receiving of it regularly.

Students have spent time reflecting on how they live in **JOY** and how they can share this gift with others.



~Families are invited to a unique prayer opportunity---**ADORE**---**this Sunday, December 18, at 6:30 in the church.** Make it a family affair! Details are in the Fodder listing.



Like our official Facebook page! [Saint James School Arlington Heights](#)

Weekend Masses at St. James Church

Saturday-5:00 pm-PC

**Sunday-7:00-Ch
8:30-Ch
10:00-PC
11:30-PC
5:00**



Children's Rosary Group- every Monday at 3:45 in the church NEXT ROSARY IS MONDAY, 12.19.

The school calendar is available on the homepage of the SJS website <http://stjameschoolah.org/>

Updates with the most current information may be found on this calendar

~Feel free to contact me via email, jpappas@stjameschoolah.org , or phone, 224.345.7145, should you have questions or concerns!

- Please see the electronic Fodder for more information on
- ~Panera Eat & Earn Dec. 21
 - ~Variety Show Material
 - ~ SJS Alumni 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament 2016
 - ~SJS Book Fair through Andersons
 - ~Six Flags Read to Succeed
 - ~Journaling Prayer Workshop
 - ~ADORE Prayer Event



Curriculum Corner

An omission with the *First Lego League* article---we recognize that John Krause is a member of the Club. He was unable to be present for the actual competition and photo. His contributions and membership are appreciated. Congratulations to John!

The First Graders have been traveling around the world learning about Christmas traditions. They have visited Holland, Germany, England, Mexico, Ireland, France, Sweden and Italy as well as learned about our own traditions here in America including the celebration of Kwanzaa.

Along with learning each country's seasonal celebrations, foods and music, the students identify the origin of key Christmas symbols including the Christmas tree from Germany, the Nativity Scene from Italy, and the Poinsettia from Mexico.

In celebration of each country, the students created a "souvenir" and completed a reading activity all about that country. As a class, they read a paragraph about the country and used crayons to highlight key information within the text. In the end, the First Graders became more aware of unique cultures and traditions as well as the commonality of Christ and the church around the world.



And in a different area of study, the annual Geography Bee was held at SJS last Friday.

Each year, the National Geography Bee empowers four million students to be informed, curious, and knowledgeable global citizens. The national champion wins a \$50,000 scholarship from National Geographic, and a prize trip!

Congratulations to the winner of the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee, Michael McManaman! And congratulations to all of the **finalists - Ella Venegas, Gianni Geati, and PJ McLeod** from grade 5, **Michael Kelly** and **Michael McManaman** from grade 6, **Bill Waltz, Max Gomez,**

ONLINE BOOK FAIR



**Anderson's
Bookfair Company**
www.abcfairs.com

In order to ensure our school earns profit, be sure to enter **ST. JAMES SCHOOL ARLINGTON HEIGHTS** in the billing/contact information section.

SJS Alumni!



If you have SJS alum, please encourage them to register their contact information online: <http://stjamesschool.ah.org/saint-james-school-alumni-program/> and visit the SJS alumni Facebook site @www.facebook.com/stjameschoolalum

and **Giancarlo Passanante** from grade 7, and **Katie Crawford, Emily Madden, and Charlie Chengary** from grade 8.

Michael McManaman will now complete a qualifying round to move on to the next level of competition.



Households of Faith – Pat Farrell, Director Spiritual Formation

Last night I had the pleasure of speaking to the Cub Scouts who will begin working on their Light of Christ Religious Emblem. The purpose of this medal is "... to help the Cub Scout develop a personal relationship with Jesus." (nccs-bsa.org). What a profound value to continue to develop in these boys! Note I said "continue to develop" because by the time a child reaches 7 or 8, the age of these Scouts, all parents should have been deeply involved in forming their children in faith. In fact, the Scouting program states that one of the purposes of the process of attaining this award is "to support the role of the parents as the primary catechists of their children." (nccs-bsa.org) This is done, in this instance, by focusing the Scouts' work in this program on "... identify(ing) Jesus as a real person and as his friend." (nccs-bsa.org).

As I was preparing my comments, I thought about what life may have been like for Jesus as a child. I drew upon Scripture; other writings about that time and place in history and archeological findings, because I wanted to support the goal of the boys' work by helping them realize that Jesus was a child, just like them. He too grew in His understanding of God and ultimately in whom He was in relation to the Father. How wonderful that these boys are doing this work during the Advent and Christmas season! Isn't that what we are all about, especially at this time of year?

But as parents, how do we bring our children to understand something so profound yet so central to our existence? Certainly, our children learn about Jesus and develop a relationship with Him through our example. Is Jesus the center of our lives? If so, how do we show it? Do we live a sacramental life, focused on the Eucharist, by also encompassing all the other sacraments? They also, hopefully, see us in prayer, and see the way we live out our faith in the way we treat others. "Seeing us" as people of faith is a wonderful way for them to learn how to relate to Jesus. But it is not enough. We also have to discuss our relationship with Jesus, and this must continue throughout our lives.

It may become difficult as many adolescents and, increasingly, young adults, struggle with faith. But that does not mean we give up on inviting them into a relationship with Christ. Bring them to Sunday Mass and continue to invite them to Mass when they get too old to just "bring". Engage them in dialogue about faith and be honest and clear about your own challenges and how you work them out. Support them in their struggles because the world is very challenging now. Pray with them and pray for them. Bless them as they sleep, when they come and go from the house and when they are just "hanging around".

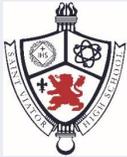
If you are looking for the "perfect" Christmas gift for your children- no matter how

HOW CAN YOU HELP SJS?



SAVE BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION! PRODUCT LISTING IS AT

<http://www.boxtops4education.com>



SAINT VIATOR HS

Class of 2021

Entrance Exam

January 14, 2017 at 8 am

Bring two #2 pencils and a \$25 check, made payable to SVHS or cash, and a completed information form from

www.saintviator.com/entranceexam.

No calculators allowed

PROSPECTIVE PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

You are invited to a group session with Mr. Brian Liedlich, president of Saint Viator High School, to learn about the outstanding Catholic College Preparatory education that is available at Saint Viator. [Click here to register](#) or email Jean Dziedzic at jdziedzic@saintviator.com

January 4, 2017
SVHS Academic Commons 7:30 pm
Saint Viator High School

old they are – this is it. The gift of faith becomes reality through relationship. Is there a better gift?



Family Service Opportunities

Thank you to the many families who donated toys for Marillac House. Over 100 toys were collected for children who would otherwise have little to nothing this Christmas. God bless you for your generosity!



Parents' Club

@SJSParentsClub is tweeting again! Follow us and stay in the loop!!



Broadway Bulldogs:

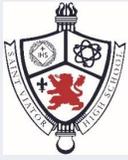
How could these fearful lionesses attack an innocent gazelle? Well, they do and you'll want to see how! Rehearsals with the 34-member cast continue and much work by dozens of volunteers is happening behind the curtain. Please show your support for *The Lion King, Jr.* this February! Tune in here for updates and for important ticket information after Christmas break. *"It's the circle of life and it moves us all through despair and hope, through faith and love..."* -- Elton John & Tim Rice



Wishing all St. James families a Blessed Christmas!



During this busy time of year, Parents' Club would like to express heartfelt gratitude to all of the volunteers, room parents, and committee chairs who help make our organization so successful. Thank you!!



**Tuition Assistance
Program Seminar**

Wed., Jan. 11, 2017
7 p.m.
Jeuck Auditorium

Discussion will focus on the application process regarding tuition assistance for Saint Viator through the Scholarship and Grant Program and the Summer Work Study and Internship Program

To find out more about Saint Viator visit our website at www.saintviator.com

ONLINE HOLIDAY BOOK FAIR!

Support Parents' Club and the school library while you shop for Christmas! Check out the flyer in the Fodder listing for Anderson's Book Fair. Parents' Club and the school library will receive 20% of your purchase! Be sure to follow steps listed on the flyer during your checkout process.

Ho Ho Ho! Thank you for supporting our library and Parents' Club!



EAT & EARN

Our next eat and earn opportunity is ALL DAY **Wednesday, December 21 at Panera**. What a perfect way to start the Christmas break by rolling out of the parking lot from early dismissal to enjoy lunch at Panera! See you there!

READ TO SUCCEED!

All students in grades K-6 are eligible to receive a **FREE ticket to Six Flags Great America**. All you need to do is read 6 hours of recreational reading and complete the reading log (see the flyer in the Fodder listing). Students can help their teacher earn a free ticket also! Teachers with at least 8 students who complete the reading log are eligible for a free ticket. **Please return reading logs back to school by February 15, 2017**. Questions/comments? Contact Cathy Waltz (cathywaltz70@gmail.com)

PC MEETINGS & GENERAL INFO

There is no meeting this month, however you are invited to join us in January! Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 17' at 9:00 a.m. in the Laramie Room. Please take a moment to review our November meeting minutes that are posted to the website.

Parents' Club is actively seeking interested parents who would like to know more about our open board and committee chair positions for the 2017-2018 school year. At this time, we're specifically seeking parents who are willing to be a shadow and assist the current committee chairperson of the Catholic Schools Week and Bulldog Press committees. Both committees have upcoming events and opportunities to learn while assisting the chairperson without a huge time commitment. If you'd like to learn more about how you can serve Parents' Club, please contact Carol Mysza at cmysza@yahoo.com . THANK YOU!

You can still make a tax deductible donation to Parents' Club! Your donation is always welcome. Families who donated to the Parents' Club Family Fundraising program with a suggested \$200 donation will receive a letter after the New Year from St. James School for tax purposes.



Don't forget to clip and send in your Box Tops!



Athletics

Team schedules can be found by clicking [here](#) to connect to the Northwest Suburban Catholic Conference website.



ATTENTION BULLDOG ALUMNI

SJS 90th Anniversary Planning Meeting: January 18, 2017

Would you like to participate in the planning of the school's 90th anniversary celebration? We are looking for assistance with decorations, food and beverage, music, invitations, publicity and more. If you'd like to help in any way, we'll be having a kick-off meeting to brainstorm ideas and take a tour of the old school building on January 18 at 10am. If you can't make the meeting, but would like to help, let us know. Call or email Mary Lederer at [224-345-7203](tel:224-345-7203) | mlederer@stjamesah.org.

St. James School alumni who love to shoot hoops... check out the first annual **St. James Alumni 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament** scheduled for Friday December 30th in the Parish Center. See the Fodder listing for more information. [Click here](#) for a registration form.