



St. James School Friday Fodder

SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

WWW.STJAMESSCHOOLAH.ORG



From the Principal

We Love Our Grandparents & Special Friends!

It was such a thrill to welcome our special guests to SJS. Mass was, as always, a beautiful sharing of faith. The PK students made us so proud! And students had memorable experiences with their grandparents/special friends in the classrooms. Thank you to all those who made this day so very special for us all!!



CALENDAR UPDATE

9.10 Cardinal Cupich celebrates 11:30 Mass to honor the 90th anniversary of SJS

9.11 Play & Learn Session 1 Payment due
~PC Mum Orders due

9.13 School Council Meeting, 7:00

9.14 Comedy Night reservations due

9.15 Mass, 9:00, church
~Comedy Night



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

NEW!!
Follow the SJS Teachers as they tweet
@SJS_Bulldogs





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 -PC**



**Children's Rosary Group- every Monday at 4:00 in the church
NEXT ROSARY IS MONDAY, 9.11—WHAT A PERFECT DAY TO PRAY FOR OUR CONTRY THROUGH MARY'S INTERCESSION.**

~PIZZA WITH A PURPOSE IS BACK!!!

"Pizza with a Purpose" is a fundraiser for the St. James School Student Council. Proceeds from the sales help fund the Student Council events, charities selected by the Student Council, and social justice projects.

As in the past, we will hold our pizza days on the first **Monday** of each month, from October through May. Please see the dates listed below. The price will remain the same as last year, \$2.00 per slice. **All orders must be pre-paid. Orders with payment are due September 22.**

Pizza is provided by Dominos. All pizza is plain cheese. **On pizza days, there will be no hot lunch. So if your student does not order pizza, please have him or her bring a bag lunch. Because of state health regulations regarding food allergies we cannot give pizza to students who forget lunch. In addition, all students will need to bring a beverage, whether ordering pizza or not.**

Please also note that no student is under any obligation to buy pizza. It is simply meant as a treat – that can help others as well.

~IT'S BACK!! SUNDAY MASS VOLUNTEERS!!

All school families are invited to sign up on [iVolunteer](#) to serve as greeters, gift bearers or readers at the 11:30 Mass on the second Sunday of each month, from February through May. Students are asked to wear their uniform when serving. They will receive a Spirit Wear pass for volunteering. See more details in the Fodder listing.

~September is Hunger Action Month, and Catholic Charities, the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools, Soldier Field, and the Charles Tillman Cornerstone Foundation invite everyone to join the effort to eliminate hunger in our communities. In the **Soup-er Stadium Challenge**, they will try to fill every seat in Soldier Field with food! Twice!

St. James Student Council will be facilitating this collection from September 15—Kick-off Day—to October 6. Please help your child/children select one or two items from the list, below, to bring in to their classrooms during that time period. The most needed food items are:

- cereal
- canned vegetables
- pasta, rice, mac & cheese
- canned soup, peanut butter, and jelly
- canned fruit

Thank you for helping!

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

Please see the electronic Fodder for more information on

- ~ACT Aspire School-wide Results
- ~Pizza with a Purpose Order
- ~Sunday Mass Helpers
- ~Parish Middle School Choir
- ~Children's Rosary Group
- ~PC Mum Sale
- ~School Page--Parish Bulletin
- ~Comedy Night



Households of Faith – Pat Farrell, Director Spiritual Formation

Since Hurricane Harvey, which hit Texas beginning on August 31, we have been shocked by the devastation of this storm. As a tropical storm, Harvey dropped 40-52 inches of rainfall in southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana breaking U.S. tropical cyclone rain records. In addition, it caused flash flooding in parts of Arkansas, Kentucky, and Tennessee from Aug. 31-Sept. 1.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Thursday,
8:00am - 8:00pm
In the church

Thanks to our Photography Team who snap pictures at many SJS events. Enjoy their contributions at <http://stjameschool.org/student-life/photo-library/>

HOW CAN YOU HELP SJS?



SAVE BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION. PRODUCT LISTING IS AT

<http://www.boxtops4education.com>

SJS Alumni!



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

Our neighbors in the Caribbean have already suffered the 185 mile an hour winds and rain of yet another hurricane, Irma which should hit Florida by late Friday or early Saturday. It is almost unbelievable that such devastation can happen in less than a two week period.

Is there anything stronger than this horrendous wind and rain and the destruction it brings?

Most certainly there is- it is the love of God for each one of us – those who are suffering and those of us God is calling to help. Note I said “love” of God because God’s love is stronger than any power we experience or witness. In Paul’s letter to the Romans, Chapter 8, this is clearly addressed and I would encourage you to read it as a family. I will not copy the entire passage here for you but I will give you a few quotes to encourage you!

“What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:32)

“We know that all things work for good for those who love God,^[1] who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:29)

“No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.” (Romans 8:38)

I pray that these passages bring us all strength, faith and the wisdom to help our neighbors out of a force greater than nature- God’s love.



Bible Study

All **students in fifth grade are invited** to join the **upper level Bible Study Group** which meets Wednesday mornings before school at 7:50 in the Library. Please drop off at the west doors.



Curriculum Corner

ASPIRE RESULTS

In April 2017, elementary schools across the Archdiocese of Chicago administered the ACT Aspire summative test to all students in grades 3-8. The ACT Aspire assesses students’ academic proficiency in five academic areas: English, Reading, Math, Science and Writing. Students completed the exam over four mornings at their schools.

ACT Aspire is aligned to the rigorous curriculum standards that inform classroom instruction in all classrooms across the Archdiocese. More information about the ACT Aspire, including grade-level test exemplars for each subject test, can be found on <https://www.discoveractaspire.org/assessments/test-items/>

The table included in the Fodder listing shows ACT Aspire student performance results for St. James School, including grade-level results and readiness levels for students in grades 3-8 that can be compared to the average performance of other Archdiocesan students. While it is interesting to note the national average for each subject level test, it is most important to acknowledge the performance level of students in relationship to the Aspire benchmark for that grade level. Terms found in the tables are explained below.

- **Aspire Benchmark:** This numeric score indicates the benchmark that indicates grade-level proficiency.

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

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

- AoC Average: This numeric score reflects the average score across the approximately 5,000 students across all grade-levels who tested in the Archdiocese.
- National Average: This numeric score reflects the average score for all students nationwide who took the ACT Aspire in the spring of 2016.
- Readiness Level: Scores for each subject test area reflect the average performance of all students in this level categorized into one of the following levels: Exceeding, Ready, Close, or In Need of Support.

SJS students did well on this rigorous test. Using the ACT Readiness Levels chart, you can see that many scale scores marked *Ready* are a mere point away from *Exceeds*. Nevertheless, there is always plenty of room for improvement.

The teachers and I set goals each year to improve student learning and achievement. One goal, for this year flows from the Archdiocesan goal for all schools, to improve ACT Aspire test scores in math and reading.

St. James School will also be working diligently to improve ACT Aspire test scores in writing moving scale scores from "close" to "ready" and "exceeding" in every grade level. Instruction is being revamped as a result of teachers attendance at writing specific training in the past few months. Our goal is to guide our students to not only perform better on the test, but to become better writers overall.

The faculty and I have already spent many hours analyzing the ACT Aspire test scores. The school Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP) is using these scores as well as other assessments that are completed throughout the year to prepare specific and descriptive statements for improving learning. The most challenging skills for students have been identified to guide instruction. Teachers write their daily lesson plan objectives using the OCS (Gains) Benchmarks, and will use our staff development each month to discuss student learning and instructional progress.

If you have any questions regarding your child's test scores, please arrange to meet with your child's teacher.

We appreciate the support and assistance you provide for our children at home. Our partnership will surely lead to progress!

ACT Aspire scores for students in grade 4-8 are available on Power School. Please be aware that the rollover for the 17-18 testing will take place on September 18. With the rollover, the format for scores will change significantly to spreadsheet format.



JOIN US FOR THE FIRST PARENTS' CLUB MEETING OF THE YEAR ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE O'BRIEN ROOM. The O'Brien Room is in the basement of the parish office. Please enter through the Parish Office and head downstairs. Join our faith-filled parent community! All are invited and welcome to provide input and hear about our events and activities!



Mum orders due this coming Monday, Sept. 11. [The mum sale flyer is available here.](#) Print and return your order to the school office with payment by 9/11. These big and beautiful mums from Turks Greenhouse will be available for pick up between 3-5 pm on Wednesday, September 20 in the East side parking lot just North of the church. Mums make great gifts! Order an extra for a friend or neighbor!

Comedy Night reservations due Sept. 14th

Gather friends to fill your table of 8 (or 10), pack the cooler, bring some snacks and you've got yourself a perfect parents night out! [Click here for our Comedy Night reservation flyer.](#) This event is a BYOB, 21+ event.

st. james parents' club presents:

COMEDY NIGHT
friday, sept. 15

Spirit Wear

Our NEW online spirit shoppe is LIVE and available year-round: [ST. JAMES SPIRIT WEAR CHEER SHOPPE](#). We'd love your feedback! Please let us know what you think about your new spirit wear! Please email: sjsparentsclub@stjameschoolah.org
(Glitzy Wear is separate from our regular spirit wear. Glitzy ordering is now closed.)

PARENTS' CLUB REGISTRATION

If you have not yet registered with Parents' Club, please visit our [online registration site](#). Follow the links all the way through to the Give Central page, which will allow you to make your payment online and have the option to order additional calendars or a printed directory. (One large calendar and access to the online directory is included with your annual dues.) **THANK YOU!**

We are in need of a chairperson for our annual Magazine Drive. Please contact Christine Chodil if you'd like to find out how you can help!



THE 2017-2018 PARENTS' CLUB BULLDOG RAFFLE IS BACK!!!

The Bulldog Raffle ticket sale begins **TODAY** Friday, September 8th. Raffle tickets are in your students' backpacks. The Bulldog Raffle provides a chance for ticket holders to win a total of \$1,675 in monthly cash prizes and a \$1,000 tuition voucher! Ticket sellers have chances to win laser tag, Bowling, skating, pizza, ice cream and other exciting prizes! The top raffle ticket selling family

will win a lunch from Jimmy John's in the cafeteria at their own special table. WOW! More information can be found with your student's raffle tickets. **Thank you for your support of Parents' Club.**

COOL REWARDS and BULLDOG BONUS!!

WEEK 1 COOL REWARDS: The first 30 students who turn in Raffle tickets get a free ice cream cone from Dairy Queen! And, ALL students who turn in tickets next week will be entered in the BULLDOG BONUS drawing for a laser tag party with pizza from Garibaldi's!!

If you have any questions or need more raffle tickets to sell, contact our raffle committee chairs Jacalyn Derengowski (jjderengowski@yahoo.com) or Sandra Chaplin (sandramchaplin@gmail.com).

There are many people and ministries that can continue to “carry on” even after *Jubilation at James* is over.



Jubilation is our opportunity to share our blessings with others. As Catholic Christians we are called to reach out to those in need, both locally and globally. Everyone has an opportunity to make a difference. To learn how you can support Jubilation, go to: www.stjamesah.org/get-involved/jubilation-at-james. Thank you.

