

From the Principal

December 22, 2022

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a wonderful and blessed Christmas holiday and a wonderful start to the New Year! We are so incredibly grateful for all our students and their supportive families. We hope you are able to spend time with family this break and are able to spend some time relaxing and having some fun. We will see you all next year!

St. John's School will be on Christmas break from Thursday, December 22nd thru Monday, January 2nd. We will resume school on Tuesday, January 3rd. The school office will not be open regular hours over break. If you need any assistance over the break, please email Joy Thienes at thienesj@stjohnnyb.org.

As we approach Christmas, we want to make you aware of all the great liturgies happening at St. John's and invite you to come celebrate the birth of Christ with us.

- Saturday, December 24th: Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00pm, 6:00pm, and 10:30pm
- Sunday, December 25th: Christmas Mass at 8:30am and 10:30am
- Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God - Holy Day of Obligation
 - ⇒ Saturday, December 31st, Mass at 4:30pm
 - ⇒ Sunday, January 1st, Masses at 8:30am, 10:30am and 5:30pm

A huge THANK YOU to all of our families who brought in hygiene bags for Sharing and Caring Hands. We collected just over 200 bags for those in need. Thank you for your generosity! Mr. Tucker Moore will be bringing the bags to Sharing and Caring Hands sometime over winter break.

Blessings to all of you. Merry Christmas!

Ms. Ann Laird, Principal



Upcoming Events:

Christmas Break

December 22 - January 2

School Resumes

January 3, 2023

An illustration of the Nativity scene, showing Mary holding the infant Jesus, Joseph, and shepherds. The text "Christmas Prayer" is overlaid in a large, stylized font.

Christmas Prayer

Lord,
in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter,
we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us:
for shining star and angel's song,
for infant's cry in lowly manger.
We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child.
We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.

Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas,
the incomprehensible comprehended,
the poetry made hard fact,
the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder.
We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers,
wisemen.
Help us to rise bigger than we are.
Amen.

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Wines to Wishes 2023

Wines to Wishes is 46 days away!

Are you a new family at St. John's and not quite sure what Wines to Wishes is? Check out our [New Parent Letter](#).

We are currently seeking donations for the silent auction. Please visit the [Wines to Wishes website](#) to learn more about ways in which you can donate. We have an Amazon Wish List, a Target Wish List, and a Gift Card Wish List. We also have an option for donating money online if you would rather that we do the shopping for you.

We are looking for items for our live auction. These are "big ticket" items such as hotel stays, concert tickets, sports tickets, etc. If you are able to donate or have a connection to someone who is able, please let me know.

We are continuing our tradition of a separate 8th grade donation, which will be used for the live auction. Please be sure to check out the [8th Grade Donation Letter](#) for more information.

All families who donate will receive a non-uniform pass for their child(ren) after the event takes place. Unfortunately, some of the deliveries to the school have been missing gift receipts, so I do not know which families to credit. Once you have donated, please fill out a short [Google Form](#), so we can ensure your child(ren) get their pass. We are incredibly grateful to all those who have donated to the silent auction so far. Thank you!

We are looking for event sponsors. Information is available on the [Sponsor Page](#) of our Wines to Wishes website.

If you work for a business or know someone who might be interested in donating an item for the auction or becoming a sponsor, please share our [W2W website](#) with them!

-Invitations went home with the oldest student from each family last week. All registration takes place online. You can find the registration link through the [Event Registration Page](#) on our website. Each individual who is registered by December 31st will receive one complimentary drink ticket. As a reminder, K-8 families are asked to purchase two tickets as part of the tuition agreement.

Volunteer opportunities will be coming in January, so stay tuned.

Contact Michelle Barsness (barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org) with any questions

Thank you for helping to make our 18th Wines to Wishes a success!

SJB Swimming - Registration Now Open!

St. John the Baptist Swim Team is open to students in all students in grades K-8. To participate, **EACH SWIMMER MUST BE ABLE TO SWIM 25 YARDS UNASSISTED AND WITHOUT STOPPING**. We have a few parent volunteer coaches that will work with swimmers to improve their skills, gain confidence, and have fun!

Registration information may be found on the [Athletic page](#) of the school website or by clicking [HERE](#). The registration deadline is Thursday, December 29th.

Questions? Contact Mr. Cole Van Beusekom at vanbeusekomc@stjohnnyb.org



SJB Parish News

Baptism Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Shea family upon their children's baptism on Sunday, December 18th. May God continue to bless and guide you as you shine the light of Christ to others. For more information on the Sacrament of Baptism, contact Jill Fink, Director of Catechesis at 651.633.1540 ext. 1280 or finkj@stjohnnyb.org

Picture: Valerie (kindergarten), Fr. Paul, Charlie (Preschool) and Vadnais (grade 2)



JOURNEY TO THE INN

with the Wise Men

Saturday, January 7th 2023

4:30 pm Mass *(nursery available)*

5:30 pm Dinner by Knights of Columbus

Mostaccioli, salad and bread

GF and vegetarian options available

Pay at the door

\$7/person

\$30/family *(kids plus 2 adults only)*

6:15 pm Bible reading and songs

in the Church

Candlelight procession

Christmas carols following Wise Men

Live animals at the stable

Hot cocoa and cookies - St. Joe's Hall



SJB Women's Retreat

Awaken 

Arise, shine, for your light has come
and the glory of the Lord has risen
upon you. Psalm 60:1

JANUARY

13-15

Lead by:
Fr. Paul Shovelain
Jessica Balzarini

Franciscan Retreat
Center | Prior Lake



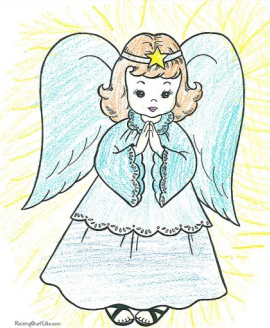
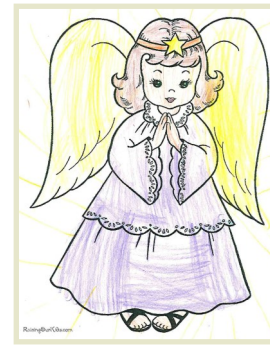
Perfect retreat for someone who
has never been. Take time to relax
and grow closer to God.

Open to all Women
from SJB 18+
Limited Space

Freewill offering at the
End of the Retreat

Arrive Friday by 6 pm
Depart Sunday by 2:30 pm

Contact: Jessica Balzarini | 651-633-8333 | balzarinij@stjohnnyb.org



Christmas Coloring Contest 2022

