

January 4, 2024

From the Principal

Happy New Year! Blessings to you all on this last week of the Christmas Season. Christmas ends this Sunday with the Epiphany and to end the celebration, we have our Journey to the Inn event on Saturday, January 6th following the 4:30pm Mass. Join us as we travel with the three kings to the stable. There will be caroling and live animals. Dinner (by Knights of Columbus) available for purchase at 5:30pm. Beginning at 6:15pm there will be a Bible reading and songs in the Church followed by the candlelight procession to the stable. We are looking for a few extra volunteers to help. Please consider volunteering for Journey to the Inn! We are especially trying to fill the "Safety and Traffic Directors" position with adults. [Journey to the Inn Volunteers](#). For more information on the evening, please see below.

A reminder that as we near the January re-enrollment period, we would like to make families aware of our tuition payment policy. If you are currently behind on tuition payments, please note that your family may not be permitted to reenroll unless delinquent tuition is paid or a reasonable payment arrangement has been agreed to in writing. If you are not current or on a reasonable plan by June 1st, your child(ren)'s spot(s) may be forfeited. As many of our grades are at or near capacity, we have the right to give your spot(s) to a family on a waitlist. Please contact Trina Brinda from the St. John's Business Office at brindat@stjohnnyb.org or 651-633-8333 ext. 1255 to make arrangements if you are behind on your tuition payments.

Below are a few upcoming dates that you should be aware of:

- There will be No school on Friday, January 12th for a teacher workday and on Monday, January 15th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. J-Care and Care Crew are available on Friday, January 12th only. Signups for school release days may be found on the school website.

[J-Care Signup \(K-8\)](#) [Care Crew Signup \(Preschool\)](#)

- We will host our 5th grade Faith, Family and Fellowship Morning on Wednesday, January 17th. We invite our 5th grade families to Mass at 8:30am followed by a short presentation by the students and fellowship in St. Joseph Hall.
- The Preschool and Kindergarten Information and Registration Night will be held on Thursday, January 18th from 6-7:30pm. Invite families interested in SJB to attend and learn more about our Preschool and/or Kindergarten and to show them why St. John's is the perfect fit for their family! Share the flyer with them: [2024 Information Night Flyer](#)
- There will be NO BUSSING for the MV district buses on Thursday, January 25th and Friday, January 26th. Morning drop off for K-8 students will be at the gym doors by way of 2nd Ave NW from 7:30-7:50am. Blaine buses will run normally on these two days. Afternoon pickup will be from the main Church parking lot at 2:30pm. Preschool drop off and pick up will be the same as normal on these two days.
- We will kick off Catholic Schools Week with the CSW Mass on Sunday, January 28th at 10:30am. The following week will be filled with special activities and dress days for our students. The week will wrap up with Wines to Wishes on Saturday, February 3rd. Look for more information on CSW in upcoming Principal's Bulletins.

Our Wines to Wishes event is just a little over a month away. We are looking forward to this night, but it doesn't happen without help from all of our families.

Upcoming Events:

Journey to the Inn Jan 6
Concretes for a Cause Jan 5-7
Luigi Pizza Orders Due Jan 11
No School - Staff Workday Jan 12
No School - MLK Day Jan 15
Grade 5 FFF Morning Jan 17
Reconciliation Retreat Jan 21
No Busing Jan 25 & 26
First Reconciliation Jan 27; 9-11:00am
CSW Sunday Mass Jan 28 @ 10:30am

Please see below for information on how you can help - with donations for the silent and live auctions, sponsorship or just simply registering to attend. Contact our chairperson, Michelle Barsness, at barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org with any questions.

Finally, I will be out of the office for the next couple of weeks for a medical procedure. In my absence, if you have any concerns, please contact Joy Thienes in the school office (thienesj@stjohnnyb.org or 651-633-1522 x 1118) and she will assist you as necessary.

Have a wonderful weekend.
Ms. Ann Laird, Principal

Wines to Wishes 2024

Wines to Wishes is officially **one month away!** I wanted to reach out to families with a few updates. Please also take note of the registration incentive at the end of this email - you must register by Friday, January 5th, to take advantage of this!

- 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. We do not have an auction without the generous donations of our families - thank you so much to those who have already donated!! **We have tried to make this extremely easy as you can shop from your home and have items shipped to school!** Please visit the [event 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. Once you have donated, please fill out a short [Google Form](#), so we can ensure your child(ren) get their pass.

- 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 [website](#) with them!

- Invitations went home with the oldest student from each family before Christmas break. 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 January 5th will receive one complimentary drink ticket, and your child(ren) will receive a visit to the SJB Snack Shack sometime after Wines to Wishes takes place.** As a reminder, K-8 families are asked to purchase two tickets as part of the tuition agreement. Please note that our preschool families (with no K-8 students) will receive complimentary tickets - codes to register were included with the invitation.

- Volunteer opportunities will be coming mid-January, so stay tuned.

Thank you for helping to make our 19th Wines to Wishes a success!



Questions? Contact Michelle Barsness, W2W Chair at barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org or 651-633-1522 x 1114

SJB Athletics – Swimming Registration Closes Friday, Jan 5th

Registration for the SJB swim team is now open! Swimming is open for boys and girls in grades K-8.



ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE ABLE TO SWIM AT LEAST 25 YARDS (ONE LENGTH OF THE POOL) UNASSISTED AND WITHOUT STOPPING.

All registration will be done online on the SJB Athletics page: [SJB Athletics Registration](https://stjohnnyb.org/registration). Questions? Contact Mr. VanBeusekom at vanbeusekomc@stjohnnyb.org

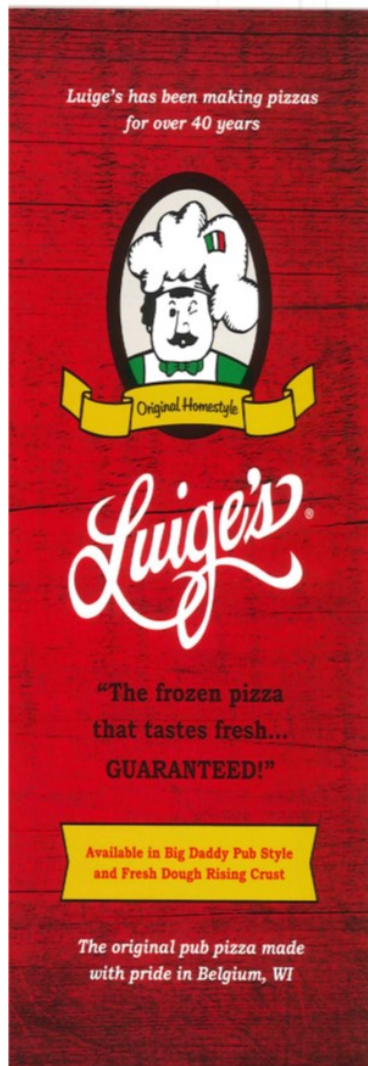
8th Grade Washington, D.C. Fundraisers

Our 8th grade students who will be traveling to Washington, D.C. this spring are holding two upcoming fundraisers: Pizza Fundraiser and a Culver's Concretes for a Cause.

Orders for Luigi's Pizza will be accepted now through January 11th. Please use the link below to place your order.

<https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/SelectProducts/afa87fdb-5747-411c-89ac-9ddf16ace2e4/3006161>

Pizza order pick-up in St. Paul Plaza – Sunday, January 28th from 11:30am – 12:00pm



JOURNEY TO THE INN

with the Wise Men

Saturday, January 6, 2024

4:30 pm Mass

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

