

## From the Principal

Blessings to everyone this April. I hope everyone had a restful Spring Break. Thank you to everyone who participated in Father Paul's Spring Break bulletin challenge. It has been wonderful to see all the bulletins come in and your commitment to worship God even when you are on vacation. Father Paul will be delivering chocolate crosses to all who participated.

This month's virtue is forgiveness, pardoning those who offend you. What a wonderful virtue for all us to work on. Consider going to the sacrament of reconciliation if this is difficult for you as it is a great way to ask Jesus for help. The saints who we celebrate for living this virtue well are St. Patrick, Blessed Margaret of Castello, and St. Josephine Bakhita.

Here are some upcoming events:

- Tomorrow, Friday, April 4th is the final day to bring in your Jared Box Donations. See below for the information and directions.
- First Eucharist Retreat is Sunday, April 6th from 2-4pm for all second-grade students preparing to receive the sacrament of First Communion in May.
- School Stations of the Cross on Monday, April 7th at 1:30pm in the Church.
- The 1st grade Faith, Family, and Fellowship Morning is Wednesday, April 9th. Join us for Mass at 8:30 followed by a presentation and fellowship in the hall. Please RSVP here: [1st Grade FFF Morning RSVP](#)
- The next PTO Non-Uniform Day for Teacher Appreciation will be on Thursday, April 10th. Students who bring in a minimum donation of \$1 may come out of uniform on this day. Proceeds will be used for staff appreciation events.
- Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on Sunday, April 13th. During this week, the students and staff of SJB school will be having their annual Holy Week Retreat where we will remember and walk with Jesus on his final days. More information to come later on what this week will look like.
- There is no school on Good Friday, April 18th and Easter Monday, April 21st for all students in preschool through grade 8. J-Care and Care Crew will be closed.
- The parish Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 19th at 10:00am. See below for more information.
- K-2 has their grade level Mass on Sunday, April 27th at the 10:30am Mass. Join us for Mass and K-2 students who come in uniform will get an out of uniform pass.

We have two options for grants to help with 25-26 school tuition: SJB Discipleship Grants and Knights of Columbus Grants. Both of these grants are open to families with students preschool through 8th grade.

- The SJB Discipleship grants are for families who are active in the Parish or School community. The deadline for application is TOMORROW, April 4th. [SJB Discipleship Grant Application](#)
- The Knights of Columbus Council #14250 is offering 5 - \$500 grants for our families. Three of the grants will be awarded to KC members and the other two will be awarded to families who are active participants of the parish and/or school, but not necessarily KC members. The KC grant application is open through next Friday, April 11th. [KC Grant Application](#)

Finally, please see below for an URGENT MESSAGE regarding non-public school



Upcoming Events:

Stations of the Cross April 7 @ 1:30pm
Grade 1 FFF Morning April 9
PTO Non Uniform Day April 10
Holy Week Retreat Days April 14-17
No School - Good Friday April 18
Easter Egg Hunt April 19
No School - Easter Monday April 21

[2025-2026 Calendar](#)

[25-26 SJB Discipleship Grant Application](#)

[2025-2026 Knights of Columbus Grant Application](#)

aid. Please reach out to your state legislator regarding Governor Walz’s proposed bill to end Non- Public School Aid that is currently being debated in our legislature. New Brighton’s Senator Mary Kunesh is the current chair of the Education Finance Committee. Reach out to her or your local legislator and ask them to vote yes for continuing to assist all students in getting the best education possible. St. John’s has received over \$40,000.00 in textbook aide, professional development funding for staff, and school counseling just this past year. This money is extremely important for our school. You may either send an email or phone. Below is information on how to do this and a script for calling your legislator. Thank you for support.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ms. Ann Laird, Principal

## 24–25 Yearbooks–Final Day to Order!

TOMORROW, Friday, April 4th is the FINAL day to order your 2024-2025 SJB Yearbook! Our yearbook will include student pictures from preschool through 8th grade as well as candid photos that are taken throughout the school year.



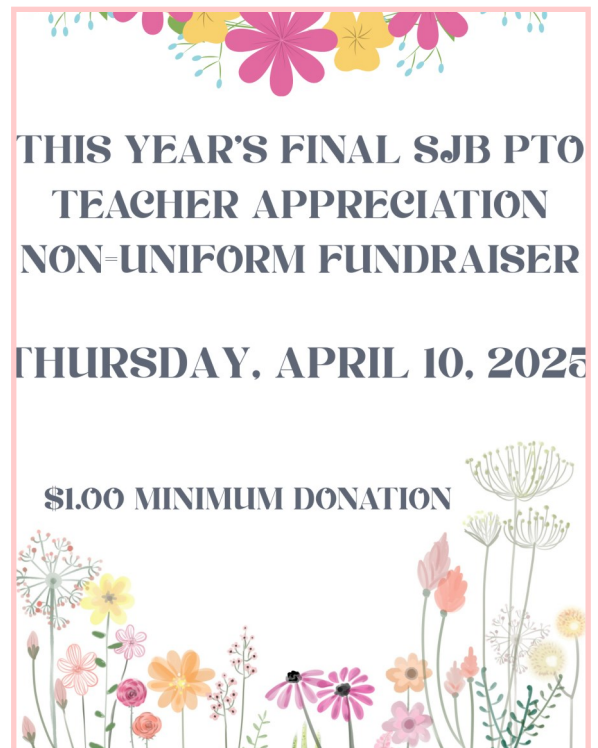
The cost is \$12 per book, and the books will arrive before the end of the school year.

Order here: <https://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A09827506>

Please reach out to Michelle Barsness ([barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org)) with questions.



**Sign Up Here to Volunteer!**



## URGENT – Make Your Voice Heard for Non–Public Funding

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Unfortunately, Governor Walz has doubled down on his proposal to eliminate this critical funding in his [revised budget](#) released Friday, March 21.

**This means we must act again—this time by contacting the Governor directly.**

Every student deserves access to the resources they need to succeed, no matter where they go to school. This harmful proposal would defund essential services like textbooks, nursing, counseling, testing, and transportation, unfairly targeting families who rely on nonpublic education.

**Please take a moment to call the Governor's office and respectfully urge him to drop this harmful proposal.**

Click the button below to make the call. It only takes a minute, but it could make a big difference for our students.

[Make Your Phone Call](#)

*Is the phone line busy? Here's what you can do:*

- Wait on the line
- Call back later in the day
- Leave a voicemail message if presented with the option

### Suggested Phone Call Script

You can read from our provided script below or share your own thoughts on the topic—whatever makes you most comfortable. Reminder to always be respectful when speaking with elected officials and their staff.

*Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I'm a constituent from [Your City].*

*I strongly oppose the elimination of nonpublic pupil aid in the Governor's budget proposal. These vital funds ensure that Minnesota children attending nonpublic schools have access to essential educational resources, including textbooks, counseling services, and transportation, like all other students in the state.*

*Cutting over \$50 million in aid per year would unfairly target these students and make educational choice unaffordable for many families. Nonpublic schools save the state nearly \$500 million annually by educating kids outside the public system, and these cuts undermine that savings and the principle of supporting all students.*

*I respectfully call on Governor Walz to drop this harmful proposal and urge legislators to reject any attempt to eliminate nonpublic pupil aid. Thank you!*

### What else can I do?

**EMAIL:** After you have placed a phone call, send an email message to the Governor and your state legislators by clicking the button below. They need to hear from you!

[Send Your Message](#)

**SHARE:** Share the webpage URL below with your family, friends, fellow parishioners, and school community, and urge them to contact Governor Walz and state legislators, too. There is power in numbers!

[https://www.mncatholic.org/action\\_23393](https://www.mncatholic.org/action_23393)

**LEARN:** Read our *Inside the Capitol* blog post on Nonpublic Pupil Education and Transportation Aid to under-

[Read Inside the Capitol](#)

## Technology and Mental Health



**Phoenix**  
SCHOOL COUNSELING

[Phoenix School Counseling](#) is offering an online parenting seminar on Technology and Mental Health: What we know about apps, smart phones, gaming, and technology and our children's mental health.

Wednesday, April 9th at 7:00pm

This seminar includes parenting tips to protect your children. This session is designed for parents concerned about the impact of technology on their child's well-being. We will explore current research on how apps, smartphones, and gaming affect mental health and provide practical tips for managing technology use. Learn effective strategies to protect your child's mental health while navigating the digital landscape, and ensure a balanced approach to technology that supports their overall development.

Register for this seminar here: [Technology and Mental Health](#). Details will be sent following registration.

## John W. Hajlo Scholarship for 6–7 grade students

The Catholic Athletic Association will award several **\$1,000 scholarships** to current 6th and 7th graders to help offset tuition costs for the following academic year. To apply, students that attend a CAA member school must be nominated by a school athletic director or administrator and submit a 100-word essay explaining the values of a Catholic education and how participating in the CAA has positively impacted their life.

**Application deadline:** Monday, April 15, 2025

To apply, please visit: <https://stpaulcaa.org/hajlo-scholarship>

Help us honor excellence and support future students—spread the word! For questions, contact CAA Director of Operations, Megan Jacobson at (651) 2321-1013 or [megan.jacobson@stpaulcaa.org](mailto:megan.jacobson@stpaulcaa.org).



**ST. PAUL**  
**CATHOLIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

## SJB Preschool Corner

SJB Preschool is hiring assistant teachers and Care Crew teachers for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Assistant Teachers** - hours are 7:30am-3:30pm during the school year.

**Care Crew Teachers** - hours are M-F 2:30-5:30pm

Contact Preschool Director, Andrea Schroeder, if interested or with further questions:  
[schroedera@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:schroedera@stjohnnyb.org) or 651-633-1522 ext. 1209

Upcoming dates for Preschool:

Field trips to Pinehaven Farm - May 15th and May 16th



End of the Year Preschool Program - May 28th

Contact your child's preschool teacher with questions about these activities.

# SJB Parish News

## Becoming Catholic

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Elect and Candidates 2025




Registration open for 5th-8th graders

**EXTREME FAITH**

June 23rd-27th, 2025

**EXTREME FAITH  
CAMP REGISTRATION**



Holy Saturday, April 19, 2025

10:00 am Blessing - West Lot  
Egg hunt:

K & under at school playground  
1st & up at Vet's Park

*Games, Crafts, Goodie Bags  
Refreshments for sale  
by SJB Ambassadors*

Bring your own basket or bag for the the hunt.  
The Egg Hunt will be held completely outside  
(unless we have storms/rain). Please dress  
for the weather and park conditions!

Children must be accompanied  
by an adult



Questions? Email  
livermontj@stjohnnyb.org

## Holy Week Schedule

### Holy Thursday, April 17

**7:00 pm** Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper - with incense  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass and until midnight  
(Chapel of the Angels)

### Good Friday, April 18

*The church is open all day for your prayer.*

**12:00 pm** Stations of the Cross

**3:00 pm** Solemn Good Friday Liturgy - with incense

**8:30 pm** Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness and Shadows

*The Adoration Chapel is closed during the Triduum*

*The administrative office is closed on Good Friday*

### Holy Saturday, April 19\*

**10:00 am** Egg Hunt (Blessing in West Parking Lot)

**12:00 pm** Blessing of the Food (Chapel of the Angels)

**8:30 pm** The Great Easter Vigil - with incense

*No scheduled Confessions on Holy Saturday*

*No 4:30 pm Mass*

### Easter Sunday, April 20\*

**7:30 am** Easter Sunday Mass (Organ & Cantor)

**9:30 am** Easter Sunday Mass (Organ & Choir) - with incense

**11:30 am** Easter Sunday Mass (Organ & Cantor)

*No 5:30 pm Mass*

*\*Note these Mass times are for this weekend only*

# St. John the Baptist School 2025 Lenten Service Project



Age groups suggested by last names

Feel free to pick what best suits your family

**Infant** (ages 0–12mon): Last names A—E

**Toddler** (ages: 1—3yrs): Last names F—J

**Preschool** (ages 3—5): Last names K—O

**Elementary** (ages 5—8): Last names P—S

**Tween/Teen** (ages 8 and up): Last names T—Z

This year we will be collecting completed boxes for The Jared Box Project.

A Jared Box is a plastic shoe-sized storage box filled with small gifts, toys, games, crayons, coloring books, and fun activities. Each box contains items selected for a specific age and gender. The boxes are given to children at the local hospitals to provide a special, fun diversion.

**We are asking that each family makes 1 box and send it to school.** The school will take care of the labels, the notes for inside, and the activity sheets.

See the suggestion list for items to pack in your box.

There are a variety of age groups to cover, so we are asking you to fill a suggested box by your last name. If you are feeling generous and would like to create more than one box, you are welcome to!

**When the completed box is turned into school, we will need to know the following information so it can be labeled correctly:**

**Age Group and Boy or Girl**

For more information regarding this project, please visit: [www.thejaredbox.org](http://www.thejaredbox.org)

**All completed boxes due no later than Friday, April 4**

For any questions regarding this project, please contact:

Mrs. Bridget Troxel  
Middle School Teacher / Religion Chair  
[troxelb@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:troxelb@stjohnnyb.org)

**LENT**  
Fast + Pray + Give

# St. John the Baptist School

## 2025 Lenten Service Project

### Jared Box Project Suggested Toy List

#### Infant (0 to 12 months)

Softcover books, cardboard books, rattles, bibs, stacking blocks, farm animal sets, clip-on toys for strollers or cribs, crib mirrors, bath toys, stuffed animals, balls, busy boxes, light-up toys, musical toys, Oball toys. Lamaze®, Bright Starts®, and Sassy® brand toys are great.

Other toys that are labeled as suggested for infants.

**Be aware of choking hazards.**

#### Toddler (1 to 3)

Softcover books, cardboard books, stacking blocks, farm animal sets, small toys that clip on strollers, bath toys, stuffed animals, balls, busy boxes, musical toys, colorful pillowcases, fun socks, chunky crayons, coloring books, flashcards, plastic cars, puppets, soft dolls.

Other toys that are labeled as suggested for children under 3.

**Be aware of choking hazards.**

#### Preschool (3 to 5)

Crayons, coloring books, grab-n-go activity kits, reading books, stickers, sticker workbooks, activity books, matchbox cars, NERF or rubber balls, stuffed animals, flashcards, fun socks, small action figures, small dolls, travel size games, Silly Putty, simple puzzles, card games (Go Fish, Old Maid, Memory), colorful pillowcases, dress up items, farm animal sets, dinosaurs.

Other toys that are labeled as suggested for Preschoolers.

#### Elementary (5 to 8)

Crayons, markers, colored pencils, pens, coloring books, word searches, activity books, reading books, joke books, matchbox cars, NERF balls, stuffed animals, stickers, Silly Putty, LEGO kits, craft kits, Slinky, travel games (Sorry, Connect 4), hand lotion, colorful pillowcases, reusable water bottle, fun socks, action figures, puzzles, deck of cards, UNO card game.

Other toys that are labeled as suggested for school-aged children.

#### Tweens & Teens (8 and up)

Crayons, markers, colored pencils, pens, coloring books, word searches, doodle pads, writing journals, Silly Putty, stuffed animals, card games, LEGO kits, puzzles, brain games, books, magazines, Chapstick®, hand lotion, fun socks, colorful pillowcases, jewelry making kits, craft kits, paint sets, reusable water bottle.

Other items that are labeled as suggested for teens.

**All items must be new. No food items. No tiny items due to choking hazards.**

**No snow globes or glass items that can break. No pencil sharpeners.**

**No bubbles. No holiday items.**

**Keep in mind, toys need to fit into a plastic shoe box.**