

PRINCIPAL'S BULLETIN

January 8, 2026



From the Principal

Greetings from the Principal's Office! Welcome back, and Happy New Year! I hope this message finds you refreshed after the Christmas break and surrounded by the joy, peace, and love that the season of Christ's birth brings. As we step into a new calendar year together, we do so with grateful hearts and renewed hope for all that lies ahead for the rest of this school year.

Walking through the halls of SJB over the past few days, I have felt the wonderful energy that only a Catholic school filled with students can bring. Laughter, conversation, curiosity, and learning have returned to our classrooms, reminding us that our Catholic school is more than a building—it is a community. It is a place where minds are formed, friendships grow, and faith is nurtured each and every day.

The start of a new year is a natural time for reflection and renewal. As a Catholic school, we are particularly mindful that each day presents an opportunity to grow closer to Christ and to live out His call to love, serve, and seek the truth. Through prayer, learning, and service, we strive to help our SJB students become not only strong scholars but compassionate and Joy-filled individuals who reflect God's light in the world. This was on display on Monday, when our Middle School students participated in a living rosary in the Church. Thank you to the CCW, Mrs. Troxel, and Father Derek for helping to facilitate this prayer-filled experience for our students.

We would also like to provide you with an update on the wall construction project, designed to enhance the overall safety and security of our Catholic school building entrances. This work started on Monday and is part of our ongoing commitment to providing a safe, welcoming, and supportive learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff at SJB. Please rest assured that student safety will remain our top priority throughout the entire construction process over the next few weeks. All contractors will follow safety guidelines, and areas under construction will be securely blocked off at all times to ensure the safety of personnel and the SJB students, faculty, and staff.

I look forward to the many moments still ahead of us this school year—academic growth, co-curricular achievements, service opportunities, and the simple daily joys that come from learning together. Let us continue this year with optimism, kindness, and trust in God's plan for our SJB Catholic school community.

Upcoming Events

Vision and Hearing Screening	Jan 13
Grade 6 Faith, Family & Fellowship	Jan 14
Preschool & KG Information Night	Jan 15
No School - MLK Day	Jan 19
CSW Sunday Mass Day	Jan 25
SJB Variety Show	Jan 29
Wines to Wishes	Jan 31

Quick Links:

- NEW! [2026-2027 School Calendar](#)
- [Preschool Page](#)
- [Virtus Information](#)
- [Educational Benefits Form](#)
- [SJB Spirit Wear Store](#)



May the Lord bless our families, students, faculty, and staff as we begin this new year together. Thank you for being an essential part of our SJB Catholic school family. It is truly a joy to walk this journey of faith and learning with you.

God bless,
Dr. Weingartz

Washington DC Fundraiser

Our 8th grade students who will be travelling to Washington, D.C. this spring are selling frozen Bella Napoli Pizzas and Pastry Puffins to raise money for their travels.



Order online using the link or scan the QR code by January 12th:

[Pizza or Puffin Order Link](#)



Paper order form will be in the school office and are due on January 11th.



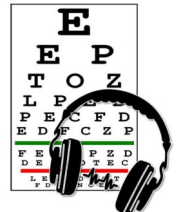
Order pickup on Friday, January 23rd from 2:30-3:00pm

Vision and Hearing Screening - January 13th

We are looking for several volunteers to assist us with vision and hearing screenings for our students. All new students to SJB along with all students in grades K and 1 will have both vision and hearing tested. Students in grades 3 and 5 will be tested for vision only. Screening will take place on Tuesday, January 13th from 8:00am - 12:00pm. No experience necessary - all training will be provided.

If you are up-to-date on Virtus training and are able to help us that morning, please contact Joy Thienes in the school office at thienesj@stjohnnyb.org

If you would like your student tested and they are not in the grades listed above, please contact the school office or your child's teacher.



School Calendar



The calendar for the 2026-2027 School Year is now available on the school website.

[2026-2027 School Calendar](#)

**St. John the Baptist ~ Preschool and Kindergarten
Information and Enrollment Night
Thursday, January 15th ~ 6:00p - 7:30p**



At our information and enrollment night, you will have the opportunity to meet staff, parents, and students; ask questions about our school; and receive details about the enrollment process.

Most importantly, learn why St. John the Baptist is the perfect fit for your child.

www.stjohnnyb.org



RSVP HERE

Get involved in the PTO

Looking to learn more and participate in school volunteer opportunities throughout the school year? **Join the SJB PTO!**

Email stjohnnybpto@gmail.com to be added to our distribution list and get invitations to upcoming meetings.

Upcoming Meetings: January 13 and March 30 at 6 p.m. (Zoom).

We are collecting testimonials for marketing initiatives, and we would love to hear from YOU!

★★★★★

★★★★★

[Testimonial Link](#)

Scan the QR code to share your thoughts!

Wines to Wishes 2026

We are just over 20 days from Wines to Wishes 2026!

Register now and plan to join us on Saturday, January 31st as we raise money for important safety and security upgrades for our school. Register before January 9th to be entered into a drawing for VIP parking the night of the event plus 4 free drink tickets. Register online at www.winestowishes.com



There is still time to donate items for our **silent auction!** Auction items will be accepted through Friday, January 16th. Silent auction items can be popular electronics, wine/liquor, housewares, popular toys/activities for kids - use your imagination and get creative! You can put together a full basket of items (we have baskets and will handle the wrapping if you'd like), or donate individual items that can be combined into a basket. Check out our Target and Amazon wish lists if you want some ideas. Don't want to shop? Monetary funds will be happily accepted and we'll do the shopping for you!

[Target Wish List](#)

[Amazon Wish List](#)

[Gift Card Wish List](#)

LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

GO FOR THE GOLD AND JOIN FATHER PAUL IN SOME PRE-GAME FUN!

BEFORE THE BIG EVENT, WARM UP WITH OUR OLYMPIC-THEMED PRE-GAME PARTY!

JANUARY 31, 2026
4:30-5:30 PM

OLYMPIC VILLAGE (AKA THE RECTORY PIER 153 - TIKI BAR)

REGISTRATION IS NOW **OPEN**

JOIN UP TO 24 SJB ATHLETES AS WE LIGHT THE TORCH AND CELEBRATE COMMUNITY, FUN, AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION — ALL FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

DRINKS & APPETIZERS PROVIDED

BUY IN COST: **\$30.00 PER PERSON**

WINES TO WISHES 2026

going **FOR GOLD**

POP UP CAMP TO BENEFIT
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL
45 MINUTE HIIT WORK OUT - CHILDWATCH AVAILABLE

DATE: 01/31 TIME: 2 PM

10950 CLUB WEST PARKWAY, SUITE 200, BLAINE, MN 55449
\$10 DONATION AT THE DOOR - ALL PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY TO FUND A NEED FOR THE SCHOOL

FILL OUT LIABILITY WAIVER PRIOR TO ARRIVING

SIGN UP HERE:

LIABILITY WAIVER **REGISTER HERE**

Join Father Paul before the event at the Olympic Village! Limited to the first 24 SJB Athletes! Click [HERE](#) to register!

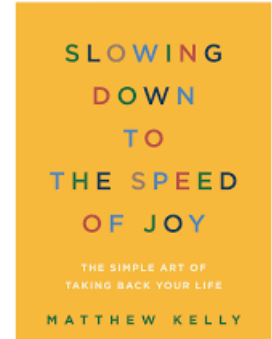
Follow the Wines to Wishes Facebook and Instagram pages for the latest gala information and then share the posts to your friends and family! We are constantly posting live and silent auction items that will be offered to bid on at W2W 2026.

Facebook: [Wines to Wishes - St John the Baptist](#) Instagram: [winestowishes](#)

Reclaim Challenge Has Begun!

Our Reclaim Challenge for the month of January into early February began this week. We are reading and discussing the book gifted at the Christmas Liturgies entitled ***Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy*** by Matthew Kelly.

This week we pondered **Part One: Beyond the Joyless Urgency**. The author shared his own struggle with living a busy, hurried life and how it depleted him from joy. He walks us through how busy is a problem on many different levels but it is also a choice. A skill set is needed to evaluate and prioritize the most essential and spiritual aspects of life. This next week we will dive into Part Two: Human Flourishing where we'll explore God's intent and desire for our identity and response back to God. Want to join the Reclaim Challenge? The challenge is to read a chapter a day, ponder a discussion question and bring to prayer. You are most welcome to join in on the challenge! Either read or listen to the daily chapter at the 3:00pm Prayer Time on Facebook. All resources you can access on our website and click the [Reclaim Challenge](#) icon.



Don't have a book? We have limited supplies, but check at the Welcome Desk. A [free online pdf of the first 35 pages](#) of the book is posted on the website. Contact Jill Fink, Director of Discipleship at 651.633.8333 ext. 1280 or jfink@stjohnnyb.org

Catholic Watchmen

Science and Catholicism

Our keynote speaker is
Dr. Peter Distelzweig
Associate Professor of Philosophy at the
University of St. Thomas

Tuesday, January 13
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
St. Joseph Hall

6:00 pm Rosary
6:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Presentation
8:15 pm Adoration and Confession
8:30-45 pm Depart

Circle of Women

Circle of Women

Thursday, January 15, 2026

Meet in St. Joseph Hall from 9:15 am-11:00 am

We welcome women of all ages to Circle of Women. This meeting, St. John's Pastor, Father Paul Shovelain will give a talk titled, "Reclaim: Inspired by the Saints."

Childcare is available. Grab one of our brochures from the kiosks or watch your Flocknote for details.

Any questions? Call Molly (763-458-2316)
Hope to see you there!

A Wounded Church with Bishop Cozzens

Monday, January 12, 2026 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in New Brighton

5:30 p.m.: Mass
6:30 p.m.: Presentation
7:30 p.m.: Adoration

REGISTER HERE

So many of us have been shaken by the events of Aug. 27 at Annunciation, Minneapolis. How can a Church find hope and healing amidst the suffering?

All in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis are invited to unite in communion (in-person or virtual) for an evening of healing, hope and prayer. Join Bishop Andrew Cozzens as he speaks on A Wounded Church: Finding Peace and Healing. Light refreshments will be available following Mass. If you plan to attend virtually, please register as a virtual attendant and you will receive the livestream link 48 hours before the event.



**Competition is limited to the first 15 people to register!
\$25 entry fee**

Come taste the chili and vote for the best!
\$10 tickets* All you can eat chili & sides
kids hotdog meals* \$3 available *suggested donation*
DOORS OPEN AND ALL YOU CAN EAT CHILI!! TASTING STARTS AT 11:30

 **MAKE THE BEST CHILI TO WIN CASH PRIZES** 
1ST PLACE: \$75 & TROPHY **2ND PLACE: \$50 & TROPHY**
3RD PLACE: \$25 & TROPHY **PEOPLE'S CHOICE: \$25 & TROPHY**

**CONTACT MELISSA BERG FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER
BERGFAMILY1643@COMCAST.NET OR 651-208-9227**

Chili Cook-Off 2026

Please join us for our 2nd Chili Cook-Off on January 18th after the 10:30am Sunday Mass. All you can eat chili and sides along with hot dog lunches for the kids (both while supplies last) available for a suggested donation! Also vote for your favorite chili!

Have a great chili and want to share? Register your team to bring home the best chili!! You can win trophies and cash prizes.

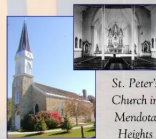
See flyer for more information. Contact Melissa Berg with any questions or to register your chili! Bergfamily1643@comcast.net or call/text 651-208-9227.

From Rome to Home Pilgrimage

Join us on Saturday, January 24 from 8:00 am - 2:30 pm

On this trip:

- Depart from St. John's at 8:00 am
- Transportation by bus
- Visit historic St. Peter's Church
- Holy Mass
- Tour of the Vatican Unveiled Display at the Mall of America
 - The largest collection of Papal artifacts outside of the Vatican
- Lunch at MOA Food Court (pay on your own)
- Return to St. John's by 2:30 pm



\$30 per person

Questions? Email Joseph at huebl@stjohnsb.org



Register Here

Ice Fishing with Father Tournament

When: January 17, 2026
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Long Lake Beach

Who: 100 parishioners and friends of SJB!

- Participants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult
- Ages 16 and older must have a MN fishing license



Register by scanning the QR code or on our parish website: stjohnnb.com



Register Today!