PRINCIPAL'S BULLETIN

March 12, 2026

St John the Baptist CATHOLIC SCHOOL

From the Principal

Greetings from the Principal's office! As we approach Spring Break, I want to take a moment to wish all our families a restful and refreshing week. My thoughts and prayers will be with all of you, whether you are traveling or staying home. This time of pause in the school year is a wonderful opportunity for students and families to recharge, spend time together, and return ready for the exciting weeks ahead.

It was also a pleasure to meet with many parents at the PTO meeting this past week. I am always grateful for the opportunity to connect with our parent community, hear your ideas, and celebrate the many ways we work together to support our students and school. Your partnership and dedication truly make a difference.

One thing I have been doing during this season of Lent is reflecting upon our school year to this point. We are reminded of the importance of reflection, prayer, and growing closer to Christ. One of the great blessings of being a Christ-centered school is that we can intentionally guide our students on their faith journey each day. Through prayer, service, and learning rooted in Gospel values. Lent offers our students a special opportunity to practice kindness, sacrifice, and compassion as they prepare their hearts for Easter.

Thank you for the continued support and partnership you show our school each day. Wishing your family a safe, restful, and joyful Spring Break.

God bless,
Dr. Weingartz

Upcoming Events

No School - Spring Break	**March 16-20**
Reconciliation, Gr 2-5	**Mar 24**
Reconciliation, Gr 6-8	**Mar 25**
Stations of the Cross, 9:20am	**Mar 26**
No School - Good Friday	**Apr 3**
No School - Easter Monday	**Apr 6**
No School - Teacher Workday	**Apr 7-8**

Quick Links:

- 2026-2027 School Calendar
- Preschool Page
- Virtus Information
- Educational Benefits Form
- SJB Spirit Wear Store

School Safe Environment Coordinator (Virtus): Alison Wacek waceka@stjohnnyb.org | 651-633-1522 x1127

Spring Break Mass and Bulletin Challenge

During Spring Break, Father Paul is once again challenging us all to fulfill our Sunday Mass obligation through his ***Spring Break Mass and Bulletin Challenge***. All students who turn in a bulletin or mass leaflet from where they went to Mass over Spring Break (even if at St. John's) will receive a gift from Father Paul. Students can turn in the actual bulletin with their name and room number on it to the school office or email a photo of it to Fr. Paul at frshovelain@stjohnnyb.org. All submissions should be turned in by Friday, March 27th.

New this year, there will also be a raffle drawing for $25 gift cards for students who submit a bulletin - up to 2 entries per student (one for each Sunday over spring break). Four winners will be drawn - one from each grade level - preschool, K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. Drawing will be done at the end of the Holy Week retreat on April 2nd.

Find a Catholic Church and Mass time where you are traveling at www.masstimes.org

Let's continue to grow in our relationship with God even when we are on break!

2026-2027 SJB Discipleship Grant Application

We are pleased to announce that we are once again offering the SJB Discipleship Grant for the 2026-2027 school year. The grant is open to those who are active parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church and School and any grants awarded may be applied to either preschool or K-8 tuition for the 2026-27 school year. The application is now available and should be completed by Friday, April 10th.

2026-2027 SJB Discipleship Grant Application: https://forms.gle/tGerqkScTA3jMfLj8

Trimester 2 Report Cards

Trimester Two report cards for SJB students are now available on Educate. To access your child's report card, log into your account and click on **School**, and then click on **Students**. Click on your child's name, and then click on **Report Cards**.

If you are unsure of your login information, please contact Michelle Barsness. If you have any questions about your child's grade(s), please contact their teachers directly.

March is Minnesota Food Share Month

This weekend at Masses, members of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be handing out grocery bags with a suggested list of needed items and a donation envelope attached. We ask that you return them filled the following weekend, March 21 and 22. This will enable us to stock our newly located St. John's food shelf and deliver the remaining bags to the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. This year, the donations received via the envelopes attached to the bags will be shared with Immaculate Conception parish in Columbia Heights to assist in their Latino Ministry. Please give generously during this Lenten season. "When were you hungry, Lord, and we fed you?"

Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Save the Date!

Plan to join us on Saturday, April 4, 2026 for the SJB Easter Egg Hunt!

The event begins with a blessing in the west (Church) lot at 10:00am followed by games, crafts and the egg hunt. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather - the egg hunt portion of the event will be outside.

Life After Divorce

Join Fr. Derek Gilde and Jaclyn Kennedy, MA, LMFT, a local Catholic licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, for a 4-part healing seminar for adults impacted by divorce.

The spiritual, psychological, and social wounds of divorce run deep, no matter if you have been divorced yourself or are affected by it as a loved one or family member. It can influence the way we understand ourselves, relate to others, and to God. Though we might not have all the answers, we hope that by relating out wounds, reconciling our past, and looking with hope to the future, the Lord's voice will lead and bring a deeper sense of healing and new life.

life after divorce

Meetings will be held on the following Monday nights from 6:30 - 8:30pm: March 23rd, April 13th, May 4th and June 8th.

For more information or to RSVP, please email Fr. Derek at frgilde@stjohnnyb.org

Lent at St. John's

Fridays, February 20 - March 27

5:30 pm ~ Holy Mass

6:00 pm ~ Fish Fry or Soup Supper

(Fish Frys are on February 27 and March 20, starting at 5:00 pm)

7:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross

Saturdays, February 21 - March 28

8:30 am ~ Holy Mass

Sponsored by:
Knights of Columbus
Saint John the Baptist Council 14250
New Brighton, Minnesota

Fish Fry

Join us on Friday, March 20

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Meal includes: Fish, mac and cheese, tater tots, cole slaw, bread and butter, cookies, lemonade, water, and coffee. *(Gluten-free option available.)*

St John the Baptist Catholic Church & School

Prices: $15/adult, $10/ages 12 and under, $55/family maximum. Family is children and parents. Checks, cash, credit cards accepted.

April Family Formation
Parent Program
Wednesday, April 8th, 6:00-7:30 pm
in St. Joseph Hall

Our Father who art in Heaven

Optional dinner will be served at 5:30 in St. Joseph Hall. Fr. Derek Gilde will be talking about Fatherhood and our relationship with God the Father. The program starts at 6:00 pm. All adults are welcome!

St John the Baptist
CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

Lent Communal Penance Service

Sunday, March 29, 2026
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Twelve priests will be available to hear private Confessions and give absolution.

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 2

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)
Seven Churches Pilgrimage (Handout with suggested route available

Good Friday, April 3

The church is open all day for your prayers.
12:00 pm Stations of the Cross
3:00 pm Solemn Good Friday Liturgy – *with incense*
8:00 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 4*

10:00 am Egg Hunt (Blessing in West Parking Lot)
12:00 pm Blessing of the Food (Chapel of the Angels)
8:00 pm The Great Easter Vigil – *with incense*
No scheduled Confessions on Holy Saturday
No 4:30 pm Holy Mass

Easter Sunday, April 5*

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 Holy Mass

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

Totus Tuus
"TOTALLY YOURS"
Grade School Summer Program

2026 Themes:
The Commandments & Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary

Grade School Day Program:

The day program is for students entering grades 1-5 in the fall, and costs $75. The program runs Monday, July 20 through Friday, July 24, 2026 from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm and includes songs, skits, games, prayer, small groups, Holy Mass, recess, and large group presentations. We will end the week with a human sundae and water fun!

Register on our website at:
https://stjohnnb.com/faith-formation/totus-tuus-2

Extreme Faith Camp

EFC Registration is now open for St. John the Baptist's week of camp! The dates are June 29th-July 3rd. This will be an incredible opportunity for your kids to encounter the Lord while having a full week of outdoor adventure! **Click below to register your middle schoolers as campers and your high schoolers on the prayer team or extreme team**.

Extreme Faith Camp
Middle School Registration

Extreme Faith Camp
High School Registration

Totus Tuus Registration - only a few spots left!