PRINCIPAL'S BULLETIN

October 1, 2026

St John the Baptist CATHOLIC SCHOOL

From the Principal

Dear SJB Families,

Greetings from the Principal's Office!

It was wonderful to see so many families at FallFest this weekend! Thank you to everyone who volunteered, attended, and helped make it such a fun celebration of our SJB community. I am grateful for the time and energy so many of you give to our school!

Please be sure to read Father Paul's message below regarding FallFest, along with a few important upcoming events and opportunities.

Appalachia Christmas Project
Our Appalachia Christmas Project collection will take place October 12–23. Please see the information below and consider donating an item to help support families in Kentucky. What a wonderful way to live out our call to serve others!

Marathon Pep Fest & Marathon Saturday!
Tomorrow afternoon, our school will celebrate with a Marathon Pep Fest. I am looking forward to kissing some animals since we met our school-wide fundraising goal! A reminder that as part of your tuition agreement, each student in K-8 is responsible for bringing in a minimum of $175. You may still send in cash or check for this or donate using Venmo or the online link. For those not completing this commitment, the amount will be added to your Tads tuition accounts.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Central Park in Roseville on Saturday between 8:00 a.m. and noon. Students who participate will earn a non-uniform pass. There are also plenty of opportunities to volunteer, so please check out the sign-up sheet!

A big thank-you to the Jantsch family for leading this year's Marathon and for the volunteers who will be helping this weekend.

Upcoming Events

Marathon for Non-Public Education	**Oct 3**
K-2 Grade Level Sunda Mass - 10:30am	**Oct 4**
School Picture Retake Days	**Oct 5 & 6**
Faith & Blue Event	**Oct 12**
No District Busing Day	**Oct 12**
No School MEA	**Oct 14-16**
No School	**Oct 23**

Quick Links

- 2026-2027 District Bus Registration
- 2026-2027 School Calendar
- Preschool Page
- Virtus Information
- SJB Spirit Wear Store

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

K–2 Mass – Sunday, October 4

We look forward to celebrating our K-2 Mass this Sunday at 10:30 a.m.! We would love to see as many of our K-2 students as possible. K-2 students who attend Mass in uniform will receive a non-uniform pass to use at school. More details about student participation will be shared by classroom teachers.

Faith & Blue Assembly – Monday, October 12

We are excited to welcome New Brighton police officers and SJB parents who serve as police officers to our Faith & Blue Assembly on Monday, October 12th! This is a wonderful opportunity to build relationships with those who serve our community. Parents who are police officers, please use the QR code below or click the RSVP link to register so we know you will be joining us!

K-8 Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences are coming up October 21-23. Conferences will be held during the following days/times:

- Wednesday, Oct 21st from 2:45-5:30pm
- Thursday, October 22nd from 2:45-5:30pm
- Friday, October 23rd from 7:30am-3:30pm on Friday, October 23rd.

Parents with 3 or more students in K-8 will be receiving an email on Monday with information on conference signups. This will allow those families to coordinate multiple conference times. On Tuesday, the signup will open for all families and all families will then receive the signup information email. Information on preschool conferences will come from your child's preschool teacher.

Have a wonderful weekend, SJB families, and God bless!

God bless,
Anna Nagle
Principal

Message from Fr. Paul Shovelain

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and supported our annual FallFest this past weekend. So many people worked very hard to pull off a successful 3-day festival. Bishop Kenney was here for a beautiful Mass on Saturday evening, and he was very impressed with the commitment of so many volunteers and staff to make the weekend a success. I am incredibly grateful to our co-chairs, Taylor and John Burns, as well as Kelly and Nate Boll, who both have preschoolers at SJB. Thank you as well to Kari Kearns who chaired the inflatables, representing our school PTO. I also want to extend my thanks to Mrs. Mary Jordan and our REACH students who organized a very successful Dirty Soda booth. We had several other preschool and school parents involved in leadership roles for this event, and I thank them as well.

While it is a great opportunity to have a fun weekend out, our expectation is that our community models Christ in how they treat each other and the property. There were a couple of instances where the light of Christ was diminished by individuals' behaviors. I am hopeful that school parents will talk with their kids about how they are called to treat others with Christ-like love even when there are no adults around. There was a great deal of unsupervised time which led to students being disrespectful to each other as well as Vet's park and our school playground being left littered with a significant amount of trash. This was disappointing to me and our school leadership. We can and need to do better in the future. This weekend, as we use Central Park in Roseville for our annual School Marathon, let's work together to build each other up in the love of Christ as well as be respectful of the property, including putting trash and recycling in the proper receptacles.

Father Paul Shovelain
Pastor

St. John the Baptist After School Art

Monday, October 5th

Back-to-School Monogram Letters

Grades K-8

Monday, October 12th

Art-A-La-Carte: Woods
Theme: Fall

Grades K-5

All classes are from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Pick up is at Door 5 near the Playground and J-Care entry.
In inclement weather it will be in the vestibule, near the interior J-Care Door.

Grade level is noted for each class.
Accommodation can be made by grade level and/or experience as needed for the grade level range fixed to every class.

$25 dollars per student, per class
Charge for the class is made after attendance in your TADS Account according to the Sign-Up Genius.

Email your child's teacher with the date of your child's class so they don't put them in the car line or on the bus.

Monday, October 19th

Watercolor Painting

Grades K-5

Monday, October 26th

All Saints Stick Puppets/Peg Dolls

Grades K-8

REGISTER HERE

School Picture Retake Days

Picture retake days are scheduled for Monday, Oct 5th and Tuesday, Oct 6th from 8-10:00am each day. Those students who did not have their photos taken at Meet My Teacher Night or who would like to give picture day another shot, will have the opportunity to have their picture taken or retaken on one of these days. This will be the final photo opportunity for school photos at St. John's this school year. If you have not seen your child's photo, you can take a look by going to www.jostenspix.com Once there, you can either create an account or log into your account. Our school event code is **FE226026**

Students may come to school out of uniform on either Monday or Tuesday if they will be having their pictures taken.

***Please be sure to communicate with your child's teacher to let him/her know that your child needs a retake* on either day.**

We'd love to invite you to join us at Totino-Grace this Saturday, October 3, for Oktoberfest, part of TG's 60th Anniversary Homecoming Weekend!

Whether you already have a connection to Totino-Grace, have an 8th grader considering TG for next year, or are simply wondering what the future might hold for your family, this is a great opportunity to come experience the TG community in a fun and casual way.

Join us under the tent for live music from The Elements, local food trucks, festive drinks, games and a great night with the TG community. This is a **21+ event.**

Saturday, October 3 | 6:00–11:00 p.m.
Totino-Grace High School | 1350 Gardena Ave NE, Fridley, MN 55432

Tickets are **$20 in advance and include one drink token.** Advance ticket sales close **Friday, October 2**, so grab your tickets this week and come join us!

Register Here

No matter where your family's path takes you, we'd love to have our SJB community join us as we celebrate 60 years of Totino-Grace. Hope to see you under the tent!

2026 School Marathon

After our third and final turn-in, we are pleased to report that we have met our goal of $72,000! Thank you for your generosity! Since we made our goal, Principal Nagle will be smooching some animals!

Plan to join us for the 2026 Marathon on Saturday, October 3rd at Central Park in Roseville MN. The event begins at 8:00am and runs until 12:00pm. Join us at 9:00am for prayer with Father Paul followed by an SJB lap around the lake with Principal Nagle and other SJB families. Please come at any time and stay as long as you'd like. Students attending will receive a non-uniform pass to be used on Monday, October 5th. Students are encouraged to wear their SJB logo spirit wear! Rain or shine, we want to see you at the Marathon!

We are looking for several more VOLUNTEERS to help at the Marathon on Saturday, October 3rd. Sign up for a shift below:

MARATHON VOLUNTEERS

A reminder that as part of the tuition agreement, each student is asked to bring in a minimum of $175 for the marathon. You may still send in cash or check for your Marathon commitment or use the links below to Venmo or donate online. **Any student not meeting the minimum donation amount will be charged the amount through your Tads accounts**.

@SJB-NewBrighton

venmo

Online Donation Link

Class with the highest total will participate in a Kickball game with Principal Nagle and Father Paul - date TBD

The top 5 students with the highest donation will participate in the all-school Marathon assembly on October 2nd where they will get to take turns selecting a prize bag.

Students who attend the Marathon on Saturday, October 3rd who check-in at the SJB pavilion will receive a non-uniform pass to be used on Monday, October 5th.

If we make our goal of $72,000, Mrs. Nagle will smooch some farm animals. Plus the whole school will be treated to ice cream treats!

2026 Appalachia Christmas Mission

Family Formation, Council of Catholic Women, and SJB School are teaming up this year to support the Archdiocesan CCW Appalachia Christmas Mission. This outreach mission has been going on for 50 years, bringing Christmas gifts and joy to some of the most impoverished communities in Kentucky. Our parish will send gifts to Holy Family Catholic Church in Booneville, Kentucky. This is an area with very few Catholics, but many struggling people (35% live beneath the poverty level). These residents have few employment opportunities and poor health. The tiny mission parish now serves over 600 families with home repairs, utility bill relief, and other needs.

We'll be collecting the gift items from Oct. 12 to Oct. 23. Collection boxes will be in the school and under the Harvest Table in the church plaza. We'll transport the gifts to Randolph sometime between Oct. 23 and Oct. 31. There a semi-trailer, generously donated by Terminal Transport Company of Roseville, will be loaded with donations from all over the archdiocese. The volunteer driver will then make the journey to Kentucky, delivering much-needed supplies and holiday cheer to families in need.

Gift suggestions (new items only, please) to donate:

Clothing (large sizes)	Toys	Accessories	Miscellaneous
Socks, Slippers	Pull toys	Watches	Fishing equipment
Shirts	Rattles, teethers	Belts	Sports equipment
Infant or toddler sleepers	Board games or puzzles	Wallets, billfolds	Wrapping paper, ribbons, ornaments
Sweatshirts	Balls or Blocks	Purses	Blankets/ bedding
Sweaters	Dolls	Hats, Scarves	Kitchen items
Coats or Jackets	Cars/trucks	Mittens	Craft kits
Hunting clothes	Crib mobiles	School supplies	Towels

Think about items that would be appreciated in an impoverished area. (However, no food items or canned goods. No high-tech toys. No "war toys.") The community, young and old, have so little, and they truly appreciate these gifts. Adults are able to visit a Free Store and choose Christmas gifts for themselves and their families.

If you'd prefer to mail a check for gifts, please write "Appalachian Christmas" in the memo line and mail to: Sr. Judy Donohue, Holy Family Catholic Church, 1439 KY 11S, Booneville, KY 41314

In the 2026 Spring newsletter, Sister Judy wrote: *"Holy Family's Christmas Sharing helped 100 families have a blessed Christmas. On Dec. 16th, we opened our Yard Sale room for the families to select 15 items. Many families were able to give a bicycle or doll to a grandchild for Christmas. Thank you to the donors who made this possible, and to the volunteers who gave of their time to make this Christmas Sharing happen."*

Let's open our hearts again to these "neighbors" in Appalachia! God bless you and your families.

Only One Thing Is Necessary

HOW CATHOLIC FAMILIES CAN STRIVE TO BE UNITED IN THIS LIFE AND THE NEXT

SJB Plan 2026-27

October - Growing Faith in the Home

Virtue: Studiousness - Seeking knowledge to grow closer to Truth

Theme: Living the Faith Daily

Focus: Faith grows when families practice prayer and devotion together.

Feast of the Month and Saint: Saint Thérèse of Lisieux (Feast Day: October 1) – reflect on this Saint Thérèse quote and how it can inspire family life:

"Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love."

Pastoral Letter Connection: "But they [the Martin family] made it a point to do three things very well; to love each other and their children unconditionally; to teach their children about God and the virtuous life; and to worship God at home and in the parish." (19)

October Week 1: Pray the Rosary

Resource: https://www.usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary

◊ Activity: Pray one decade of the Rosary together.

September Week 4: Family Blessing

◊ Activity: Parents bless children at bedtime by tracing the sign of the cross on their forehead and saying, "May God bless you and keep you tonight."

◊ Car or Dinner Conversation: What does it mean for Jesus to be at the center of our family?

CGS
CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

CGS IS A PART OF THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CURRICULUM IN PRESCHOOL. WHILE WE ARE NOT YET READY TO INCORPORATE IT INTO OUR KINDERGARTEN DAY PROGRAM, WE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER AN AFTER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY.

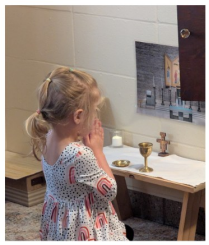
TUESDAYS, 2:45-4:15PM

CHILDREN CAN COME TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AFTER SCHOOL AND WILL BE ESCORTED TO THE ATRIUM

OCTOBER 13-MAY 18

LIMITED TO 10 SPOTS

CATECHIST THERESA BROSTROM & ASSISTANT KYLIE SCHACHTNER

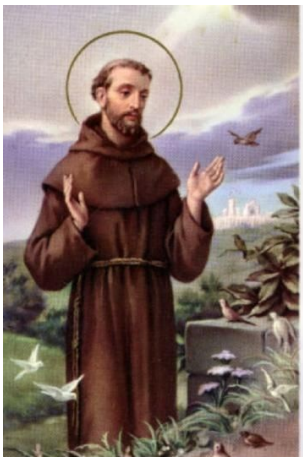


Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
St John the Baptist Catholic Church & School

Cost is $95
Discounts available

Register Here

CONTACT Rachael Wratkowski, CGS Catechist and Materials Coordinator at wratkowskir@stjohnnyb.org



Animal Blessing

October 3 at 10:00 am in the St. Paul Plaza

Please bring your pets to receive a special blessing on the Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi

Living Rosary

The parish Council of Catholic Women (CCW) invites you and your families to join us for our annual Living Rosary on Monday night, October 21st, at 7:00 PM in the church. Sixty people stand as beads and form the shape of the Rosary. Each "bead," when it's their turn, will turn on their electric candle and lead the prayer that goes with that bead. If you'd like to be a "bead," please contact Patti Belian (612-718-0927 or pbelian@comcast.net) to be assigned a specific bead. Students should have an adult volunteer with them. "Beads" need to meet in the plaza at 6:30 to get instructions, roses, and candles, and then line up for the procession into the church. Many more people can sit in the pews, without being beads, and participate in praying the Rosary. This is a very lovely visual way to pray the Rosary in October, the month of the Most Holy Rosary.