



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts

St. John Fisher School – Together, we've got this!

October 23, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

We are so excited to have 7 weeks of in-person learning in the books! Every day we are in school, we consider it a blessing. We feel so privileged to be able to learn together each day. Our faculty and staff are working tirelessly to ensure our students are safe in school with consistent disinfecting of classrooms and hard surfaces throughout the day, constant mask-checks, frequent hand washing and sanitizing, proper desk spacing and so much more. However, we recognize that our ability to remain open for in-person learning could change at any point and our continued success hinges on our community's cooperation. Thank you for continuing to be so honest and cautious as it relates to our COVID procedures. We certainly understand the extra burden this puts on everyone's daily routines, but it truly does contribute to the overall success of our school, which is to remain open for the privilege of in-person learning.

The Archdiocese communicated their decision today that all Catholic elementary schools will be remote learning from January 6th through January 15th with a return to in-person learning on January 19th. Please see the details of this important announcement [linked here](#). More information regarding our local plan will be communicated with you in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your commitment to Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- Thank you for being so communicative to the office and faculty regarding your child's absence. Please be mindful that if/when you e-mail a teacher or the office during the day regarding your child's make-up work, we may not be able to respond to you until the end of the school day. We will happily respond as soon as we are able. Thank you for your patience!
- In case you missed it, [here is a link to the important financial update](#) from our school and parish finance committees.
- **Halloween** is just around the corner! Unfortunately, this year students cannot pass out treats of any kind, but on **October 30th**, **our students in grades pre-k – 4 are welcome to dress up in their costumes (no masks, high-heels or weapons are allowed) and students in grades 5-8 can dress down in black and orange** to celebrate!
- We are excited to announce the kick-off of **St. John Fisher's Grand Raffle!** Please see the below flyer for more details. Thank you so much for your support!
- **A reminder from Mrs. Corley:** If you have not done so already, please send in a set of watercolors for your student(s) to use in art class this year. This will give our students the opportunity to choose from a variety of materials when creating artwork.

COVID Reminders

- If a student or student's immediate family member is awaiting a test result from the lab **AFTER YOU RECEIVED THE RESULTS FROM A RAPID TEST**, the student(s) must remain home until the lab results are returned and confirmed.
- **Quarantined Cohorts:** We are thrilled to have all of our quarantined cohorts back with us! Please be aware that *there is a process that we go through in order to quarantine a classroom.* This process includes communication and direction from the Archdiocese as well as the CDC and IDPH and can take several hours to complete. When we become aware of a positive COVID case in our community ***we act as quickly and communicate as promptly as we are able.*** We are so grateful for your patience and understanding.
- Here is a link to our **Health and Safety Plan [Decision Tree](#).**
- The Archdiocese has enacted a new policy that ***if a family knowingly sends their child to school when they are positive for COVID-19, the family will be subject to our remote learning option for the remainder of the school year.***
- As a reminder, here are answers to some of our most frequently asked questions:
 - ***If a student becomes ill at school*** and has **2 or more [COVID symptoms](#) or a fever**, the student ***and his/her siblings will be sent home.*** The School Office will send an e-mail to parents communicating that in order for their family to return back to school, parents must share documentation of a negative COVID test result or a doctor's note indicating that the diagnosis is not COVID related.
 - When a student is absent due to an illness, the School Office will e-mail the parents:
 - **1 symptom** requires monitoring for fever or additional symptoms. The student can return to school after parents respond to the e-mail, documenting that all symptoms are gone and the student is 24 hours fever free without fever reducers.
 - **2 symptoms** require a doctor's note to return to school, a negative test, or a 14-day quarantine. ***All siblings must also stay home during that time*** either until a doctor's note is shared, a negative test is presented or the quarantine is completed.
 - Homework cannot be sent home with neighbors or friends, but **CAN BE SENT HOME WITH SIBLINGS.** Please connect with your students' teacher(s) to coordinate missing work.
 - When picking up your child early from school for whatever reason, parents are expected to wait outside the main office doors.
 - If your child's classroom has to quarantine, you only need to quarantine his/her siblings if he/she is showing symptoms of COVID-19.
- In an effort to keep everyone safe and protect our school community at large, ***please communicate with us any documentation you receive from your doctor regarding your child's symptoms/illness.*** In order to keep everyone safe, we must always make cautious decisions with the well-being of those around us at heart. Thank you for working with us!
- ***Please partner with us and keep your children safe while outside of school. If we all follow this guidance, we will have a greater chance of keeping our doors open.*** While your child is not in school, please remind him/her to wear a mask, keep his/her distance, wash and sanitize his/her hands, and stay home if he/she is sick.
- This year you need to **reserve your spot for Extended Day Care.** Due to the new Covid Safety Guidance, we can only serve 50 students at a time. [Here is the form](#) to reserve your spot!



FALCON OF THE WEEK

7th graders: Shane Daley, Sean Godfrey, Danny Killeen, Emmett McDonagh, Patrick O'Connor



SJF's "Falcons of the Week" are 7th graders, Danny Killeen, Emmett McDonagh, Patrick O'Connor, Sean Godfrey and Shane Daley (pictured left to right).

Our school theme is "Fly Like a Falcon." At school, we are intentionally discussing *what it means to be a falcon*. Falcons soar above, capturing an aerial view of what is going on below. We are encouraging our school community to "soar above" things that might bring us down, not allowing us to be our best selves. We are on a school-wide crusade to "Fly Like a Falcon," lifting one another up, celebrating the positive interactions and kind behavior that our students and staff demonstrate each and every day.

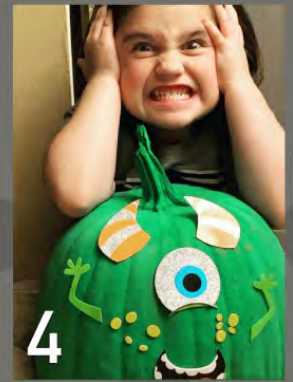
On two separate occasions, Danny and Emmett and Patrick, Sean and Shane were "caught in the act" raking leaves out of the goodness of their hearts. Danny and

Emmett were helping out a family with young children. Patrick, Sean and Shane simply offered to clean up the yard of someone in our neighborhood "just because". These boys chose to do something positive and constructive with their time and went out of their way to help others. Danny, Emmett, Patrick, Sean and Shane are living examples of what makes our neighborhood so great and are doing their best to make a positive impact on others. This gesture brought a smile to so many and made us proud.

These boys are good, kind and caring. Thank you Danny, Emmett, Patrick, Sean and Shane for helping those around you and making our world a better place. You have set a great example not only for all of the falcons on campus, but also for our community at large. "Keep flying like falcons, boys. You're making a difference!"



Thanks for Participating!



Dear SJF Families,

October 31st to November 2nd is the Mexican celebration known as “Dia de los Muertos” or “Day of the Dead”. This is a festive time, where beloved family members, friends or pets who have passed away are celebrated and remembered. The Day of the Dead celebration is a tradition that unites families and establishes a sense of identity. It is a time for happy memories of loved ones, not scary stories! If you would like to learn more about the Day of the Dead, click [here](#) for an article from the Chicago Tribune.

We will be putting together a traditional ofrenda (altar) in the school library that will be visible from the windows along 102nd street. If you would like to participate, please send in a photograph, prayer card or something that symbolizes a loved one who has died so it can be added to the altar. Please remind the kids to label their pictures and bring them to school (no frames please) by Friday, 10/29. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Keller, kkeller@sjschool.net or Senor Madrigal, amadrigal@sjschool.net.

Thank you for participating!



Photo from the Chicago Tribune



2020-2021 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern about...

- Assignments
- Homework
- Class Activities



Contact [Classroom Teacher](#) by email or note.

- Discipline
- Classroom Behavior
- Specific Incidents



Start by contacting the [Classroom Teacher](#) for an appointment.
If further assistance is needed, contact SJF Assistant Principal, Mrs. Claire Larmon: clarmon@sjschool.net

- Attendance
- Calendars
- Schedules
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Miscellaneous Questions
- Public Relations



Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Kate Spadoni: kspadoni@sjschool.net

- Registration
- Admissions
- Medical Forms



Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Linda Murray: lmurray@sjschool.net

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees



Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: dmaxwell@sjschool.net

- Virtus Training and Compliance
- Religious Education
- Extended Day Program
- Manna Program



Virtus, Mrs. Redmond: mredmond@sjschool.net
Religious Education, Dr. Chermak: echermak@sjschool.net
Extended Day, Mrs. O'Grady: dogrady@sjschool.net
Manna Team: sjfmanna@gmail.com

- Counseling
- Student Support



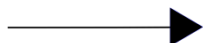
Contact SJF Counselor and Assistant Principal, Mrs. Nichole Carey: ncarey@sjschool.net

- Parent Newsletter
- Financial Aid Applications
- School Procedures
- Administrative Matters
- Policy
- Further assistance on any matters listed above



Contact SJF Principal, Mrs. Maura Nash: mnash@sjschool.net

- School Board
- Athletic Programs
- Family School Association
- Women's Club
- Holy Name Society



School Advisory Board: sjsab@gmail.com
Athletic Association: stjohnfishersports@gmail.com
FSA: fsa@sjschool.net
Women's Club: SJFWomensClub@gmail.com
HNS: SJFHNS@gmail.com



St. John Fisher Holiday Grand Raffle

Tickets are \$100 each

First prize: \$25,000 Second prize: \$5,000 Third prize: \$2,000

1 entry per 5 tickets sold will be entered into a \$1,000 prize raffle

Tickets can be purchased in person at the rectory, by calling the rectory at 773-445-6565, or visiting the church and school websites www.sjfschool.net or www.stjohnfisherparish.net



**Winners will be drawn
December 6th after 11:00am mass**





MANNA NEWS

- Thank you for your quick and helpful responses to the Manna Survey!
- We are **immediately implementing a change** to help with convenience. **You can now order any local gift cards (example: County Fair) on www.shopwithscrip.com**. This allows you to *avoid filling out any forms or writing checks*. On site, you can order and pay via bank account or credit card.
- For physical gift cards, orders must be placed by 10:00AM on Sunday and will be ready for pick up starting at Wednesday evening sales. If you don't order by 10:00 AM, you would pick up the following week (starting Wednesday). Your completed orders can be **PICKED UP** at the Convent. We sell out of the SJF convent on Monday 8-9:30 AM, Wednesday 6-7:30PM, Thursday 8-9:30AM, Friday 2-3PM, Saturday 8:30-9:30AM and Sunday 10:30-11:30 AM.
- See step by [step ordering guide](#) to get started. [3 Easy steps to enroll on site.](#)
- The other top suggestion was to send orders home with students. **We will report back ASAP if we feel the front office can take on that responsibility at this time.**
- Purchasing local gift cards on [shopwithscrip](#) site allows you to **see rebate totals immediately**. See the **reports feature** on left side and see total rebate for purchases made on shopwithscrip. 40% goes to school and 60% to you. The Manna team can answer any questions on rebate progress, too.
- 42% of respondents asked for additional information to get started on [shopwithscrip.com](#). We are recommending using the site as much as possible therefore we will **hold and record a training session** focused on the following:
 - Basics of purchasing certifications to immediately load in your cart (ie: Amazon). Set it and forget it type approach without leaving your home.
 - Ordering local physical gift cards for pick up during Manna Hours.
 - Creating shopping lists, reminders and automatic orders on shopwithscrip.com to order Manna regularly without an extra step.
 - Pulling reports to monitor individual progress towards \$300 requirement.
- Thank you for your engagement. Our goal is to earn \$100,000 for the school if everyone reached the minimum requirement but if we make this an easy habit together, schools of our size can earn much more!

St. John Fisher Parish News

Pro Labore Dei continues to work for those in need in the Robbins, Blue Island and Posen areas. **October is a coat drive month!** In addition to the coat drive this month we are always accepting donations of food items/bags of groceries are collected in the church parking lot every Saturday morning from 10:30 am to 11 am and brought to the designated distribution site. We greatly appreciate the generosity of the SJF Community. As a guide, we suggest filling a bag with a variety of items with options for each meal such as:

- **Breakfast** - cereal, pancake mix, syrup
- **Lunch** -peanut butter, jelly, cheese, bread;
- **Dinner** - pasta, marinara, potato mix, hot dogs, canned vegetables, fruit
- **Dessert** - cookies, cake mixes, etc.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bridget Stalla, bridget.stalla@gmail.com.



Welcome back to Mass!

With much caution and preparation to keep all parishioners safe, St. John Fisher is open for **Mass** at **4 PM on Saturdays, 8 AM and 11 AM on Sundays, and 8:15 AM every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday.** **Confession** is also available every **Saturday 3 PM - 3:45 PM.** If you would like to sign up in advance for weekend Masses, you may call the rectory, 773-445-6565 or sign up online [here](#). While you are not required to sign up in advance, it helps us ensure enough space for all. We also ask that you familiarize yourself with the list of "What to Expect" Archdiocesan guidelines that can be found on our [SJF Parish Website](#).

Also, we are always looking for friendly volunteers to help greet people with hand sanitizer and help disinfect pews after Church. If you are interested, please sign up online [here](#) or call or email the rectory, sjfparishchicago@gmail.com.

Amazon Shoppers,

Please join us at AmazonSmile when completing your shopping orders. AmazonSmile can be used on both regular orders and Amazon Fresh orders. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases to St. John Fisher. Using AmazonSmile is at no cost to you! Instead of using the regular Amazon app or webpage, you will open up AmazonSmile instead 😊 Thank you for your support!

There are 3 EASY ways to remember Amazon Smile when making your purchase on Amazon.

1. To Shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You can add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to remember.

2.

Make it easier to return to smile.amazon.com by adding a shortcut to your phone's home screen



1. Tap the share icon at the bottom of this window.



2. Tap **Add to Home Screen**, and then tap **Add**.



3. Tap the new icon on your home screen to return at any time to smile.amazon.com.

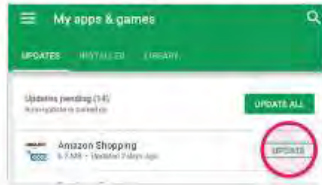
3.

AmazonSmile is now in the Amazon Shopping App

You can now support your favorite charity when you shop using the Amazon Shopping App on your Android device. See below for instructions to turn on AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping App.

Follow the steps attached below to add AmazonSmile in your Amazon Shopping App. This feature is coming very soon for iOS (Apple), stay tuned!

1 Make sure you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App



1. Open the Google Play Store
2. Tap the menu (≡)
3. Tap on My apps & games
4. Tap the Updates tab
5. Update the Amazon Shopping App

2 Open the Amazon Shopping App



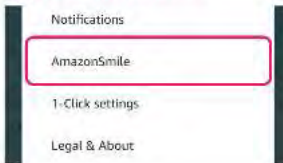
3 Tap in the main menu in the Amazon App



4 Tap Settings



5 Tap AmazonSmile



6 Follow the instructions on the screen to turn on AmazonSmile



7 All set! Tap the Start shopping button and support charity



Coming soon on iOS. Stay tuned!