



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School *Thankful Edition*

November 27, 2019

Dear SJF Families,

Thanksgiving break is upon us! Our St. John Fisher Community has so much to be grateful and thankful for this season. We are grateful for the support of all of our parents and guardians as we partner together to ensure bright, happy and successful futures for our children. We are grateful for the dedication of our hardworking and professional faculty who teach our children how to be good students and people each and every day. And we are grateful for our wonderful students who grace our lives each day with their presence, creative spirits, curiosity, sense of humor and desire to be good and kind kids.

As a school community we have accomplished so much this past trimester both in and out of the classroom. Please enjoy this special edition of *Notes from Mrs. Nash*, addressing some of the highlights of the year thus far. We have so much to be thankful for!

I hope you enjoy your break with your loved ones and bask in the warm feeling that Thanksgiving brings. As always, thank you so much for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically, St. John Fisher.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash



Important Announcements

- *Thank you to all of the parish and school organizations* who coordinated and organized events this past trimester: FSA, Holy Name Society, Women's Club, Girl Scouts, School Advisory Board & Athletics. We are truly grateful for your partnership and all of the time and effort you put forth into making our school community one like no other!
- *Thank you to the 6th grade families* who sponsored this month's teacher breakfast. We are grateful for your generosity!
- **St. John Fisher Garden Flags are FOR SALE - \$15!** Just in time for Christmas, flags are sold in the main office. Send \$15 in an envelope with your child to the office and we will send it home. Thank you for your generosity and support.
- **GET YOUR SJF SWAG!** Our online store has updated apparel (our new logo & the falcon) for kids and adults. **All orders placed by 12/6 are guaranteed delivery to your door for Christmas. And 5% of each order goes back to the FSA.** Get yours today and Flaunt that Fisher Pride!
https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/st-john-fisher-school?_k=sif3am
- **\$Manna News\$:** The holidays are upon us and so is **Holiday Shopping!** **Don't forget to use Manna** for all of your gift shopping needs! Give it as a gift or use it to purchase a gift! Whichever you choose, you will earn CASH BACK towards your next manna rebate. Any questions contact one of the manna ladies, sjfmanna@gmail.com
- Please join us for our **Thanksgiving Mass, hosted by our fabulous 5th grade, Thursday, November 28th @ 9am.**
- **Saturday, November 30th @ 9:30 AM in Rectory Basement,** we are making lunches for **Pro Labore Dei.** We are still looking for volunteers and donations of **200 treats, 200 chips & 8 cases (24 pk) of water.** **Thank you for your generosity!**
- **St. Nick's Family Mass** is this Sunday, December 1st @ 10am. Celebrate the first Sunday of Advent with us and join us in Kane Hall immediately following mass to make an advent wreath for your family.
- **DECEMBER 6th there is NO SCHOOL for STUDENTS** due to a Faculty Religious In-service. This day is not on the calendar; we apologize for the confusion!
- **December 15th:** We are looking for volunteer bakers for the **St. Lucy's Bake Sale** and volunteers to help with the **Cookies with Santa Event** after the 10am mass.
- **Please be careful driving and dropping off your children in the morning.** As the winter weather is upon us, many more students are getting rides to school. We recognize the congestion around the perimeter of the building and we understand many people are in a hurry. Please, please, please be patient and mindful of those around you. We are working to find a solution to this issue. **Thank you for driving slowly and safely on campus!**
- **Early Dropoff:** Please be mindful of dropping off your children too early during the inclement weather. Our extended day is always available to utilize throughout the week. Please let us know if you have questions. Thank you!
- **GOT MILK?** Our milk only option is now available for you to order for the entire year.
- **Don't forget to check your student's teacher blog @ www.sjfschool.net** for the latest and greatest information from your child's class. Feel free to reach out to your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.

- ***Forgotten student items:*** homework and lunches – please partner with us and resist the urge to drop off your students' forgotten items at school as we continue to encourage independence and accountability. Thank you so much for your cooperation!
- ***We invite and welcome your feedback.*** If you have a question regarding your child's education, **please reach out directly to your son or daughter's teacher.** If you need further support, contact Mrs. Larmon, clarmon@sjschool.net, Mrs. Carey, ncarey@sjschool.net, or Mrs. Nash mnash@sjschool.net. *We are so happy and grateful to partner with you in order to best serve your children!*

Peek at the Week

Wednesday, November 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Break Begins - NO SCHOOL!
Thursday, November 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please join us for Mass @ 9:00am, hosted by our fabulous 5th grade!
Friday, November 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Break
Saturday, November 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Break • The Boys Basketball Season Begins!
Sunday, December 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Break • <i>Join us for 10am Family Mass with St. Nick & Celebrate the 1st Sunday of Advent Together!</i> • Make your own Advent Wreath in Kane Hall after the 10am Mass
Monday, December 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes Resume
Tuesday, December 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSA Meeting in Kane Hall @ 7am • The Girls Volleyball Season Begins!



gobble 'til
YOU Wobble!
HAPPY TURKEY DAY!



FALCON OF THE WEEK

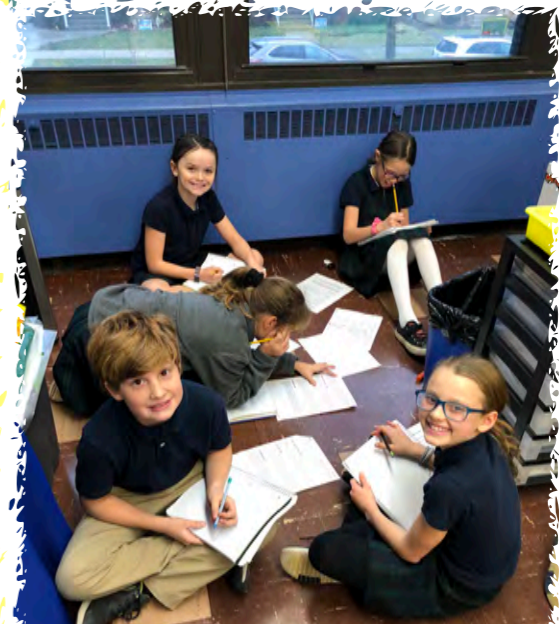
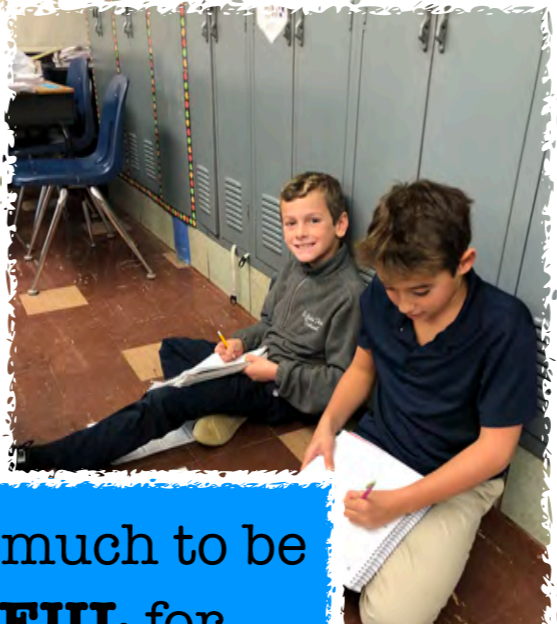
Annie O'Malley , Pre-school



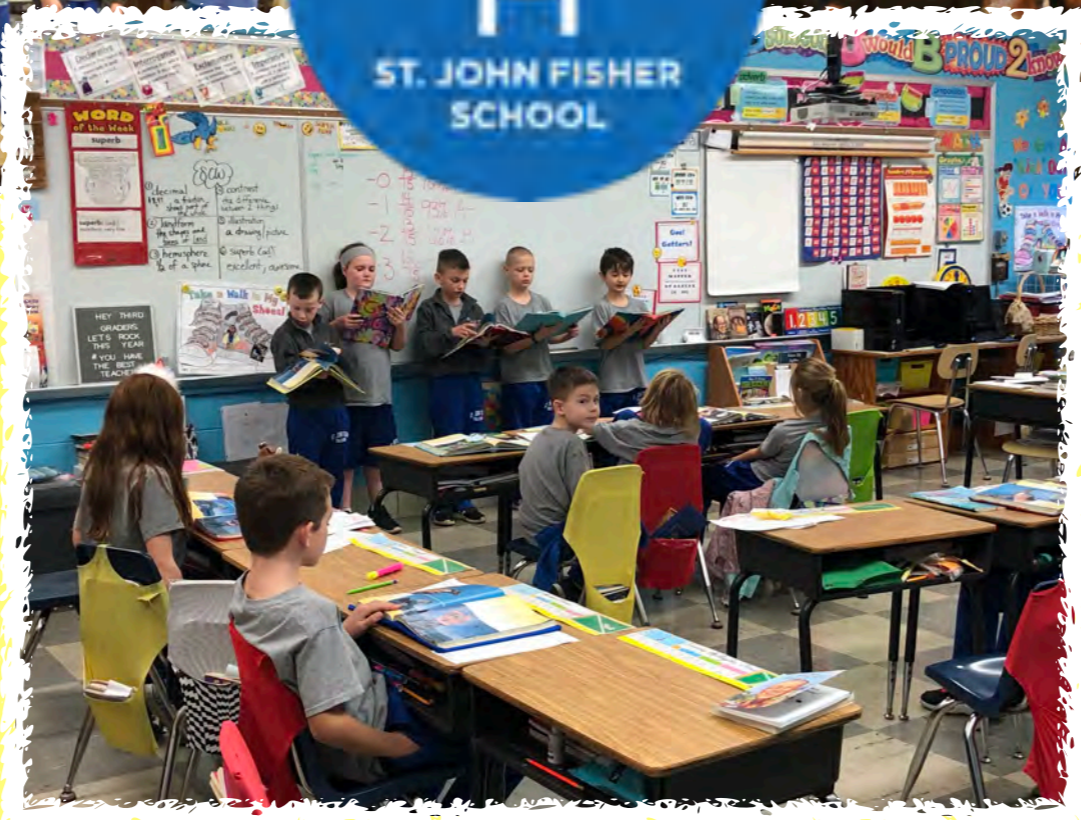
SJF's "Falcon of the Week" is pre-schooler, Annie O'Malley.

This year, 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 demonstrate each and every day. This week Annie O'Malley was nominated to be our "Falcon of the Week". When speaking with Annie's teachers, this is what they shared with me about our Falcon of

the Week: *Annie is such a kind, caring and sweet little girl. She truly goes above and beyond to help others and is empathetic towards the needs of others. At an age where it can easily be difficult to do so, Annie is always sharing with her classmates, taking turns, speaking kindly to others and showing genuine love and kindness in every action she makes. She is a hard worker and always tries her best, setting a great example for her classmates. Annie makes us so proud as she is a constant example of our Preschool goal to always be "loving and kind!" Kids at every age are teaching all of us lessons each day on how to be empathetic, sincere, thoughtful, genuine, loving and kind. Thank you for setting such a great example for us, Annie. Keep "Flying like a Falcon", Annie; you're making a difference!*



We have so much to be **THANKFUL** for at St. John Fisher!



SJF's Faculty...

- Has attended **12** different professional development opportunities.
- Has completed over **60** Danielson Evaluations.
- Has conducted over **25** peer observations.
- Has had **15** faculty meetings & PLC's.

READING IS FUN!

- In our Reading Intervention Program, **30** students showed growth with their word accuracy, reading comprehension & book level!
- 2nd - 6th grade have taken and passed **2,266** accelerated reader tests.
- **3,569** books have been checked out of the library since the beginning of school.

**1st Trimester at
St. John Fisher**

Religious Formation

- **324** students read in front of **592** students & teachers at **3** all-school masses, **1** prayer service & **2** Sunday masses.
- **26** 8th graders have lead the morning P.A. prayer and pledge.
- **67** 2nd graders & **74** 8th graders asked parishioners for prayers for their Communion & Confirmation.
- **138** students attended a spiritual retreat.
- **370** 3rd-8th graders received the Eucharist at all 3 All-School Masses as well as weekly at their classes' daily mass.

Social & Emotional Learning

Mrs. Carey...

- Conducted over **150** individual counseling meetings.
- Visited **34** classrooms introducing the counseling program & completed workshops on social media & bullying prevention.
- Completed **8** small therapeutic group sessions.



1st Trimester at St. John Fisher

Pre-K & Kindergarten...

- Made **122** new friends & became **official falcons!**
- Read over **500** stories & have said over **250** prayers together.
- Are identifying sounds & reading & writing letters.
- Recognize numbers up to **100!**
- Presented **6** different Halloween shows.
- Are becoming STEM experts!
- Put together over **100** puzzles.
- Have painted over **200** works of art.
- Answered over **122** questions of the day.
- Have seen over **100,000** smiles and this is just the beginning of a great year!





1st Trimester at St. John Fisher

First grade... has learned 70 new sight words, read for 640 silent minutes, is beginning to master addition facts, can read like first-graders, have made new friends, played & learned in countless centers, took a field trip to the Children's Farm & have made countless works of art!

Second grade... is working hard at reading independently and has read over 575 books so far and many many more to come, has learned the Act of Contrition, has begun to prepare for their First Holy Communion, learned how to read a map and study geography, has learned over 150 new sight and vocabulary words, and is continuing to build strong friendships!



1st Trimester at St. John Fisher School



- 3rd grade...
 - Is working diligently at mastering multiplication facts.
 - Tackled their first novels mastering character traits.
 - Took a ride on the Mayflower and wrote historical fiction.
 - Explored the life cycle of plants and animals.
 - Can identify continents and oceans on a map.
 - Loves studying the Gospel with their 6th grade prayer partners and mentors.
- 4th grade...
 - Created and analyzed multiple bar and line graphs.
 - Studied, analyzed and imitated **11** authors' mentor sentences.
 - Completed **7** writing pieces.
 - Counted hundreds of Rosary Beads praying for family, friends and neighbors.
 - Have mastered millions of multiplication facts and solved countless DOM's and word problems.



**1st Trimester
at
St. John Fisher**



5th & 6th Grade...

- Created **54** iMovies.
- Have completed **12** Labs.
- Have achieved **97%** of their AR goals reading over **500** books.
- Have completed over **375** book conferences.
- Are amazing and do lots of great things each and every day!



KINDNESS *matters*



1st Trimester at
St. John Fisher



7th & 8th Grade...

- Together attended a religious retreat at St. Rita High School.
- Composed **72** personal creeds stating their individual Catholic beliefs.
- Completed over **950** service hours to their school and community, modeling Jesus through their actions allowing other to see Jesus through them.
- Wrote **150** letters to soldiers stationed overseas.
- Have been awarded **2** grants to purchase new books for the junior high.
- Have created **22** different writing assignments.
- Analyzed **74** Primary Sources.
- Completed **15** labs.
- Scholastic Team has practiced/competed for **21** hours.



Girls Basketball , Football & Soccer Coordinators, Coaches & Volunteers,
we are grateful for your service!

Girls Basketball: Andy McGlynn - Megan Walsh & Matt Monaghan - Steve Scarsella, Mike Poppish & Terry O'Connor - Phil Sommerfeld & Chuch Volpentesta - Dan Peloquin, Gene White & Matt O'Shea - Mike Malloy & Tony Hall - Dave Cahill & Tim Harrigan - Matt Sheerin, Sean Slevin & Mike Madden - Dan Mueller & Scott Durkin - Lisa Barsch & Andy McGlynn - Michelle Moles & Kathy Carmody - Jim Budewitz & Christine Golden - Cara Gillian & Erin Mueller

Football: Mike Carroll - Mark Fennell, Jason Fennell, Jim Stalley, Randy Ashley, Mike Huguelet, Chris Schied - John Conroy, Tom Scanlan, Bob Rusch, T.J. Brady - Jim Reilly, Matt McNicholas, Dan Mann, Bill Lynch, Jack Reilly

Soccer: Molly Dooley & Julie Gavin - Mary Blake, Jim Stathis, Ryan O'Malley, Tom Warszalek, Jason Mikuzis, Joseph Stazzone, Jason Erwinski & Dave Cahill - Ron Kovacs, Jodie Berry, Morgan Gavin, Dawn Albrecht, Justin Dooley, Rany Ashley, Kelley Ciraulo & Ed Wiora - Michelle Roeder, JB DeTineo, Patrick McGinnis, Andy McGlynn, Pat O'Conner, Mary Winter, Mary Lyons, Jorge Bautista, Becky Dowling, Matt Ortell, Mal Lacy, George Liebertritt, Dan Moriarty, Jen Serpe, Katie Coci-Goto & Mike Ansier



180 Wins!



Congratulations to our *Girls Basketball Teams* who had *180 victories* this season!

- 8A, 5Blue & 5White teams all advanced to the semi-finals of the Southside Catholic Conference!
- 6A finished as the Southside Catholic Red Division Runners-up!
- 8A, 5Blue & 5White made it to the semi-finals in the South Suburban Basketball League!
- 4White made the semi-finals of the St. Christopher Halloween Tournament!
- All teams improved & played with heart & hustle and exhibited wonderful sportsmanship throughout the year!



12 WINS over all
three levels...
congratulations!



We are so proud of our Varsity Football Team - GOLD BALL CHAMPIONS!

Congratulations to our All-Conference Athletes:

Tommy Sloyan, Owen Winters & Tommy Sheerin

&

Owen Winters, Conner T. Lowry Award Winner

SJF Girl Scouts Make Apple Pies & Take On Brookfield Zoo!

- 125 Girl Scouts made apple pies from scratch after 10am mass on November 24th
- The third grade Girl Scouts Troop spent the day at Brookfield Zoo exploring learning about new animals and decorating a tree in honor of our school.
- *Happy Thanksgiving* from the SJF Girl Scouts!



St John Fisher FSA
Family Advent Wreath Event
Sunday, December 1, 2019
After 10 AM Mass (~11 AM – 1 PM)



Sunday, December 1st, St. Nick's Mass (10 AM), Christmas Toy/ Gift Drive starts!

Come celebrate the 1st Sunday of Advent with St. Nick!
Bring a wrapped toy for our Pro Labore Dei Toy Drive to give to St. Nick at the 10 AM Mass.



Please note on the "To/ From" tag appropriate age, and if applicable, gender to give to St. Nick to deliver! Pictures are welcome with St. Nick after Mass, and St. Nick will have a special treat for all kids. (Suggested age ranges: 0-2 years, 3-4 years, 5-8 years, 9-12 years, teen (gift cards welcome, such as McDonalds, Walgreens, Subway, CVS, AMC).



Giving tree benefiting Pro Labore Dei with suggested gift recipients will also be available in back of church to inspire your Christmas Spirit, due in rectory by 12/13. Email bridget.stalla@gmail.com or call Pam O'Mara (773) 612-0281 to help distribute on 12/14.



After the St. Nick's Mass, join us in Kane Hall to make your own fresh **evergreen Advent wreath** for your home. All supplies (including wreath, greens, candles, prayers) and refreshments will be provided; Christmas Spirit, too!

A limited number of wreaths are available, so please reserve yours today!

You can **prepay \$30** by cash, check to "St John Fisher FSA", or by Venmo or Zelle (email or text bridget.stalla@gmail.com/773-852-4698). Please send Form and payment to school office by Monday, 11/25 or to SJF Rectory by Wed., 11/27.

\$30 / Wreath pre-paid before 11/27

Or you can email (fsaatSJF@gmail.com) or / text (773-852-4698) your RSVP and pay at the door:

\$35/ Wreath paid at the door – CHECK OR CASH ONLY

To PRE-PAY return form to Rectory Office, School (11/26), or CFF Class no later than Wednesday, November 7, 2019.

Family Name _____ Email _____

of Wreaths _____ Phone _____



DECEMBER ETC

The St. John Fisher Enrichment and Tutorial Center (ETC) is an after-school program designed to offer students a wide variety of classes not normally covered in the regular curriculum. Classes are a fun way for friends to explore areas of interest.

The October session runs from December 9-18th. Classes meet in the designated classroom for the designated times. The cost is \$30.00 per class. Please return all registration and payment to the school office in an envelope clearly marked ETC by Thursday December 5th

Monday Class December 9 & 16 2:25-4:00

CHRISTMAS PARTY CRAFTS AND SNACKS

Ho Ho Ho! Let's get into the Holiday Spirit! This E.T.C. will be like going to a Christmas Party every week! We will make and enjoy special holiday SNACKS as we listen to Christmas music and make Christmas Crafts. If we have enough time we will end each class with a Christmas story. If you love Christmas as much as I do this E.T.C. is definitely for you. Merry Christmas!!!

Mrs. Altman

Pre K-3; Room 107

Tuesday Class December, 10 & 17 2:25-4:00

JINGLE MINGLE

Jingle, Jingle Come and Mingle! Join us for a fun filled Saturday! We will decorate some Christmas cookies and rock around the Christmas tree while singing some of our favorite Christmas carols. While mom and dad are busy doing some holiday shopping you can be an elf in training! Join us for good friends, good cheer it's the most wonderful time of year

Mrs. Altman

Pre K-4; Room 107



Wednesday Class December 11 & 18

Football Fun

Are you ready for some football? Who is your favorite team? Want to show off some of your favorite moves. This E.T.C. will be a blast! We will meet and play some football games. Please wear gym shoes because we will be in the GYM. The children will be grouped according to their age.

Mrs. Ade Room 217

Grades K -3rd Grade

Elves In Training Join the fun as we get ready for Christmas. We will sing carols, spread holiday cheer by making Christmas gifts for people we love. We will celebrate the last day with a Christmas party!

Mrs. Altman Room 107

Preschool – 3rd Grade

Registration for DECEMBER E.T.C. Please return by Thursday December 5th

Students Name_____

Allergies; please list all and if child carries an EPI Pen and or/inhaler

**If your child has a food allergy please send him/her with his/her own snack*

Child's Grade and Room #_____

Parent Signature_____Emergency Contact #_____

Monday Class December 9 & 16 2:25-4:00

_____ CHRISTMAS PARTY GAMES & SNACKS

Tuesday Class December 10& 17 2:25-4:00

_____ JINGLE MINGLE

Wednesday Class: December 11 & 18 2:25-4:00

_____ ELVES IN TRAINING

_____ FOOTBALL FUN





PIZZA SET UP FUNDRAISER

Redeem Vouchers at:
 S & T Provisions
 3804 W. 111th Street
 Chicago, IL.
 Open Mon - Sat 9am-6om



**FORM DUE
 DEC 11TH!**

Vouchers never expire! ~ Support SJF and shop local! ~ Save money!
 Set up vouchers are less expensive than walking in as a regular customer.

*3 CRUSTS TO CHOOSE FROM:

- (3) 12" crusts, (10) 7" crusts, or (3) gluten free crusts

*All set ups include: (1) pound of mozzarella, & a pint of homemade sauce!

Sausage set up includes 20oz of homemade pizza meat and pepperoni includes 1/2# of pepperoni. Use now or freeze for later!

THIN 12" (3 pizzas)	Price:	Qty:	Total
Cheese	\$ 12		
Sausage	\$ 15		
Pepperoni	\$ 15		
THIN 7" (10 pizzas)			
Cheese	\$ 14		
Sausage	\$ 17		
Pepperoni	\$ 17		
GLUTEN FREE 10" (3 pizzas)			
Cheese	\$ 17		
Sausage	\$ 19		
Pepperoni	\$ 19		
Totals:			

SJF

GARDEN FLAGS

FOR SALE

**GARDEN FLAGS ARE FOR
PURCHASE FOR \$15**

- **IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE, SEND
YOUR \$15 IN AN ENVELOPE WITH
YOUR STUDENT AND WE WILL SEND
IT HOME**

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT OF
OUR SCHOOL. FLAUNT THAT
FISHER PRIDE!***



St. John Fisher SWAG!

SJF'S ONLINE STORE HAS UPDATED APPAREL FOR KIDS AND ADULTS!

- **ALL ORDERS PLACED BY 12.6 ARE GUARANTEED DELIVERY TO YOUR DOOR BY CHRISTMAS.**
- **5% OF EACH ORDER GOES BACK TO THE FSA.**
- **[HTTPS://TEAMLOCKER.SQUADLOCKER.COM/#/LOCKERS/ST-JOHN-FISHER-SCHOOL?K=SIF3AM](https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/st-john-fisher-school?k=sif3am)**
- **FLAUNT THAT FISHER PRIDE TODAY!**

