



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

December 5, 2019

Dear SJF Families,

We are back into the swing of things after our well-deserved Thanksgiving break! The students have returned refreshed and ready to be challenged! Speaking of challenges, please join me in wishing our 8th graders the BEST OF LUCK this weekend as many of our students prepare to take the Catholic High School Entrance Exam this Saturday. Today we had our traditional blessing for the class of 2020 from our kindergarteners, 7th grade, junior high teachers, Fr. Ken and the SJF Leadership Team. Our kindergarteners made gift bags for the 8th graders filled with a prayer, pencils, and smarties and the 7th grade wrote letters of well-wishes to each 8th grade student. We are incredibly proud of our 8th grade students and know they will do their best on Saturday. You have sacrificed so much to get your children to this point. Thank you for all of the encouragement, love and support you have given your children, paving the way for their successful future. Thank you to our faculty and staff who have cultivated strong relationships with our students, enriching their lives and guiding them to become the best versions of themselves. We are confident that our students are well-prepared for this exam and are ready to take this important step toward their high school journey.

It is with a heavy heart that we learned of the great tragedies that took place this past week in the SJF Community and the St. Michael's Community of Orland Park. On Thanksgiving the Norris and D'Aguanno families lost their beloved son Carter. Yesterday St. Michael's lost their technology teacher, Margaret "Rone" Leja, in an accident following their parish Christmas party. Please keep Carter and Rone and their loved ones in your prayers.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash


Important Announcements

- *Congratulations* to *Norah Burke & Kevin Coyle*, winners of the **Southside Catholic Conference Christian Leadership Award!** We're so proud of you!
- *Congratulations* to *Sam Thomas & Olivia Urbon* for being selected to the **Southside Conference Girls Basketball All-Conference Team**; way to go!
- Many of our falcons competed in an **Irish Dance Competition** in Louisville, KY, over Thanksgiving break. Congrats to these amazing dancers for all of their accomplishments: *Emma Bogyo, Joey Perry, Mary Clare O'Connor, Sadie Riley, Grace Carmody, Maggie Carmody, Maura O'Hara, Ava Sheerin, Ella Callahan, Erin O'Neill, Erin Ashley, Grace Cahill, Alyson Cahill, Grace Harrigan, Molly Harrigan, Lizzie Gadzik, Sara Winters, Kaitlin Roney & Mary Kate Doherty!*
- We are **SO EXCITED** about **CHRISTMAS**:
 - 12.13: **Ugly Sweater Out of Uniform Day** (\$1 minimum donation per student, proceeds will buy the PADS shelter in Chicago Ridge boxes of hand warmers for the cold winter), **ALL SCHOOL Christmas Show & Classroom Door Decorating Contest**
 - 12.22: Enjoy your special **Christmas cookie treat** straight from Santa's Bakery!

- *Tis' the season for SJF's Pre-K and K Christmas Shows!* Both shows are on Wednesday, December 18th in the Church. The Pre-school show is @ 12 & the Kindergarten Nativity Performance is @ 1.
- **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 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!**
- **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@sjfschool.net, Mrs. Carey, ncarey@sjfschool.net, or Mrs. Nash mnash@sjfschool.net. *We are so happy and grateful to partner with you in order to best serve your children!*



Peek at the Week

Friday, December 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School! Teacher Religious Retreat • St. Nick's Day
Saturday, December 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic High School Entrance Exam Test Day – GOOD LUCK FALCONS! • Saturday ETC – Jingle Mingle with Mrs. Altman • Boys Basketball competes @ the Conner T. Lowry Gym 9-3:50 • 8th Grade 4pm Mass & Game Night in Kane Hall
Sunday, December 8 th	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please Join Us for Mass 4:00pm on Saturday, 8, 10, 12, & 5:30 on Sunday <i>The Feast of the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass</i>
Monday, December 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Feast of the Immaculate Conception</i> All-School Mass @ 1pm • Winter Sports Parent Meeting in Kane Hall @ 7pm
Tuesday, December 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework Club 2:30-3:00 • Art Club 2:30 – 3:30 • Adult & Children's Choir Concert @ 7pm in Church
Wednesday, December 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework Club 2:30-3:00
Thursday, December 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Falcons play group @ the Conner T. Lowry Gym 10:30-11:15 • Faculty Meeting @ 2:30 • Children's Choir Practice @ 3:45
Friday, December 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ugly Sweater Dress Down Day \$1 • All-School Christmas Show • Giving Tree Donations Due Today • Holy Name Society Toy Drive @ McNally's





FALCON OF THE WEEK

Marty Flynn, 7th grade



SJF's "Falcon of the Week" is 7th grader, Marty Flynn.

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 Marty Flynn was nominated to be our "Falcon of the Week". Throughout the year thus far, I have frequently heard great things about Marty Flynn. From parents and teachers alike, I have always heard that "Marty Flynn is a great kid

and someone you could count on". It was no surprise to me that Marty was nominated this week! Recently, Marty started leaving post-it notes in his desk for students in other classes who sit in his homeroom seat saying, "If you forgot your pen/pencil, you can borrow this one. Have a good day". This small gesture shows how kind Marty is. Marty is the first to hold a door for someone, volunteer and lend a helping hand to help out a friend, peer or teacher in class. He is also an excellent patrol guard who is beyond responsible. Marty takes this role seriously, making sure all of our falcons and their families are safe as they cross the street. Marty, we are lucky and proud that you are a falcon and grateful for the awesome example you set each and every day for all of us. Keep "Flying like a Falcon," Marty; you're making a difference!



ST. JOHN FISHER
SCHOOL

Eighth Grade Test Prayer

Dear God,
We praise and thank you
for all of our gifts and abilities.
Be with us as we take our test.
Give us courage and confidence,
sharp minds and sharp pencils.
Help us to remember that tests
give us the chance
to show what we know, and that,
through many years of learning,
we do know a lot.



Help us to remember that we are not
alone
because you are always with us and
guiding us in all things.
We pray for the wisdom, knowledge,
understanding, courage and peace
which your Spirit brings.
Be with us, we pray, on test day, and all
days. AMEN.



Fly Like a Falcon

Have courage and be confident! ~ December 2019~ Saint John Fisher

**Good Luck
8th Grade!**
*We're so proud
of you!*



St John Fisher 6th Grade Girl Scouts Volunteer Time at the Oak Lawn Ronald McDonald House

On Sunday, December 1st, St. John Fisher's 6th grade girl scouts prepped, cooked and served a wonderful, healthy lunch for the families at the Ronald McDonald House at Christ Advocate Children's Hospital. The girls did a great job working together as a team and making sure everything was ready on time. Way to make us proud girls!



Fa La La La La - Festive Falcon Friday!

S.O.A.R. wants you to get into the Christmas Spirit! On **Friday, December 13th** if students bring in at least a \$1 donation, they may wear an "Ugly" Christmas sweater or some favorite Christmas attire. Proceeds will go toward hand warmers for the Chicago Ridge Pads Shelter.

Let's get in the Christmas Spirit!





PIZZA SET UP FUNDRAISER

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



**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:			

Parish Events



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE, due Friday 12/13: Share the Spirit of Christmas with the people we serve with Pro Labore Dei in Robbins. Please bring a wrapped gift and mark on the Gift Tag/ Giving Tree Tag:

- Age (or size if applicable) and
- Gender (or Boy/ Girl/Man/ Woman)

Giving Tree Gift Tags are also available on the tree in the back of Church. Gift cards (min \$10) are welcome, such as McDonalds, Subway, Walgreens, CVS, Jewel.

Suggestions for Christmas gifts per grade (Clothes/ Coats/ Hats/ Glove, etc. also welcome):

Pre-School, K:

Kindergarten:

Grades 1, 2:

Grades 3, 4:

Grades 5, 6, 7, 8:

Toys for infants-

0-6 year olds

Books/ Toys for 5-8 year olds (also mittens and hats)

Books/Games for 9-12 year olds (also mittens and hats)

Gift Cards, Teen/Adult size clothes, hats and gloves, scarfs.

Send through school by **Thursday, Dec. 12th** or drop at the rectory by **Friday, Dec. 13th.**

You are welcome to attend the **giveaway on the 14th.** Details will be in the bulletin.

Call or email bridget.stalla@gmail.com or call Pam O'Mara at 773-612-0281 with questions.

Sat./Sun. 12/7-12/8 Bethlehem Wood Carvers will be in the School Foyer (next to church) after all Masses. Blest Art will be visiting our parish on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine; the Holy Land. Hand-carved nativity sets, statues, ornaments, crosses, rosaries and many other pieces of beautiful hand carved wood art are available.

Sun., 12/8 10 AM Mass, Children's Liturgy, children will bring up roses to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe

Mon. 12/9/19, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Masses, 6:30AM, 8:15AM, 1PM (all school) and 7PM.

FSA NEWS

Wed. 12/11, S&T Provisions Voucher! S&T Provisions Pizza setup voucher order due!
Please note your name, phone #, and Classroom to send home through.



Sun. 12/15, 11AM- 1PM, COOKIES WITH SANTA, We need HELP!

Can you buy supplies? Run and create a craft day of? Set up day before / help cleanup?

Please sign up to help by emailing fsa@sjschool.net or text/ call 773-852-4698.

Event is in Kane Hall, \$5 per kid/ max \$20 per family to attend, with photos with Santa offered by Blink of an Eye photography. (Google Doc signup forthcoming).

Other Opportunities to help with FSA, PLEASE HELP!:

To volunteer email. Fsa@sjschool.net or by calling or texting 773-852-4698.

- **Special Lunch coordination**, if you are willing to help with coordination, there will be a get together over Winter break to count forms/ work out tasks.
- **Saturday, 2/1, Father Daughter Dance**, Need volunteers to ensure this event takes place.

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!**





FUNDAMENTALS AND FUN!

FOR GRADES 1, 2 AND 3! • EVERY SATURDAY IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY!



LITTLE TYKES BASKETBALL 2020

SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY!

- Go to ckchicago.org
 - Click on School
 - Go to Athletics Tab
 - Click on Register for a Sport
- Go to Little Tykes Basketball [Click here to register](#)

REGISTRATION WILL BE **OCT. 28 THROUGH DEC. 13, 2019**

CHRIST THE KING GYM, 9235 S. HAMILTON

Questions? Matt.aguilarck@gmail.com