



SJBS WEEK AT A GLANCE

MARCH 19, 2018

Today we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph. This day commemorates the life of St. Joseph, the step-father of Jesus and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pope Pius IX proclaimed Saint Joseph the patron of the Universal Church in 1870. Having died in the "arms of Jesus and Mary" according to Catholic tradition, he is considered the model of the pious believer who receives grace at the moment of death, in other words, the patron of a happy death. He is the patron saint of workers, fathers, travelers, unborn children and immigrants.

Next week is the last week of the season of Lent and is at the center of our Catholic faith. We call this "Holy Week" because Jesus' public ministry culminates with His suffering, death and resurrection. During these solemn days, in our minds, hearts and with our whole being, try to prayerfully journey with Jesus, beginning with His entry into Jerusalem, moving forward and pausing to consider each event that took place on those days leading to His crucifixion and death, prior to His glorious resurrection.

Scripture scholars continue to debate the idea that we can follow a day-by-day journal of Jesus' last week. There *are* historical gaps, as well as somewhat different accounts and time frames that don't quite line up. Still, it is a great blessing to consider the Lord's last week and to walk with Him.

REGISTRATION

We have 24 Kindergarten registrations.

We are now accepting new applications for students wishing to enroll in the fall of 2018 in Grades Nursery through Grade 8. Students should be 5 by September 1st to attend kindergarten. Full time and part-time openings are available in our Nursery School program. If you would like more information, please go on our website and/or contact the school.

Registrations should be returned by March 30 for grades 1 – 8.

Grade 5 presenting the Stations of the Cross this week.
On March 23 Grade 8 will lead us with their own interpretations of the Stations of the Cross. If you are available, please join us. Stations will also be offered in the evening at 7:00 pm in the church.



Testimonial

My name is Connor Martins, and I'm a member of the graduated St. John the Baptist class of 2016. I experienced a truly fulfilling education that intertwined the fundamentals of our faith with those of our academics in a way that prepared us for high school, college, and a life after that. Thanks to the small student-to-teacher ratio, ours was an experience so much more than just reading, writing, memorizing, and assessing. Rather, we were immersed in and engaged by the work we did in and out of the classroom, frequently getting the time to have one-on-one sessions with our teachers for extra help or advice on any issue that might be of importance to us. In addition, lasting friendships were formed as we grew together in faith and intelligence, learning more about ourselves and each other every single day. We were blessed by the opportunity to attend mass every month and participate in the spiritually fulfilling adoration of our Lord Jesus Christ. We also learned the history of our faith and how those theological lessons could be applied to our daily lives, even when Old Testament stories might have seemed confusing or contradictory. The school did an excellent job of preparing me for the years of high school I would be a part of, which came across as intimidating and difficult. However, thanks to the wonderful and experienced teaching staff at St. John's, I was more than ready to take on the challenges of exams, heavy homework loads, and, perhaps the most difficult, balancing sports and academics while keeping God at the center of my life. Since I am now in a Catholic high school, I find it easy to draw from what I learned at St. John the Baptist for strength, knowledge, and adaptability. I believe such an education as the one provided by this school is remarkably helpful to the students because it not only teaches them literature, math, and science, but also guides them along the path of spiritual righteousness and into the arms of our Heavenly father. Without a Catholic experience like the one I had here, I fear that God may have not had such an impact on my lifestyle as he does today, which is something serious to consider when making a decision about your child's education. To give back

everything this school has given to me would be an incredibly difficult thing to do and is something I will pursue throughout my life and something that, with the help of God, I hope to accomplish. This school is sincerely dedicated to bettering the lives of its students.

CLASSROOM NEWS



Grade 7 is studying the Constitution. They looked through the Bill of Rights and discussed which right was most important, which was least important and should there be any additional rights today. They came up with some great ideas and shared them with their classmates!



Grade 8 students presenting their online safety presentation to the kindergartners.

SCHOOL AND CHURCH NEWS



Google Classroom

We are pleased to announce that thanks to generous funding from the Dias Family Foundation, the Lusitania Institute and LUSO Federal Credit Union, SJB School has invested in “Google Classroom”, an interactive educational program that is unique for an elementary school to offer.

Google Chromebooks have been purchased for our faculty who are training now to become proficient in all uses of Google Classroom so that it can be implemented for all of our students in the 2018-2019 school year.

Our students will be provided Google Chromebooks or Tablets by the fall of 2018. With Google Classroom, teachers can set up a digital classroom and be able to share assignments, announcements and questions with students and other teachers. They can create classes, distribute assignments, communicate and stay organized, all in one place. In addition, parents and guardians will be able to receive an email summary of their student’s work.

Google Classroom will give our students guided exposure to the digital world and empower them to become highly effective CREATORS of digital content, not just consumers.

IOWA’S/COGATS: Students in grades 3 – 7 are taking IOWAs this week. Please make every effort to have your child here on time in the morning as most of the tests will be given in the morning. Please also make sure the get in bed on time and have a good breakfast. Thank you.



The Student Council is hosting a baby supply drive for the Bethlehem House in Easthampton. The drive will take place now through April 2nd. Most needed items are clothing size 18m, 24m, and 2t, unscented diapers, unscented wipes and onesies. Clothing can be new or gently used.

They will also be hosting a bake sale on March 20 and 21 to raise money for Bethlehem House. If anyone is willing to bake, we would really appreciate it.
Thank you.

Save the Date

Save the date, Saturday, May 19th for our Warrior Obstacle Race

McDonald's Night- Thursday, March 28th

St. Elizabeth is offer a Penance Service on Wednesday, March 21st at 7:00 pm in the church. Students in grades 2 – 8 were able to go to confession on Thursday, March 15th. We thank Monsignor Gosselin, Fr. Bolton, Fr. McGonagle, Fr. Jack and Fr. Glover for taking time out of their busy schedules and hearing their confessions.



It's that time of year to start thinking about Career Day on Wednesday May 9, 2018, from 9am-12pm in the Pastoral Center. This will be a fun day for the students to be able to learn about different careers and start to think about their future. We are in need of volunteers to come and share with our students what your profession is all about. When we have the confirmation of the volunteers, the students will receive a list so they may ask questions. The

more careers the better! For more information or questions please contact Laura Murphy at lauramurphy79@charter.net or at the school 413-583-8550 between the hours of 10am and 1pm. I thank you in advance for your time and hope to see many of you there!

Lenten Giving

- During Lent we will continue to collect food for the Indian Orchard Survival Center Food Pantry
- 1 pound boxes/bags of rice for the Highland Elementary Food Pantry
- Canned Goods for our Take and Eat Program.
- Annual Catholic Appeal



If you are an AmeriGas customer please read this. AmeriGas will us give up to \$2000 per school year. All you have to do is turn into the school the receipt at the bottom of your bill. They give .02 per gallon purchased. If you know a business that uses AmeriGas or a friend or relative, ask them to save their receipt. I can turn them in at the end of the school year for reimbursement.



Please consider joining us for our Spring Toddler Bible Story Time on Tuesdays, March 6th - April 10th from 9:30 – 10:15, in the Elizabeth Room at the Pastoral Center. The ages would be

from 18 months to 3 years of age and their adult. If you are interested, please contact Catherine Reed at the 583-3467 or creed@stelizabethludlow.org to reserve your spot.

Tokens can be purchased on the following days: March 29 (Thursday); April 13; May 4, 18; June 1. Checks should be made out to Ludlow Food Service

MARRIAGE MINISTRY

Come celebrate your marriage on Saturday, April 14th. We invite you to mass at 4:00 pm with a special prayer and blessing. Afterwards enjoy a wonderful evening. Social hour begins at 5:15 and dinner and dance will follow. Please fill out the form and send it in by April 7th.



SOFTBALL AND TBALL/COACH PITCH INFORMATION

We still need students for Coach Pitch and Tball. We have enough students for one Tball team, but would like to split them into two teams. To do this, we would need a few more players. We are still in need of players for Coach Pitch and if we do not get any, we will have cancel that. If your child would like to play, please let me know and fill out a registration form, which can be found on our website or in church. Still in need of coaches as well.

Ludlow Softball Association offers teams in the 10U, 12U & 14U age groups. The fee to participate is \$125 for 10U & \$135 for 12U & 14U age groups. For additional information or to register by mail, please contact Barb Picard at bpic@charter.net or Regina Jasak at jasak21@charter.net.

FUNDRAISING



Please return the orders today. The pickup date will be March 28th. Order forms can also be found on the website under Fundraisers.

BIG Y EDUCATION EXPRESS: Big Y is announcing the return of the Big Y Education Express Program. The program started February 1st and will run through April 25, 2018. As an added incentive, shoppers will receive a Big Y Express Reward Gold Coin for every 500 Education points earned from February 1st through April 25th. Please link your Big Y Silver Savings Club card to our school through the MyBigY app or at BigY.com. Please sign up today! Thank you.



STOP AND SHOP: Our school is participating in the A+ School Rewards Program. Please register your card at Stop and Shop or online to help raise money for the school. You can either visit www.stopandshop.com and select Savings and Rewards and follow the prompts to create your account. You will need your 13 digit Stop and Shop card number and our school ID (05181) or if you do not know your card number you can call 1-877-366-2668 and choose option #1. If you registered last year, you do not need to register your card again. You can track the number of points you are earning for our school by checking your grocery receipt starting October 6, 2017 – March 15, 2018.

We continue to ask for your support with the Box Tops, Campbell UPCs, Ink Cartridges

We are collecting clean bottles and cans with deposits. They can be dropped off in the containers in the parking lot by the other side of the dumpster.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

GRADES 5 – 8 SPANISH CLUB: The students in grades 5 – 8 meet on Fridays from 2 – 3 pm.

GRADES 1 – 4 SPANISH CLUB: Spanish Club for grades 1 – 4 meets on Tuesday's from 2 – 3 pm.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS: Wednesday, from 2 – 3:30 for Grades 6, 7 and 8.

ART CLASSES: Thursdays 2:00 – 3:00 pm

SEWING: Fridays, 2:00 – 3:30 pm.

JUDO/JUTSU: Please talk to your child(ren) about joining the Judo class on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. They can come out and try it, and if they like it they can join. It runs from 2:00 – 3:00 pm.

MAD SCIENCE: Wednesday from 2 – 3 pm.

God bless,
Shelly Rose, Principal