



# SCHOOL NEWS

## St. John the Baptist Catholic School Newsletter

### Mark Your Calendar

- 1/2 - 4<sup>th</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Students will read at all weekend Masses
- 4 - Preschool Picture Day for PK3 T/Th and PK4 M-F.
- 5 - Preschool Picture Day for PK3 MWF and PK4 MWF.  
- Elementary Students will attend 9 am Mass for Ash Wednesday  
- No Subway Lunches
- 7 - Early Dismissals, Noon for Elementary and PK4 M-F/FD and 11:30 am for PK4 MWF and Little Angels at 2 pm  
- End of 2nd Trimester
- 8 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - First Penance, 10 am, Main Church
- 10 - Log Cabin Chocolate Sale Begins
- 11 - PTO Virtual Meeting at 4:15 pm
- 14 - Elementary School Report Cards Issued  
- Talent Show at 6:30 pm in Capitani Social Hall
- 16 - Children's Choir signs at 9 am Mass
- 18 - Spirit Night at Panera, 4-8pm
- 19 - Elementary Students will attend 9 am Mass for Feast of St. Joseph
- 25/26 - Vision Screening for PK3 & PK4
- 26 - Annual Online Auction Begins
- 28 - PTO Spirit Night at Laser Alleys
- 29 - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Retreat, 9:30 am to Noon at School
- 30 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Family Prayer Session after 11 am Mass
- 31 - Mission Day




The Holy Season of Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday. Elementary students will attend the 9 am Mass that day. On Tuesday, the students will be attending Stations of

the Cross on Friday afternoons. Remember also, that our Catholic faith has those 13 or older abstain from meat on Fridays, however, younger children can also abstain if you choose. Some students do get upset if they have meat on a Friday, knowing that in the Catholic faith, meat is not eaten on Fridays during Lent. We will let the students know it is not a sin to eat meat at their age and to eat the lunch packed for them.

Let's keep our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders in prayer as they received the sacrament of Reconciliation on March 8<sup>th</sup>. This is an important sacrament and so inspiring to see the children so reverently go to the confessional. It's also more inspiring to see all the parents who also receive the sacrament that day. May we all reflect this season and receive the sacrament of confession before Easter this year.

My hope is that each and every one of you feel the love of Jesus during this Lenten season and that your faith is strengthened or renewed. My prayers are for all of our school and parish families.



### Save the Dates

#### PK4 & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduations!

**St. John's 6<sup>th</sup> Grade - Friday, May 30, 2025**  
The celebration will start with Mass at 9 am and then continue in the Capitani Social Hall with brunch and awards.

**St. John's PK4 - Wednesday, May 21, 2025**  
The celebration will take place at 10 am in the Capitani Social Hall and last for about an hour.

## Virtue Award Winners Fortitude

The following students exemplified to others the meaning of **Fortitude** through their actions, words and behavior.

- K - Christopher Sliva
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Super Student
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Rachel Skirpan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Everly Antkowiak
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Reagan Wagner
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Olivia Marsteller
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Zachary Szymanik



# TALENT SHOW

Join us for St. John the Baptist Catholic School's 4th Annual Talent Show on Friday, March 14 at 6:30 pm in the Capitani Social Hall. Open seating and this is a free event.

### Student Lunches

### Reminder

Per page 13 of the 2024/2025 Parent Student Handbook: Lunch deliveries to the school students are not permitted from restaurants, Door Dash, Uber Eats, etc.

Your cooperation and adherence to this policy is appreciated.



### Log Cabin Chocolate Fundraiser Coming Soon

Easter candy and chocolate will be available for ordering from March 10 - March 28. The orders will arrive in time for Easter gifts and baskets. Flyers will come home soon!



### St. John's Spirit Night at Panera

March 18<sup>th</sup> is Spirit Night at the Panera from 4 pm to 8 pm. Panera is located at 98 Sofia Drive, New Freedom, PA 17349. This event is dine or pick-up. Be sure to let your server know you are there for St. John's Spirit Night. Flyers will come home soon! Use code FUND40 at online checkout, Panera App or kiosk in café.



## St. John's Annual Online Auction

St. John's annual online auction starts at 8 am on March 26<sup>th</sup> and ends at 8 pm on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The online auction offers hundreds of items for bid such as services, garden items, events, collectables, sports memorabilia, family outings, class baskets, adventures, entertainment, trips, home décor and much, much more! You may preview the assortment of items available by using link below. Item can be shipped, so share this link with your friends and family!

[www.tinyurl.com/SJBAuction2025](http://www.tinyurl.com/SJBAuction2025)

Donations are still being accepted!

If you have any questions, contact our Development Director, Sarah Shaffer, [sshaffer1@sjbnf.org](mailto:sshaffer1@sjbnf.org).



## St. John's PTO

### Volunteer Opportunities Available!

If you are badged there are spring lunch monitor, pretzel Tuesday, Good Shepherd assistant and Taco Thursday opportunities available. Please help and make a difference at our school for our staff and students!

<https://sjbnfpto.org/volunteer>

### Laser Alleys Spirit Day!

On Friday March 28th from 6-8pm. Join the fun with bowling and laser tag! Tickets must be purchased before Wednesday March 26th to attend!

<https://sjbnfpto.org/spirit-nights>

### Donuts With Dad

Sign-up is available now for Donuts with Dad attendees and volunteers! Thursday April 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8am-8:40am. Please sign-up for one day only. Dads or Grandfathers may attend with your student(s). Join us for donuts and refreshments! Students that take the bus will miss this event as it starts before drop-off.

<https://sjbnfpto.org/donuts-with-dad>

### PTO March Meeting

Thank you to the parents and staff that attended our Feb. meeting! Our participants from Feb.'s meeting will be eligible to win a small prize in our live raffle drawing at the next meeting. Our next virtual meeting is Tuesday, March 11 at 4:15 pm when we will discuss upcoming events.

### Connect With Us!

Facebook: @sjbnfpto

Website: [sjbnfpto.org](http://sjbnfpto.org)

Email: [pto@sjbnf.org](mailto:pto@sjbnf.org)



### Lenten Dinners

St. John's Knights of Columbus will host Lenten Dinners on the following Fridays during Lent:

**March 21<sup>st</sup> & April 4<sup>th</sup>**  
4 pm to 7 pm in Capitani Social Hall

The menu offers: catfish, salmon, fish sticks, mac & cheese, mozzarella sticks, and more!



**PK3 & PK4  
Vision  
Screening**



Vision Corps will be at our school to screen the PK3 & PK4 students on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

The screening process takes less than a minute. A Vision Corps/KidSight Packet opt out form will be sent home in early March with additional information.

### Library Help Needed

St. John's Library is in need of help on Fridays from 10 am - 3 pm. If you have your clearance badge and are able to volunteer your time, please contact the school office.



God of goodness and mercy,  
Hear my prayers as I begin  
this Lenten journey with you.  
Let me be honest with myself  
as I look into my heart and  
soul, noticing the times I  
turn away from you. Guide  
me as I humbly seek to  
repent and return to your  
love.