



CRUSADER CONNECTION



UPCOMING AT ST. JOE

December 18: AR Store
December 19: Extreme Christmas - 1pm Dismissal
December 22 - January 5: No School - Christmas Break
January 5: Mandatory Teacher Word Day
January 6: School Resumes for Students
January 9: Talent Show Forms Due



CELEBRATING CHRIST'S GIFT

Wishing you a Christmas filled with
peace, hope, and the light of Christ.

May His birth bring joy to your
heart and blessings to your home.

From all of us at St Joseph Ost:

Merry Christmas!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Katharine Drexel Walk in Sister's Shoes Campaign (WISS): The Walk in Sister's Shoes campaign is a Diocesan-wide fundraiser that encourages financial support from our own Catholic school community to help other local children receive a quality Catholic education. Across the Diocese, WISS will kick off on **January 6th, 2026**. We plan to continue our successful school-wide fundraising efforts from years past by offering "Two for \$2 Tuesdays!" Therefore, beginning **Tuesday, January 6th** and running through **March 2nd**, students will have two options for spirit dress each Tuesday (with the exception of Jan. 27th). They may wear jeans and a St. Joe spirit shirt to school for a \$1 donation to the St. Katharine Drexel Fund, or they may donate \$2 to be a little cozier in their sweat pants and St. Joe shirts!

CWS Talent Show Forms: While the Catholic Schools Week Talent Show won't be held until **Jan. 30th**, with Christmas Break, it will sneak up on us quickly! Please check out the attached Talent Show Entry Form for details. Feel free to print the form, and, if additional copies are needed, the students can stop by the office and pick them up. The deadline was Dec. 18th but we have very few forms turned in at this time. Therefore, **we are extending the deadline to Friday, Jan. 9th.**

Extreme Christmas Friday, Dec. 19th: To celebrate the end of the 1st semester, students are welcome to wear school appropriate Christmas shirts or green and red shirts with sweats to school (no pajamas!) **tomorrow Friday, Dec. 19th**. They may also wear Christmas hats, light up items, hair accessories, and/or jewelry but the accessories may not be worn until after Mass.

Dress Code Reminder: There's been so much growth this year, not only spiritually and academically, but also physically...and some of our student's uniforms are showing it. Please take the extended Christmas Break to look over your child's school uniform materials and assess if they are "up to snuff" in meeting our school's dress code. In particular, we're noticing some short skirts (hem must hit the top of the knee). If your child is in need of a uniform adjustment, please be sure to take advantage of the Christmas Break to make those changes. Thank you in advance!

Eligibility: All students participating in school sponsored activities who have a grade below a 70% in one or more core subjects (after consulting with their teachers) will be placed on the ineligibility list and will have his/her grades checked on a weekly basis. The student may be reinstated for eligibility after one week and when all of his/her grades have improved to at least a 70% or above.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! It is with a grateful heart that we would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We ask that you keep our staff and students in your prayers and know of our continued prayers for all of you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Youth Choir at St. Joe 4pm Mass: Students in grades 3-8 are invited to come sing for Christmas Eve Mass at St. Joe. If you are not a parishioner at St. Joe but plan to attend this Mass, your students are welcome to join us! If not, we highly encourage your students to participate in your home parish youth choirs - check your bulletins for details!



St. Joe, Ost Christmas Eve 4 pm Mass Youth Choir



OPEN FOR GRADES 3-8

**PRACTICE IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED ON SUNDAY
12/14 AFTER THE 9AM MASS (10-10:30AM)**

CONTACT THERESA KREMER IF ANY QUESTIONS
316-218-2793

CALLING ALL TALENTS!

The 2026 Talent Show will be on **Friday, January 30th.**
ARE YOU READY???

Prizes will be awarded to the top TWO scores in each of the following categories:

Best Musician

Most Unique

Funniest

Most Catholic Spirit

Bravest

Most Creative

Best Group

...and *new this year...*

one entry will win "BEST IN SHOW"!

Remember!

- Students may choose whether they want to perform their acts in person or by video.
 - Only the first FIVE video submissions will be accepted.
- Students may perform in only one solo act OR one group act (total of two acts).
EXCEPTION: Students involved in whole class acts are exempt from this rule.
- Acts must be NO MORE than 3 minutes in length.
- Lyrics, costumes and performances must be compliant with school policies and appropriate for all audiences.

Talent Show Entry Form – DUE to school office by THURS, DEC 18th

Student name(s) & grade(s): _____

Title of Act: _____

(This is how your act will be announced – make it fun! ©)

Describe your act: _____

Music Title, Artist, YouTube link, supplies needed, etc. (Please attach copy of piano accompaniment if necessary):

Parent Signature: _____ Parent Phone (for text): _____



ACTIVITIES

from this week



Mary on the Mantle:

In the month of December, Mary is placed in a classroom or common area of the school. There is an "act of kindness" in Mary's pouch, in which the students are encouraged to demonstrate. Please enjoy the example of when 5th grade found Mary in their classroom!



Preschool beanbag fun in PE class!



The 6th grade girls basketball team wrapped up their successful season this week. They had a great year, working hard and playing exceptionally well together! We're all very proud of their efforts and teamwork!



ACTIVITIES

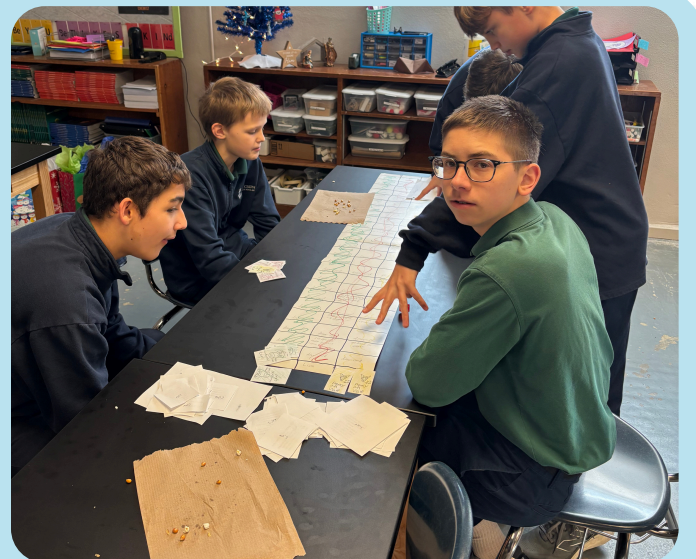
from this week



The 8th graders say by "the fireplace" in the Crusader Commons, sipping hot chocolate and reading A Christmas Carol. That should put us in the Christmas spirit.



Mrs. Charles read *The Crippled Lamb* to the second graders.



8th graders made board games to summarize their learnings on how genetics and environment play a part in animal survival!