

# PACK *Press*



St. Joseph School - Fullerton present and past (1869).

## Celebrating 150 Years

The 2019-2020 school year is a very special year for St. Joseph Church and School. We are celebrating 150 years on Belair Road! It all began on June 20, 1869, when the cornerstone of a two-room schoolhouse was blessed and laid. The schoolhouse was used for the celebration of Mass and other services

until the church was completed in 1870. St. Joseph Church was referred to as "The Church on the Hill" by the surrounding community.

In 1877, the first permanent Pastor, F.J. Miller, applied to the Institute of the Sisters of the

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PASTOR

Rev. Jesse L. Bolger

PRINCIPAL

Kenneth J. Pipkin

ASSISTANT  
PRINCIPAL

Christina Ashby

DIRECTOR OF  
MARKETING AND  
ADVANCEMENT

Francesca Troiano

ADVANCEMENT  
ASSOCIATES

Paula Beres

Angela Corno

LAYOUT/DESIGN

Andrea Edwards

MISSION  
STATEMENT

St. Joseph School educates children PreK-4 through eighth grade in the Catholic Tradition. Our mission is to provide a positive learning environment in which every child is challenged to develop his/her full potential: academically, spiritually, and morally.

St. Joseph School - Fullerton  
8416 Belair Road  
Baltimore, MD 21236  
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www.stjoeschool.org

## A Note from the Principal



There's an excitement in the air here at St. Joseph School - Fullerton as we celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As I reflect on what 150 years means to the St. Joseph School community, three words come to mind. The first word is community. Together a small group created a foundation for Catholic education here on this hill in Perry Hall. The second word is tradition. The founders of St. Joseph's created a tradition of providing students with a faith-filled education. The last word is excellence because in 2016 St. Joseph School was named a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence.

We cannot move forward without reflecting back on the past 150 years and thanking the founders and educators who have walked these halls before us. Their sense of community, tradition, and excellence brought us to where we are today. We look forward to another 150 years!

Blessings and Peace,

Kenneth J. Pipkin  
Principal



## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Graduates and Friends of St. Joseph School,

As we celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Joseph School, I am happy to announce that we have initiated a campus-wide master planning process with Hord Coplan Macht, Architects. We have gathered input from parish and school organizations, and we look forward to sharing with you the results of the master plan in early 2020. This master plan will be a road map for the future, setting a course for necessary capital improvements for the good of our entire parish community.

Since its founding, St. Joseph School has

had a single focus: forming students in the Catholic tradition - mind, body, and soul. We want St. Joseph School to continue this legacy of education and formation for the next 150 years. As we prepare to begin the season of Advent, a time of joyful expectation for the Nativity of the Lord, I hope you will stay connected with our church and school, for the future looks quite bright here on the hill.

God Bless,

Fr. Jesse L. Bolger  
Pastor

## Celebrating 150 Years

(continued from front page)

Third Order of St. Francis at Glen Riddle, Pennsylvania, for religious staff to help with the growing school. Soon after, a convent adjoining the school was erected. An article which appeared in the *Baltimore Sun* on Friday, September 19, 1879 tells us, "The cornerstone of a Sister's house and addition to the parochial school of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, on Belair Road, eight miles from Baltimore, was laid yesterday. The addition to the school building is to be 24 by 24 feet, two stories high, and built of wood. The school at present numbers about 80 pupils, and more will attend when the new buildings are completed."

St. Joseph's campus continued to change and grow throughout the years. The portion of the school building which was known as the Multi-Purpose Room and Supper Room was dedicated in 1925 and renovations were made in 1989. Four classrooms were added to the school building in 1931 and more additions were made in 1958. The new Church was dedicated on December 14, 1971. The addition which houses the school's current Multimedia center, two classrooms, and a mini-conference room was completed in 1982. The latest addition, the Parish Center adjoining the Rectory and School buildings, was completed in 2002.

Ms. Ann Amrhein, Parish Nurse and Church volunteer, has been an active parishioner since 1978. Her two sons attended St. Joseph School as well as her grandchildren. "It is great to see that the Church and

School are continuing to thrive and grow. There are so many activities and ministries for families to become a part of St. Joseph Church and School and it has been like this for many generations."

While the original School building and the original Church no longer exist, we celebrate this historic milestone with our St. Joseph community. On Friday, October 18, 2019, alumni, past parents, and

**"It is great to see that the Church and School are continuing to thrive and grow."**

friends of St. Joseph School gathered for a cocktail reception in our newly renovated Multimedia Center. During the evening, tours of the school building were also given for guests to see the recent changes in the building. State Senator and alumna, Kathy Klausmeier '64, presented Mr. Pipkin and Mrs. Ashby (current principal and assistant principal) with a Senate of Maryland Resolution which reads, "The Senate of Maryland offers sincerest congratulations to St. Joseph School - Fullerton in recognition of your 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Thank you for your continued commitment toward educating thousands of children across the Baltimore area."

## CURRENT STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Seventh grade student Claire Colon didn't have to look far to find an example of how to serve others. She has watched her father, George Wanga, become an active member of our parish and standing at his side, has seen the good that it can bring.

When Claire was in fifth grade, she began to serve with her father on Parish Clean Up Day. Since then, Claire has become active in her own right in our Parish AMPLIFY and IGNITE youth groups. Both groups perform many community service projects. She made blankets for sick children at the Ronald McDonald House, sang Christmas carols at a local nursing home, and made blessing bags for Johns Hopkins Hospital patients. Claire, at the young age of 12, is already inspiring others. "It always feels good to help others and now I get to inspire younger students to help others, too."

# Snapshots



Boy of the Year and Girl of the Year awarded to Brendan B. and Stephanie G. at our 8th grade graduation ceremony on June 3, 2019.



Our school community gathered to kick-off the Year to Lead.



Graduates from 1949 through 1998 were present at the Alumni Cocktail Event.



Students in grades 5-8 are learning to program drones and robots in our new Multimedia Center.



Students were excited to return on the first day of school on September 3, 2019.



State Senator, Kathy Klausmeier '64, presented a special Resolution in recognition of our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on October 18, 2019.



Alumni and past parents gathered for a cocktail reception and tours on October 18, 2019.

# What's Happening at St. Joseph: Back to Their Futures



Our Alumni Teachers (left to right): Colleen Glab Bates, Michelle Bandell Phebus, Tiffani Coster, Kristin Urbanski.

Imagine, as an adult, waking up in the morning, eating breakfast, grabbing your lunchbox and backpack, and heading out to school - the exact same school you attended as a child. This is reality for four of our St. Joseph School - Fullerton teachers: Michelle Bandell Phebus '06, Tiffani Coster '02, Colleen Glab Bates '91, and Kristin Urbanski '02. While their lunches may be more grown-up these days and they carry a cup of coffee in their free hand instead of a recess toy, we discovered their feelings about St. Joseph School - Fullerton haven't changed.

Kristin Urbanski has memories of being an extremely shy child yet feeling loved and understood by

her teachers here. "I remember showing up on Career Day in first grade dressed as an artist and hearing my Instructional Assistant, Mrs. Stultz, say, 'I knew you were going to be an artist today!' As shy

**“This school is on the leading edge of education in every sense of the word.”**

as I was, I loved that she knew that about me.” Tiffani Coster was not shy as a child and yet remembers

with fondness, “My teachers allowing me to speak my mind, ask lots of questions, and be the kind of person I was meant to be.” Michelle Bandell Phebus followed in the footsteps of her two sisters (Jaclyn '99 and Valerie '04) in attending St. Joseph School. She was also in a carpool with a handful of neighbors who were students here and her grandfather was a volunteer in the school Library. “It was as if my entire family and neighborhood got picked up and dropped off at St. Joseph School each morning. I was completely comfortable here.” Colleen Glab Bates started here in seventh grade but vividly remembers feeling like she belonged. “All the teachers were so kind to me and



Tiffani Coster (left) in elementary school.

all four noticed the technology updates throughout the building. “This school is on the leading edge of education in every sense of the word,” says Kristin. “The language arts and math groupings, robotics, forward thinking administration, and technological resources are all top notch.” Tiffani agrees, “This school continues to move forward at a pace that is preparing our students for their futures.”

As important as all these technological advances and up-to-date educational resources, there were other things, equally as important, that called these teachers back to St. Joseph School. Tiffani says, “The traditions I loved as a

the students were very welcoming, which doesn't always happen with a newcomer in middle school.”

What has changed at St. Joseph School - Fullerton? “There were nuns everywhere when I was a child,” said Colleen. Aside from the transition to lay teachers,

Michelle Bandell Phebus (right) with her sister, Valerie.



student have not changed. The 8th grade drive around, middle school dances, the uniform...it's like all these treasured memories were kept for me so that I could return to them someday.” Michelle remembers



Kristin Urbanski on her first day of first grade.

walking into an upgraded building when she interviewed for the Physical Education teacher position. “I hadn't been in the building for fifteen years so I noticed the upgrades immediately, but I also noticed that people were still taking care of each other here at St. Joseph School - Fullerton.” Colleen agrees and feels that too through her two daughters who attend here. “This comfortable safe place is where I wanted all of us to be. I know my girls will feel the way I did when they graduate - valued and appreciated.”

## SUPPORT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL - FULLERTON

Scan this code with your smartphone camera to make a gift today. Or go to [www.stjoeschool.org/giving/make-a-gift-today](http://www.stjoeschool.org/giving/make-a-gift-today). Your generous contribution truly makes a difference in the lives of our students and allows us to continually improve, inspire, and innovate. Thank you for your support!





ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL - FULLERTON

8416 Belair Road • Baltimore, MD 21236



# Where are you now?

## ALUMNI UPDATE

You and your family are an important part of our school community. Update your contact information so we can stay in touch. [www.stjoeschool.org/alumni/update](http://www.stjoeschool.org/alumni/update)

Our 2018-2019 Annual Giving Report is now available on our website. Thank you for your continued support!  
[www.stjoeschool.org/giving/annual-report](http://www.stjoeschool.org/giving/annual-report)

