

From the Principal's Desk

As we honor **Black History Month**, an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans, and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history, the following quote resonates with our goals of building a welcoming and inclusive community here on the St. Joseph campus. In his encyclical letter, *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis writes, "How wonderful would it be, even as we discover faraway planets to rediscover the needs of the brothers and sisters who orbit around us" (FT, 31). This quote speaks to the hope that we can "seek new ways to encounter each other as sisters and brothers of Christ to work for justice and be a source of healing and reconciliation" (USCCB).

This desire is driven by our Catholic faith, which recognizes that every child is made in the image and likeness of God, and all are asked to demonstrate respect for others in our commitment to establishing a just and caring society.

Dismissal:

Please remind your child(ren) to head to their cars and not "hang out" in the parking lot so we can dismiss safely and on time. Please also ensure that your child is safely inside your car (not hanging or leaning outside of it) upon dismissing.

High School Notification Timeline from the AOB:

This week, all 8th grade students in the area find out to which high schools they were accepted. The timeline below reflects AOB high schools and most independent high schools. Please note that some independent and public high schools may have different timelines.

- Wednesday, February 15: Admissions Notifications may be mailed no earlier than 12:00pm.
- Thursday, February 16: Admissions Notifications may be sent via email, phone, or personal delivery no earlier than 4:00pm. Notification of legacies in cases of rejection and waitlist decisions (legacies defined as siblings of current students and children of alumni) may be notified via a phone call only no earlier than 8:00am on Thursday, February 16.
- Friday, March 3: High School Registration Period Ends. If inclement weather compromises the March 3rd reply date, the Archdiocese will determine whether to extend the date to March 10.

The AOB recommends that we encourage families to take Thursday evening, February 16 to digest the acceptance decisions as a family. AOB high school admissions directors will have all day Friday, February 17 to talk with parents to answer questions and address concerns.

New Announcements



Discounted Hershey Park Tickets On Sale Now

A SWEET opportunity you don't want to miss! We can purchase discounted tickets for Hershey Park (valid April 2023 through January 2024). Tickets are at a significant discount of \$46.00 compared to the usual full-price admission tickets of \$85.80! Purchase tickets HERE by March 12th.

CANCELLED: Roller Skating on February 17

Thank you to those who signed up to volunteer. Unfortunately, we did not have enough volunteers to hold this event safely and successfully, requiring us to cancel the Roller Skating Event scheduled for February 17. We hope to bring this event back in the future, but we need the help of volunteers to make this and all HASA events possible.

Purchase Bingo Night Tickets by February 17

Join us for a fun night of Family BINGO on Friday, February 24 at 7:00pm. Cost is \$10 per person. Pizzas can be pre-purchased for \$10 (Cheese) and \$11 (Pepperoni). Extra bingo cards, dabbers, snacks, and drinks will be available. Every person needs a ticket to enter. Purchase tickets here by February 17.

In Need of Fleece Blanket Material

For its March service project, the Student Activities Club (SAC) will make hand-knotted fleece blankets to donate to the animals at a local animal shelter. If you have any fleece material you're willing to part with, we will happily accept it between now and March 17. Please send it into school labeled SAC. Thank you!

Important Dates

THURSDAY, 2/16

- Chick-fil-a Lunch (pre-orders only)
- High School Acceptance Notifications Emailed

FRIDAY, 2/17

- Half Day
- Spiritwear Day
- Last Day to Purchase Bingo Tickets

SATURDAY, 2/18

- NDP's Egg Drop Competition
- SJAA Bull Roast

MONDAY, 2/20

• No School/Presidents' Day

TUESDAY, 2/21

- Pizza Lunch (pre-orders only)
- 5th Gr. Field Trip to BizTown

WEDNESDAY, 2/22

- No Lunch Service (please send lunch with your child)
- Ash Wednesday
- Bill's Seafood Sale

THURSDAY, 2/23

• Chick-fil-a Lunch (pre-orders only)

FRIDAY, 2/24

- Deadline to complete '23-24 Tuition Agreement & setup FACTS Payment Plan
- HASA Bingo Night

TUESDAY, 2/28

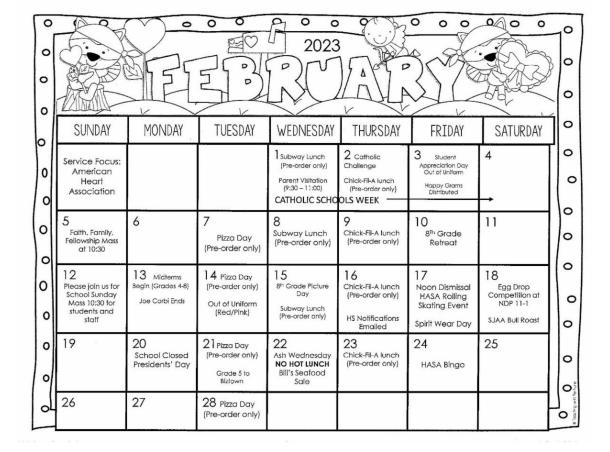
• Pizza Lunch (pre-orders only)

SAVE THE DATE!

- 3/3: No School/Professional Development Day
- 3/10: End of Trimester 2
- 3/17: Half Day

FULL YEAR CALENDAR

Click the calendar to view/print PDF:



ICYMI

Lenten Seafood Sale is February 22

Stop in Bill's Seafood on Ash Wednesday, February 22 to support the Lenten Seafood Sale. Mention you are with St. Joseph's and 10% of your purchase will benefit our church and school.

Boost Program in Maryland

The Boost Program in Maryland is funding that helps students afford private schools in the State of Maryland and *is currently at risk* of being voted on to reduce funds and phase out current funding Most recipients and tuition assistance have gone to Catholic school students. A fair estimate would be somewhere between \$25-30 million to Catholic school students statewide over the program's seven years, including the current school year. **Please help support this by doing one of the following:**

- Contact our Local Legislator Senator Katherine Klausmeier at https://p2a.co/FPoZSa0/legislator/5699
- **Sign up for the BOOST Action Network** through the BOOST Coalition at <u>marylandboost.org</u>. Sign up using this <u>link</u>.

Mother & Son Event is March 24

The Mother & Son Event will be held on Friday, March 24. We need volunteers to make this fun night a success. Please email Andrea Edwards at artisticpromo@yahoo.com to volunteer.

Around Campus





 Registration for Girls' Middle School Lacrosse is now open.

Parish Happenings C.L.O.W - Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held every Sunday at 10:30am Mass with contemporary music Women's Study The Catchism of the Catholic Church Every Friday except the 4th of the month from 7-8pm in the Parish Center lower room 2/3 Infants welcome Email tesslarenn@gmail.com for more info Ash Wednesday February 22nd 8:30am - School Mass 12pm - Prayer Service w/ Ashes 5pm - Mass 7pm - Mass

- Save the date for our upcoming

Lenten Family Mission with Fr. Stan Fortuna

March 6th - 8th at 7pm We will have break-out sessions

for the youth. All are welcome

Register Here.

 Bull Roast Tickets are still available. Click the image below to purchase.











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