



## A Message from Ms. Mallett

We were so happy to welcome the students back on Monday!

This year many precautions are being taken in order for us to have a healthy and safe school year. The reality of the coronavirus has been on our hearts and minds and it's been a challenge for all of us. In so many ways our lives have changed and we all have to learn how to live safely with this virus. The health and safety plans that we worked on during the summer are how we as a school can live with the reality of the coronavirus and have our students return to classes.

The safety of our students, faculty, and staff has been a top priority for administration and the Board of Trustees. We are so grateful and thankful for the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the CDC for all the guidance that is taking place. It has been a team effort for all of us to get ready for the school year. My message today is that it is going to need to be a team effort for us at Saint Joe's and that we are all on the same page, doing the same things that enable us to be safe.

We are excited to see and hear the students in the halls and classes. Many adjustments have been made and may need to be modified further as health and safety guidelines change. These adjustments are solely for our health and safety and are going to allow us to be together as a community. Again, we ask that we all stay on the same page and that we stay in communication with each other.

Our students showed us last spring how resilient they are and while this year will be different we know that with God's help we will all thrive. We are one school family and we care for each other and want the best for each other. I ask each member of our community to approach this year with a measure of patience and grace. We entrust this entire year to the intercessions of Saint Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

United with you in prayer for our school.  
Ms. Mallett



A huge thank you to Swift Kennedy and Associates and the Calistri family for purchasing two Saint Joseph's masks for each student, faculty, and staff!



## Athletic Updates & Information

For an update of our Winter athletics, go to [SJCASports.org](https://SJCASports.org)

SAINT JOSEPH'S  
WOLFPAK

Dear WolfPack Community,

It's been a great first week back to school. Our student-athletes have been active, responsible, and having fun with their teammates. We have an update regarding fall sports. The PIAA voted 25-5 in favor of moving forward with the start of Fall Sports as scheduled. Although this is an exciting news, there are still a number of questions to be answered. At this time, individual conferences/leagues and school boards will now have to make the final decisions as to if sports can proceed. For example, Harrisburg High School & Milton Hershey decided to opt out of fall sports. Other schools might follow. We are currently an independent school, thus, our schedules are dependent on other teams to play us. Therefore, our schedules are fluid and a final decision is still tentative regarding SJCA sports. At this time, we will continue to hold unofficial practices and I hope to have a definitive answer soon as to how SJCA will proceed.

If/when we do get back to sports/activities, please understand that the health and safety of your student-athlete is our priority. Therefore, we have health and safety plans in place for both returning to school as well as returning to play. Please visit <https://sjcasports.org/> for more information. All information can be found in the announcement section on the front page of the website. As information continues to update, we will be sure to keep you abreast of our current status. Thank you in advance for your understanding, patience, and cooperation as we continue to navigate our current circumstances.

### **Sports Physicals Reminder**

Please remember to schedule your physicals for the 2020-21 sports season. All forms need to be submitted and approved by the Athletic Trainer in order to begin participating. Please have your doctor complete section six of this [form](#).

### **Online Athlete Registration**

Something new this year is Online Athlete Registration. Please visit <https://sjcasports.org/main/otherad/contentID/52816921> to find out more information on how to register for the 2020-21 sports season. The Athlete Registration link can be found under the "Fan Zone" tab. Our hope is to streamline the process and we hope you will find this new tool beneficial. Please register your student-athlete today!

### **Fall Sports Meeting**

Due to the current guidelines, we will not meet for the traditional Fall Sports Meeting. A welcome back video will be sent soon and teams will meet separately. More details to follow soon.

**Back the Pack:** The Pack Athletics & Activities Committee (PAAC) meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm in room 204, all are welcome. More information can be found [here](#). We are always looking for volunteers to help with Fundraising, Concessions/Gate, Golf Outing, Musical Raffle, and more. Our meetings will start-up again soon. More information will be forthcoming.

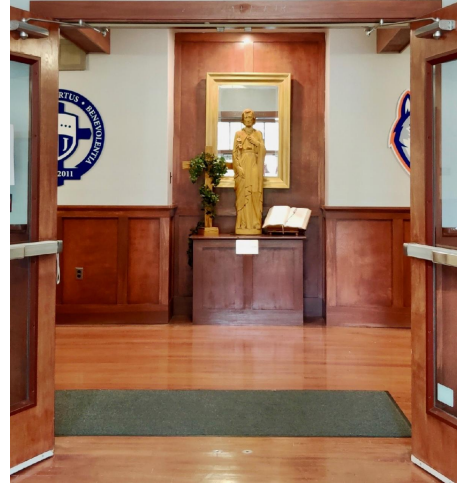
Our programs cannot be successful without your support. Thank you for all your time and efforts. We are looking forward to another exciting and successful 2020-21 campaign. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me [jrodkey@stjoeacad.org](mailto:jrodkey@stjoeacad.org).

Blessings & Go Wolfpack!  
Dr. Justin Rodkey, Director of Athletics & Activities

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## **Physical Updates!**

Saint Joe's continues to make updates to the campus. New televisions were mounted in The Robert and Alice Thomas Student Life Center and interior signs were installed throughout the main building.



## Development & Advancement

This month we focus on one of our key donor programs, the **Educational Improvement Tax Credit program**. This program is very important for us in maintaining and growing our ability to provide tuition assistance to St. Joseph's students. Here are the specifics about the program for the 2020 Tax Year:

Individuals or Businesses may designate their state taxes that are owed to the PA Dept. of Revenue to St. Joseph's Catholic Academy for tuition assistance.

### Who can participate?

- Individuals or businesses with a PA Tax Liability of at least \$3,500 may qualify to participate. See your 2019 Form PA-40 Line 12 for your PA Tax Liability amount.
- For individuals or couples (married filing jointly), one must work for a business, own a business or own stock in a company that does business in the state of Pennsylvania. Individuals may live outside of PA and still participate if they own such stock. You must have PA State Tax Liability.
- Retirees must own a small business (receive an annual K-1 form) or work for a business (receive and annual W-2 form) or own stock in a company that does business in the state of PA. Some retirees qualify due to side jobs or residual ownership of businesses and some do not. We can work with you to confirm



qualification status. Retirees may live outside of PA and still participate if they own stock in a company that does business in the state of Pennsylvania. You must have PA State Tax Liability.

#### Application Process and Recommended Timeline for the 2020 Tax Year:

- Communicate to *Susan Robinson Fruchtl, Director of Development & Advancement* at St. Joseph's Catholic Academy, that you would like to be an EITC Donor for St. Joseph's. Contact information is listed below.
- Complete the "Joinder" agreement form provided to you and return to Susan by **September 10, 2020**. Please **do not** send a check with the agreement form.
- Joinder will be forwarded to Tami Clark with the Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund (CPSF) by September 15, 2020.
- The CPSF will contact you via email if you have provided your email address when it receives your joinder agreement confirming it's receipt.
- Donor will receive a copy of the award letter from the Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) most likely in October when the CPSF has been notified it has been awarded tax credits. This communication will also include information regarding your approval as an EITC donor to the CPSF.
- You will then send your capital contribution directly to the Special Purpose Entity (SPE) as stated in the letter from DCED so it arrives by **the due date on the letter, typically November 15<sup>th</sup>**. \*Please note St. Joseph's Catholic Academy on the memo line of your check.
- Donor will receive the following tax documents from their partnership in the Special Purpose Entity in February/March 2021.
  - Schedule K-1 – indicates the members share in the SPE and used when filing Federal and State Income Tax Return.
  - PA Department of Revenue form 1123 for the SPE – this verifies that the tax credit exists for the SPE and the member's personal portion has been transferred to their Tax ID or Social Security Number when filing PA State Income Tax Return. \*\*This is a copy for your records, CPSF files these with the state for you.\*\*
- Donor (business or individual) will receive credit against your PA State Taxes for 90% of that amount each year you participate. This credit will be processed starting in July 2021. You should receive your tax credit by September/October of 2021.
- St. Joseph's Catholic Academy will receive 100% of the donor's contribution for tuition assistance.
- Susan will contact you about renewing your partnership for the 2021 tax year in the summer of 2021.

Contact Susan Robinson Fruchtl at [srobinson@sjcademy.org](mailto:srobinson@sjcademy.org)

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## Alumni Spotlight

By: Susan Robinson Fruchtl

Each month we will check in with some St. Joseph's Alumni and do a Q & A to spotlight their journey. Our spotlights this month are on Garrett Bastardi and Carrie Shearer. While their journeys are unique, the word community comes to mind as I have heard about their experiences. The community of St. Joe's is special and we hope you all feel that in your life.



Garrett Bastardi pictured with his sister, Jessie Bastardi.

### Garrett Bastardi – Class of 2015

#### 1. Talk a little about your college experience.

*I attend Penn State University and am working on two Undergrad Degrees: Political Science(BA) and Meteorology. I'm grateful to have been able to connect with the people I've met at PSU and also be involved with Christian Athletic groups that have helped expand my faith.*

#### 2. What are you currently doing from a career or education standpoint?

*I play golf professionally. I coach 3 different teams in two sports: 2 Basketball teams, one Jr. High and I assist with the SJCA boys basketball team. I also assist in coaching the golf team. I am working toward my degrees at school and desire to go into a business that forecasts the weather over a long range for golf course superintendents.*

#### 3. What are some of your favorite things you like to do in your personal time?

*I love sports and I love watching them, studying them, following recruiting stories or certain athletes. I*



Carrie Shearer is pictured at the NFL Women's Careers in Football Forum.

### Carrie Shearer – Class of 2015

#### 1. Talk a little about your college experience.

*· Attended Duquesne University to study Sports Marketing (major) + Sports Information and Media (minor)  
· My college experience was the perfect mixture of challenging, eye-opening and encouraging. I was lucky to meet friends and professors that really pushed me to get out of my comfort zone in getting involved on campus and investing in my interests. That was a big difference maker for me and definitely helped me to be in a career position that I can be proud of today!  
· The community at Duquesne really lends itself to encouraged involvement in the greater Pittsburgh-community, which allowed me to take advantage of a lot of great opportunities with Pittsburgh-based companies and hosted events. For example, I interned for a few years with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and was a part of the host-team for the Atlantic 10 Conference Women's Basketball Tournament and Championship. Both of those experiences allowed me to find my love for creating impactful experiences for others, centered around sport.*

*enjoy watching golf and I golf a lot with some friends. I love the weather, so I follow that a lot, I'll storm chase in my free time if there are some storms around. I just like finding things to keep me busy.*

**4. How did St. Joe's impact you and how are you using the things you learned at St. Joe's today?**

*It was a great experience in an important stage of my life. I had a lot of great influences as teachers that helped guide me down the path I was trying to create for myself and I think that's one of the more fundamentally important aspects of the school. The great teachers the school had in my 3 years at SJCA genuinely cared about my well-being...and those same people who are either still teaching at the school or have left, still reach out and still have a big impact on my life. The 4 pillars of the school also provided an important foundation for me going forward in life. Building my Faith, always learning and being a Scholar, being a great Leader for those around me, and Serving those around me in any fashion I can, is a great recipe for living a solid life as a Christian.*

**5. Any family updates or other updates you want to include.**

*My sister, Jessie, also a SJCA attendee, currently competes for Penn State gymnastics and has had a great first couple years of competing, including being an NCAA Finalist as a freshman.*

**6. What are you passionate about?**

*I'm passionate about giving my all on anything I'm competing at. Making the most of my God-given talents and making sure that any glory I can bring with those talents are given to the one who gave me them and that's my Lord Jesus. I'm also passionate about others and especially athletes understanding why they compete. In coaching, it's important to me that the*

**2. What are you currently doing from a career or education standpoint?**

*I just completed a postgraduate internship in Leadership Development at the NCAA National Office in June and am now working in a Leadership Programming, Events and Special Projects role for Women Leaders in College Sports in Kansas City. At Women Leaders, I get to use my strengths in brand strategy, communication and leadership theory to provide impactful learning, connection and mentorship opportunities for leaders in the athletics industry.*

**3. What are some of your favorite things you like to do in your personal time?**

*In my free time, I can usually be found working on my photography technique and studying new skills in the Adobe Suite! I'm grateful to have been able to incorporate that passion into my job at both the NCAA and now at Women Leaders; some of my work can even be found on the NCAA website! I also love cooking and have recently gotten into interior design.*

**4. How did St. Joe's impact you? And how are you using the things you learned at St. Joe's today?**

*Saint Joe's was a great environment for me to build a mindset of resilience that has served me to this day. The rigor of the curriculum allowed me to test the waters of my interests while challenging my capabilities. I grew tremendously throughout the process. At Saint Joe's there was a focus on developing the whole-person. That focus not only became a catalyst for my work in college athletics now as a leadership development professional, but a firm foundation for a lifelong career as someone looking to do meaningful work in an industry that centers around community and competition.*

**5. What are you passionate about?**

*kids are grateful for the opportunities given to them. If you play and compete with gratitude, then you're freed up as a competitor and you can reach your potential. The same goes for school or work. If you love what you're doing, be grateful for it, and do it with joy.*

**7. One of your favorite quotes or Bible verses:**

*Ephesians 1:11-12- "In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of His glory."*

*I believe that community is the most powerful tool at society's disposal. And in my experience, community specifically in sport is a unique and dynamic place where people become encouragers, champions and unwavering supporters of others that is rarely found elsewhere. Finding new avenues to welcome people into that environment in a way that leaves people better than we found them and improves the quality of their experiences, is something I'm passionate about.*

**6. One of your favorite quotes or Bible verses:**

*Psalm 94:19 – "When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy."*

*Quote: "Courage, dear heart." -C.S. Lewis*

## How Can You Help?

During this health crisis Amazon Smile is still helping non profits and putting a smile on our faces. As you are shopping for supplies please consider using Amazon Smile for your purchases and continue to help Saint Joe's.

  
**You shop. Amazon gives.**

The money that is raised helps the school cover the costs for cleaning, repairs, and technology expenses associated with this crisis.

Would you be willing to help? First, sign up yourself! Then, send this note to your friends and family and ask them to participate with us.

### **Signing up is easy!**

AmazonSmile is a way for families and friends to support your Saint Joe's every time you shop with Amazon. Shoppers who start at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) will find the same **Amazon** they know and love, with the added bonus that **Amazon** will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases to Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy.

Here's how to shop **AmazonSmile**:

1. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials.
3. Choose a "**St Josephs Catholic Academy**"
4. Select **St Josephs Catholic Academy Inc.**
4. Start shopping!
5. Add a bookmark for [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.



Enrichment Days offer Saint Joseph's students an opportunity to live out the Four Pillars—Faith, Scholarship, Leadership and Service—through full-day activities designed to provide learning experiences extending beyond the classroom. Students participated in a Faith retreat as fulfillment of the Faith pillar.

A group from the Jesuit Spiritual Center in Milford, Ohio led a retreat titled "A Community Restored." Students engaged in break-out activities focusing on teamwork, relationships, communication, and more!



## Our Humanity, Our Brokenness, and Our Longing for Affirmation

By Father Jonathan

In last month's newsletter I argued that creating an environment where our students could grow into better human beings is essential to the mission of St. Joseph's. Human formation is also foundational to all Christian spirituality. Spiritual growth and human growth are never mutually exclusive. If I am growing spiritually then I am also growing as a human. My true humanity is precisely how God created me and it informs my relationship with those around me. And while it is nice to talk about human and spiritual growth, we all run the risk of never approaching our full human potential because of our failure to address our own brokenness, or our own woundedness. This has nothing to do with a positive attitude, self-help, becoming a better professional, or even honing our professional skills. But, it has everything to do with addressing the fact that we are all broken in some way.



We are fired into this world by the breath of God and born in his image and likeness. As infants we lie in the arms of our parents and we are potential personified. We are truly human in every sense of the word. We are entirely affirmed and we are loved by God. But before long, our affirmation and love become increasingly dependent on those around us. We have all heard of the psychological and physiological studies that demonstrate how rapidly infants decline in health when they don't receive affection. In our infancy, this radical dependence on the nurturing love of those around is not our choosing. It is essential to our survival. But, before we know it we enter into our

developmental years and to one degree or another affirmation and love become something that we now seek out. We learn early on that we have some control over the affirmation that we receive, and we act accordingly while never realizing that what we are really pursuing is false affirmation.

[Read More](#)



Students, faculty, and staff celebrated the first all-school Mass on August 20th. Father Jonathan started a new school tradition by blessing all of the Bibles of the freshmen.

## Important Dates

### Out of Uniform Day

August 28th

Joseph's Fund \$3

### Picture Day

August 31st

### Labor Day

September 7th

No School

### PAC Meeting

September 10th

6:30 p.m.

Room 204

### Out of Uniform Day

September 25th

Joseph's Fund \$3

## Athletic Events

Go to [SJCASports.org](https://SJCASports.org) for an athletic schedule.

