



A Message from Ms. Mallett

Dear Saint Joe's Community,

Over the past several weeks, we continue to define our school plans to maintain safe in-person instruction. Our health and safety committee regularly reviews and evaluates these plans to reduce risk to our school community.

While we must follow the guidance issued by the PA Department of Health, CDC and Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, we remain confident that the qualities that make Saint Joe's so special, from our personalized approach to learning and our intimate class sizes, place us in an optimal position to continue the mission of educating our students to be faithful, learn, lead, and serve no matter what the future holds.

Our team has implemented a variety of modifications to assist in safeguarding our school community's health and well-being including the following:

- Students are required to complete a COVID-19 Health Survey at the beginning of each week, daily prior to athletic practices and competitions, and upon return from any school break. These responses are kept confidential and will only prompt a private follow-up if a risk is identified.
- Face masks/shields are required. Students are given the opportunity throughout the day to have short breaks from wearing face masks/shields with teacher supervision and keeping to social distancing guidelines.

Preventive safety measures:

- Visitors are restricted to ensure that exposure risks are minimized
- Social distancing: Six feet of distance must be maintained at all times. In instances where this distance may not be feasible, face masks/shields or coverings will be required. Additionally, group gatherings, including events and meetings, are

- encouraged to be held virtually.
- Necessary in-person gatherings may not exceed size restrictions provided by state guidelines, which may evolve and will be monitored and updated as needed. Virtual meetings and events are encouraged.
- Face masks/shields must be worn by all individuals on campus, in the presence of others and in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., common workspaces, meeting rooms, classrooms, hallways, lobbies, etc.).
- Hygiene guidelines: Hand washing, sanitizer stations and frequent disinfecting of campus spaces will remain critical components of our school health and safety plan.
- Maintenance routines include enhanced daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols have been established based on CDC and Pennsylvania State Department of Health guidelines. Cleanings take place with increased frequency for classrooms, common areas, high-touch surfaces, offices and workspaces.
- Precautionary tracking: The school will work with the Department of Health and the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, which will provide the guidance and protocols, minimizing the risk of any rapid spread of illness. In the event that a positive case of COVID-19 surfaces within our community, timely notification and immediate self-quarantine of those exposed to the virus will be required. In accordance with health privacy laws, only potentially exposed individuals will be contacted as needed.

Modifications to the Cafeteria:

- To ensure social distancing, we have adjusted our cafeteria services to accommodate enhanced serving options and socially distant seating. These include:
 - Redesigned seating layouts and capacity restrictions
 - Increased grab-and-go options
 - Cleaning and sanitizing of tables and chairs after each use

In addition, the following can be expected:

- Our Maintenance team are maintaining hand sanitizer stations at building entrances, stairways, and high-traffic areas.
- All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to wipe down commonly used surfaces before individual use with readily available products that meet the Environmental Protection Agency's criteria for use against COVID-19 and are appropriate for the surface.

Things You'll Notice:

You'll notice a number of changes designed to protect the health of our school. We have implemented the following adjustments this fall:

- Signage to help everyone follow social distancing protocols and wearing masks/shields.
- One-way directional signage in stairways, to minimize close contact in confined spaces, at select locations.
- Hand sanitizer is readily available
- Important safety signage, to remind our community of recommended hygiene practices and the importance of symptom checking

Personal Responsibility for the Community:

These changes require difficult but necessary adjustments in personal behavior and responsibility. The policies shared here help us maintain a safe learning and working environment for all students and employees.

We expect all community members to:

- Wear a face mask/shield at all times when in public spaces and unable to maintain social distancing from others.
- Maintain physical social distancing of six feet or more, whenever possible.
- Wash hands frequently and thoroughly.
- Ensure regular use of hand sanitizer in between hand washings.
- Cover one's mouth and nose if coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid participation in gatherings larger than stated guidelines and where social

distancing cannot be maintained.

- Stay home if you are not feeling well.
- Honestly and truthfully complete health assessments.

In order to ensure the safeguarding of our health and that of all our Saint Joe's community members, it is up to each of us to engage in appropriate health and safety measures. We monitor the guidelines and regulations from the PA Department of Health and CDC daily and are in communication with the Board of Trustees about these protocols and adjust our plans when needed. Our plans are posted on the school website and are also updated regularly according to requirements by the PA Department of Health.

If you reside in the State College Area School District bus transportation will continue to be provided for your students.

As we adapt to this new reality, we will continue to take thoughtful and proactive measures for health and safety. If for medical reasons you need additional considerations, please reach out to me to discuss what virtual options for instruction are appropriate for you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mallett



Athletic Updates & Information

For an update of our Winter athletics, go to SJCASports.org



Dear WolfPack Community,

The WolfPack is excited to be back in action. Teams have worked hard during the off-season, welcomed many newcomers to our teams, followed safety protocols, and the fall season is rolling along.

Fall Sports Preview

The Boys Cross Country team is coming off their best state finish in program history. Key returners: Jonah Clark, Asa Reynolds, and Josh Hyman. The Girls team looks to defend their 2019 state championship. Key returners: Camryn Eby, Kathleen Simander, Kate Youngmark, Brandi Carmack, and Kita Chappell.

The Golf team is looking to build off of their strong finish from last year's campaign. Their goal is to return to districts after a year hiatus. Key returners: Nathan Cross, Brendan Scanlon, Noah Straub, Dmitri Cornali, Timothy Peters, and Brigid Scanlon.

On the pitch, Boys and Girls Soccer look to get back to playoff form. A talented group led by Jonah Clark (Striker), Isaac Bevilacqua (Goal Keeper), Spencer Gigante (Defender), and Luke Surovec (Winger), aim for another district run. The Girls team looks to earn a third

straight trip to the playoffs. This talented group is led by Clare Marsh (Forward), Asia Heinz (Forward), Erin Hulburt (Midfielder), Riley Marflak (Defender), Mallory McCauley (Midfielder), Lauren Ott (Defender), Natalie Page (Defender), and Taylor Wright (Midfield).

On the hardwood, the Girls Volleyball team has their sights set on making it to district playoffs for the third straight season as well. Key returners: Morgan Wolf (Middle/Outside Hitter), Kathleen Haris (Outside Hitter), and Maddi Mazza (Middle Hitter).

Keep Up-To-Date

Please remember that www.SJCAsports.org is the "one stop shop" for all things sports and activities. Announcements, schedules, online registration, travel information, links to social media, and more can be found here.

Fall Sports Meeting

A Q & A session was held and a link to the Zoom meeting was shared via parent e-mail. We covered athletic training protocols, eligibility rules, dress apparel for game days, Back the Pack, league application, transportation policy, volunteer help, and other changes/updates. Please take time to watch this video as it contains important information.

Back the Pack: The Pack Athletics & Activities Committee (PAAC) usually meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm in room 204, all are welcome. More information can be found here <https://sjcasports.org/main/boosters/>. We are always looking for volunteers to help with Fundraising, Concessions/Gate, Golf Outing, Musical Raffle, and more. The group is currently on hiatus due to Covid-19 guidelines but hope that our meetings will start-up again soon.

Our programs cannot be successful without your support. Thank you for all your time and efforts. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me jrodkey@stjoeacad.org

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

September Athletic Recap

The following athletic recap was written by Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy's Fellowship of Christian Athletes student members.



Volleyball started off their season with a 3-1 victory vs Sugar Valley. The volleyball team will look to continue improving on the season with upcoming matches against Central Mountain high School (9/24), East Juniata High School (9/28), and Williamsburg High School (9/30).

Boys soccer got off to a rocky start in their first games of the season, falling to Northumberland 4-0, Juniata 3-2, Philipsburg Osceola Area High School 0-1, and Mount Union Area High School 2-3. The

boys will finish out the month of September with a match against Juniata Mennonite School (9/26).



Girls soccer got off to a tough start with a loss to Northumberland before bouncing back with a 2-0 win to Juniata Mennonite School. Clare Marsh scored both of the goals in the win. The team tied against United in their next match and lost to Moshannon Valley High School 2-4 on 9/22/20. The girls are back in action this month against West Branch High School (9/24/20).

The cross country team traveled to White Oak Park for the Red, White, and Blue Classic.

The boys put together a strong effort by placing four runners in the top thirty to earn fourth place overall. They were led by the medal-winning efforts of Jonah Clark (11th), Colin Simander (15th), and Josh Hyman (18th) and followed closely by Asa Reynolds (27th), Anthony Woomer (59th), Ben Eby (60th), and Colten Woomer (89th).



The girls opened their season with a win at the Red, White, and Blue Classic held in White Oak Park. They placed six runners in the top 30 to out-distance the field. Kathleen Simander (4th), Brandi Carmack (6th), Camryn Eby (11th), Evy Reynolds (13th), and Amber Fisher (15th) earned medals for their efforts. Kate Youngmark (27th), Kita Chappell (40th), and Brigid Scanlon (57th) closed out the scoring for the Wolfpack.

The WolfPack will be back in action next Saturday (9/26) at the 14th Annual PIAA Foundation Invite in Hershey, PA.



Golf started their season off strong, winning two of their first three matches. The golf team is improving every match and is looking to continue their successful start to the season. Check out sjcasports.org to follow our golfers as they compete in the District VI Individual Championships on 9/29/20

Development & Advancement

The Importance of Our Annual Fund

This month we are sharing information with you about our Annual Fund which is called our Joseph's Fund. The annual fund is the key development process that we will undertake each year. Contributing to our Joseph's Fund will become the foundation for all development dollars that come into the school. Currently we are planning our first annual fund appeal in November/December. We will begin promoting this appeal in October/November so please look for information then. We will be asking for three things from you during this year:

- Prayers
- Gifts of involvement, service, talent, wisdom, and expertise
- Gifts of financial participation



Please consider making a gift to our Joseph's Fund. Contact Susan at srobinson@stjoeacad.org to see how you can make a contribution that will pay countless dividends for our students.

EITC Donor Program – Time is running out to participate in the 2020 Tax Year! You can take advantage of a tremendous Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program to support Saint Joseph's. Becoming an EITC Donor benefits both you and our school. You can receive a 90% tax credit by being an EITC donor and

provide tuition assistance to Saint Joseph's students!

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 may own a small business (receive an annual K-1 form) or work for a business (receive an 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.

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 Audrey Thomas and Charles Ross. Thanks to Audrey and Charles for sharing about their journeys and how Saint Joe's has impacted them. They are great examples utilizing their St. Joe's experience and integrating it into doing awesome things in their education and future careers.



Pictured here is Audrey on the first day of her third year which begins the professional phase of her program.

Audrey Thomas – Class of 2017

1. Talk a little about your college experience.



Pictured here is Charles holding his senior thesis after successfully defending it.

Charles Ross – Class of 2016

1. Talk a little about your college experience.

I went to Allegheny College where I

I am attending The Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, NY. I am in a five-year accelerated Physician Assistant Program and minoring in Exercise Science. At completion of the 5-year program, I will graduate with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies. I will graduate in May 2022 and then will sit for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) before I will be able to practice as a PA. One of my favorite things about my college experience includes being able to get hands on experiences in the hospital with patients practicing the skills I have been working on for so long. Additionally, I have enjoyed being able to broaden my horizons, experience a new place and meet incredible people.

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

I am currently in my last year of classes before I start my clinical rotations. In May 2021, I will receive my short white coat, indicating that I am a practicing Physician Assistant Student (PA-S). I will then complete 10 different 5-week rotations in varying medical specialties in the Rochester and, hopefully, State College areas. After successful completion of these rotations, I will graduate in May of 2022 with my Bachelor's and Master's in Physician Assistant Studies and receive my long white coat indicating that I will be a Certified Physician Assistant (PA-C) after passing the PANCE.

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

The fall of my freshman year (2017), I joined Zeta Tau Alpha (ZTA) which is one of the 5 sororities on RIT's campus. During my time in Zeta, I have met some of the most incredible people and those that will be lifelong friends. In my free time, I enjoy getting more involved within my sorority and exploring the Rochester

graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Arts in Community and Justice Studies with a focus in multicultural education. I also double minored in Educational Studies and Theater. What I most enjoyed about Allegheny was that it was a small school that allowed me to be active on campus, play football for all four years, and thrive as a student. In addition, I enjoyed the family atmosphere that I experienced during my time there and the extended family I gained through the rich alumni association.

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

Currently, I am an American Studies Ph.D. student at Washington State University. In addition to my coursework and research, I serve as the Smart Start Program Retention Counselor. The Smart Start Program is a program through the Multicultural Student Services Office that works to support first-generation college students.

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

In my free time, I enjoy spending time outside and exploring nature especially since I am in beautiful Pullman, Washington. Also, I enjoy reading historical biographies and listening to hip-hop music.

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

The pillars of Faith, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service are the tenants that I try to live my life by still to this day. As I mature and grow up, I am constantly realizing how important faith is especially with everything going on in the world. Having faith is more important than ever. I think if you have faith then things like studying, leading, or serving become easier because you have something guiding you. Moreover, let go, and let God.

area. Since becoming a student at RIT, I have learned to enjoy hockey. RIT is a big hockey school and sometimes in my free time I enjoy taking part in the RIT tradition of attending hockey games and sitting in the Corner Crew which is RIT's version of the student section.

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

St. Joe's gave me the confidence and tools to always keep achieving more and never stop reaching for the things I want for myself. St. Joe's was a welcoming and supportive environment that allowed me to grow and flourish into a better scholar, leader, servant and disciple before adventuring into a new and unfamiliar environment. Having the opportunity to focus on my core values in high school, allowed me to stay strong in my beliefs while starting the next chapter of my life. I am frequently reminded of the lessons I have learned at St. Joe's and am forever grateful that I was able to have those experiences and carry the lessons I learned in my high school years into my everyday life at college years later.

5. What are you passionate about?

I am passionate about one day being able to provide high quality medical care to those who need it the most. Every day, I strive to learn more and do more in hopes of being able to positively affect more people with the work I am doing. I am also passionate about always being a lifelong learner and always having the desire to educate myself. My family and friends are those who give me encouragement and remind me every day to strive for more. I am passionate about representing my family, friends and the Saint Joe's community as an Alumni well.

6. One of your favorite quotes or Bible verses:

Philippians 4: 13 - "I can do all things

5. What are you passionate about?

My passions, for now, are all in education because of my experiences at SJCA, Allegheny, and now at WSU. I have seen the value of education and what it can do for folks.

6. One of your favorite quotes or Bible verses:

My Favorite quote is "Education must not simply teach work- it must teach life". -W. E. B. Dubois

My favorite Bible Verse is: Matthew 6:24 "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."



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.



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 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
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 to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

To Know Jesus Christ

By Father Jonathan

As I opened my email today and was gently reminded by Mrs. Cunningham that my article for the SJCA newsletter was due in a couple of days, I decided to plant myself at my computer until something began to materialize. It is rare for me to have nothing to say, but I found myself blocked. With nothing to write I continued to stare aimlessly at the wall. Then

I realized that maybe what I was supposed to be writing about was in front of me all along. It was the quote, framed and written in calligraphy, that has been hanging in my office since I moved in. It was then, and still is my favorite verse from Scripture. It also happened to be the Gospel for the Sunday when I celebrated Mass for the first time as a priest. The quote is John 17:3, "Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ." When I hung this quote on the wall I distinctly remember hoping and praying that if my priesthood/chaplaincy meant anything it would to some degree be reflected in this quote.



While the Paschal mystery is the salvific event of Christianity, our Catholic/Christian faith is incarnational at its core. God had to take on flesh in order to be crucified for our salvation. But as I have said over and over again, he took on flesh so as to enter into the chaos of each and everyone of us. He is a God that is personal to the very core. And so, when we repeat the words of John 17:3 we can affirm the fact that God is indeed "knowable". As Catholics and Christians, we are not called to simply know about God. I have met many people who are brilliant in their theological knowledge and yet have never had an encounter with Jesus Christ. Knowing *about* God never replaces knowing God. I often make the comparison with people who begin to date each other. You may know a lot about a person before you go out with them. But, you grow to know them more deeply during courtship, the engagement, marriage, and then in a life spent together. The same can be said about a friendship. I may know a lot about a person, but when I enter into a friendship with them, I come to know that person in continually deeper ways.

[Read More](#)

Important Dates

Out of Uniform Day
September 25
Joseph's Fund \$3

PSAT Test
October 14th

Fall Harvest Week
October 5-9th

End of Quarter 1
October 19th

Enrichment Day- Scholarship
October 14th

Out of Uniform Day- Pink Out
October 21st

Athletic Events

Go to SJCASports.org for an athletic schedule.

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(814) 808-6118 | admin@stjoeacad.org | www.stjoeacad.org | www.sjcasports.org

