



# Saint Joseph's

## CATHOLIC ACADEMY



### A Message From Ms. Mallett...

As we begin our current year, I want to express my deepest appreciation for your support and partnership. Together with our school families and friends, you have embraced the mission of Catholic education and ensured the continuation of learning and faith development for our children. At Saint Joe's our students, families, faculty, and staff have been a beautiful witness to resilience, love, and grace.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Jennifer Mallett

## in Our School Communities

By: Marcelle DeFreitas and Deirdre Kinsella Biss

Catholic schools are places where young people find solid and enduring values to give hope, meaning and purpose to life. Through the experience of an authentic relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of God's unwavering love, students develop a firm place to stand in shifting times.

This true encounter with Jesus can and does take place each and every day in our Catholic schools. To develop faith and Catholic identity young people need to understand and integrate the Catholic faith tradition into their lives:

- To see the face of God in all things;
- To build trusting relationships with each other and the adults in the school community;
- To be able to respond to daily life as a good student, a true friend, a loving son or daughter, a responsible citizen;
- To be able to collaborate to learn from and contribute to the learning of others;
- To develop the integrity to recognize false values that hinder proper human development;
- To have the courage and resilience to self-regulate and persevere;
- To have the wisdom to solve problems and make responsible decisions with values that enhance human development and nurture hope for the future;
- To be able to critically analyze the arts, media, technology and information systems to make sense of the world they live in and construct meaningful knowledge.



### Jennifer Mallett, Head of School for Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy in Boalsburg, PA, Appointed as Middle States Commissioner

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — The Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA-CES) announced today the appointment of Jennifer Mallett as a commissioner.

Mallett serves as Head of School for Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy in Boalsburg, Pa. She is one of 11 new commissioners.

"Middle States commissioners serve an important role in helping to improve the quality of education in the United States and around the world," said MSA-CESS Interim President Henry Cram, Ed.D. "We are grateful to Jennifer for her commitment to Middle States and for volunteering her expertise to help schools grow and improve through accreditation."

Mallett holds an undergraduate degree in education from Ashland University in Ohio and a Master of Science in education and allied professions from the University of Dayton. Prior to joining Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy, Mallett served as Principal of Bishop Rosecrans High School in Zanesville, Ohio. She has also volunteered on several accreditation teams.



"I am honored to join Middle States as a commissioner," said Mallett, who lives in Boalsburg, Pa. "Middle States accreditation serves as independent validation of the good work schools are doing and ensures their mission, goals, performance and resources are aligned so they can continue to meet and exceed the highest standards."

Middle States commissioners meet twice annually to review accreditation recommendations and the organization's finances, policies and strategic plan.

About Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA-CESS) Based in Philadelphia, the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA-CESS) is the worldwide leader in accreditation and school improvement. For over 130 years, Middle States has been helping school leaders establish and reach their goals, develop strategic plans, promote staff development and advance student achievement. With more than 2,500 accredited schools and school systems in 39 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and in over 110 countries, MSA-CESS is proud of its continuing legacy and its ongoing innovations to meet the challenges of improving education in the 21st century. For more information visit [www.msa-cess.org](http://www.msa-cess.org).

## Faith Retreat





Our Saint Joseph's students had the opportunity to participate in a Faith retreat hosted by a group from the Jesuit Spiritual Center in Milford, Ohio. This annual retreat is a fantastic way to start off a new school year!

This year's retreat theme was 'Encounter' and students were asked to examine their own lives with a 'mountaintop perspective.' Much like the Disciples, what we encounter may surprise us or startle us. In fact, it may change our lives completely.

"Every journey is as unique as the individual on the journey. We each bring different skills and tools with us to the climb. As you take stock of your life thus far, what are you bringing with you to this retreat experience? What are you hoping to attain?" –JSCMinistry

Here is what a few of our students had to say about the retreat:

"The retreat was fun. I got to connect to God more. Overall, it was an enriching experience to be a part of."

"I learned a new way to pray, which I found relaxing."

"We learned about why community and why trusting in God and in each other is important."

"I learned more about the new students and got some reflection time throughout the day."

## Department Feature



Ms. Stoicheff, Mr. Barnhart, and Mrs. Cunningham are pictured.

Saint Joseph's is an incredible destination for students seeking to ready themselves for the rigors of college academics. The English Department at Saint Joe's prides itself on challenging students to not just read and write about literature but to immerse themselves in their work. To apply it on a personal level so that it resonates beyond just the superficial level. The department adheres to enduring understandings that serve as the foundation of their courses which allows students to create meaningful connections among course concepts. They are the joining threads that run throughout the courses and revisiting them and applying them in a variety of contexts helps students to develop deeper conceptual understanding. And the department rocks!

### **Advanced Placement Courses**

Students in their junior and senior years have the opportunity to enroll in an Advanced Placement English course. Mrs. Cunningham offered AP Language and Composition for the first time in the 2020-2021 school year. Students were tasked with taking a rigorous AP exam at the end of the school year consisting of three hand-written essays and a number of multiple choice questions aimed at assessing their ability to analyze Literature. In order to potentially earn college credit for the course, students needed to earn a minimum of a 3 as a qualifying score on the AP exam. 57% of students around the globe that took the AP Language and Composition exam earned a qualifying score. **100% of the Saint Joseph's AP Language and Composition students that took**

the 2020-2021 exam earned a qualifying score. Five students earned the highest score possible on the exam. These statistics are a direct reflection to the hard work and dedication Saint Joseph's students put into the AP Language and Composition course!

### Writing Portfolios

Freshmen and sophomores will begin compiling a writing portfolio from coursework completed in their English class. This collection of writing will help demonstrate a writer's development through improvement and achievements. Throughout the school year, students will reflect on their work and be able to measure progress, which may improve their ability to evaluate their own work. Artifacts will include essays, projects, and journals from each of their freshman and sophomore year, and ideally continue to grow with them throughout their junior and senior year.

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Every week Saint Joseph's celebrates Mass together as a school community. If you would like to be a part of weekly Mass, you can tune into our Facebook live every Thursday from 9:25-10:00 am or check out the Homily Happenings on Facebook as well!



## Today in Homily Happenings...



*God is inviting you and  
me...will we say yes?*  
-Father Mike Pleva





# Athletic Updates & Information

Dear WolfPack Community,

The Pack has had a great first week back of the pre-season practice and is eager to get back into action this fall. Teams have been working hard during the off-season as they look to build upon their successes from a year ago. We are excited about our fall sports season and looking forward to



competing with some of the best in the region. Below is a quick recap of our fall sports teams! We hope you will have an opportunity to come see our athletes in action this fall.

The Boys and Girls Cross Country teams are coming off of undefeated dual meet competitions in 2020 and look to make another run at a district title and berth in the state championships in 2021. Key Returners: Boys – Josh Hyman, Asa Reynolds, Colin Simander, and Anthony Woomer; Girls – Brandi Carmack, Kita Chappell, Amber Fisher, Evelyn Reynolds, and Kate Youngmark. New Additions: Boys – Cade Behrer; Girls – Esther Clark, Abigail Ridenour, and Brynn Wright.

The Golf team is looking to build off of their 9-5 mark from a year ago. Their goal is to return to districts and compete for the crown. Key Returners: Dmitri Cornali and Timothy Peters. New Additions: Mary Capriani, Patrick DePlato, Luke Duckworth, Angelo Gallucci, Jake Nichols, Chris Warner.

On the pitch, the Boys and Girls Soccer will team up and look to get back to playoff form. A talented group led by Chris Forstmeier (Forward), Spencer Gigante (Defender), Natalie Page (Defender), Luke Surovec (Winger), Kyle Yangula (Forward), and Sam Yangula (Midfielder) aim for another district title run. Additional Key Returners: Nick Coskren, Aedan Hall, Fletcher Hess, Chris Laskowski, Mallory McCauley, Akio Ohmoto, Andrew Regan, Artie Welsh, and Taylor Wright. New Additions: Keegan Sincavage, Colten Woomer, and Brynn Wright.

On the hardwood, the Girls Volleyball team has their sights set on returning to district playoffs after a year hiatus. Key Returners: Car Burwell (Defense), Tara Hershbine (Setter), Madi Mazza (Middle Hitter), Katie Pase (Defense), and Samantha Zally (Outside Hitter). New Additions: Maddy Coskren, Gianna Folmar, Karimar Henriquez, Trinity Kline, Sachi Ohmoto-Frederick, Leah Ridenour, Grace Rose, and Jordyn Rose.

**Behind the Scenes:** As always, please check out our website

[www.SJCASports.org](http://www.SJCASports.org) and visit our social media pages to follow the happenings around campus, to receive update-to-date results regarding events, and to find upcoming events/sports schedules.

Much continues to happen here at Saint Joe's and we hope to see you soon. Go WolfPack!

Blessings & Go Wolfpack!

Dr. Justin Rodkey, Director of Athletics & Activities



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



## Development & Advancement

### Turn Your Pennsylvania Tax Payments Into Scholarships for Saint Joe's Students

Through this program businesses and individuals working in Pennsylvania may direct their Pennsylvania income tax payments to Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy.

#### How Does It Help?

Many Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy students are in need of financial support for their Catholic education. Without this financial support, some students would not be able to attend Saint Joe's.

The EITC program enables individuals and businesses working PA to direct their state income tax liability to Saint Joe's, so that these funds can be used for need-based student scholarships. As an added benefit, in some cases participation in the EITC program can help individuals and businesses reduce their own PA income tax liability.



### **Who can participate?**

· Individuals or businesses with a PA Tax Liability of at least \$3,500 may qualify to participate. See your latest 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 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.

### **Application Process and Recommended Fall Timeline for the 2021 Tax Year:**

· Communicate to *Susan Robinson Fruchtl, Director of Development & Advancement* at Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy, that you would like to be an EITC Donor for Saint Joseph's by September 10, 2021.

### **WHAT'S NEXT in the World of Development & Advancement?**

#### **Win Sheetz Gas For A Year!**

Did you know the average person spends approximately \$1,600 on gas per year? With this in mind, we are launching a new mostly student-driven fundraiser as we begin the school year. We are excited to announce our "Sheetz Gas Raffle" where the Grand Prize will be \$1,600 in Sheetz Gift Cards or cash value. Our students, faculty, staff, and board of trustee members will be selling \$10 chances to win the grand prize or one of five \$100 Sheetz gift cards with the drawing to be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be available starting August 25<sup>th</sup>. Our goal is to net over \$20,000 by selling at least 2,400 tickets. Contact any of our staff, faculty, students, or trustees to learn how you can purchase your tickets! Proceeds go to benefit the Joseph's Annual Fund.

#### **Joseph's Annual Fund Kick Off – October 2021**

While we will begin promoting the 2021-2022 Annual Fund Drive more October, you can always give to our annual fund! Continue to be *All In* for Saint Joseph's by giving online today at <https://stjoeacad.org/advancement/josephs-annual-fund/>

#### **Name a Scholarship at Saint Joe's!**

Named scholarships benefit qualifying Saint Joseph's students. To establish a Named Scholarship, a commitment of \$500 or more for a minimum of three consecutive years is required. This allows the

donor(s) to work with the school to create the scholarship in their name or the name of someone they wish to honor.

With a named scholarship, your entire contribution is awarded each year to a qualified student. Without this support, some students would not be able to financially attend Saint Joe's.

Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy will recognize the Named Scholarship Program donors at a yearly event. This event will provide the opportunity for our thoughtful and generous benefactors to meet their scholarship recipient(s) and for our student scholarship awardees to personally thank the individual or family for their commitment and support of their Catholic education.

To learn how to Name a Scholarship at Saint Joe's, email Susan Robinson at [srobinson@stjoeacad.org](mailto:srobinson@stjoeacad.org), call her at 814-808-6118, or go to our website at <https://stjoeacad.org/advancement/named-scholarship-program/>

### **Annual Gala**

Our next annual gala will be held Saturday, April 2, 2022 at Mountain View Country Club located in Boalsburg, PA. Look for more announcements and details about this important fundraising event as the fall goes along.

### **Centre Gives**

Centre Foundation's "Centre Gives" will take place in May 2022. Keep an eye out for important announcements about this major fundraising event for Saint Joe's. Last year we raised over \$26,000 during this 36-hour online giving event from the support of our gracious benefactors!

### **Four Pillars Golf Tournament**

Mark your calendars for Monday, June 6, 2022 to join us in our annual golf tournament at Centre Hills Country Club. With thirty foursomes in last year's event, we are excited to plan for next year back at Centre Hills.

## **Alumni Spotlight**

### **By: Susan Robinson Fruchtl**

Each month we will check in with a Saint Joseph's Alumni doing a Q & A to spotlight his/her journey. Our spotlight this month is Jason Thomas, Class of 2019 and our only National Merit Scholar Finalist to date. Thanks to Jason for sharing about his journey and how Saint Joe's has impacted him. Susan met with Jason at the Pump Station to learn more about all he is doing now.



Pictured above is Jason Thomas, Saint Joseph's Class of 2019.

Jason is currently a junior at The University of Notre Dame in South Bend, IN, where he is studying Civil Engineering. He just finished a summer internship at HRI, Inc., a diversified construction company with expertise in highway, airport, water, sewer, treatment plants, bridges, and paving here in State College. Jason relayed that he learned about project management and estimating specifically in this internship. He is excited to be heading to Dublin, Ireland in September to do a semester long study abroad program at the University College Dublin where he will take three engineering classes and an art history course. This program is part of Notre Dame's Global Gateway Program. A total of 49 Notre Dame students will be in Ireland this semester completing their study abroad program at three different universities. Jason and fellow ND students will be staying in college residence halls and will travel 3-4 weekends across Ireland as part of the program. While Jason has taken a family trip to Ireland in the past, he is very excited to be spending a whole semester abroad and experience all the Irish culture he can in the time he is there.

Spending all four years of high school at Saint Joseph's, Jason had high praise for the faculty and how the curriculum set him up perfectly to be successful at Notre Dame. Jason relayed that Dr. Mazur's Calculus II class prepared him exceptionally well for the math and engineering classes he has taken at ND. He also had high praise for the Theology curriculum here at Saint Joe's paving the way for an easy transition into the required theology coursework at Notre Dame. Jason spoke about how the math and science classes he has had to take in college were easier because of the Chemistry and Physics courses at SJCA. With some courses at Notre Dame, it seemed as if he was taking them for a second time. As he mentioned, he really couldn't have been more prepared for success at Notre Dame than through the education he received here at Saint Joe's.



It was great to hear how extra-curricular opportunities at Saint Joe's prepared and encouraged him to get involved in campus life at Notre Dame. As a Saint Joe's student, Jason was a member of Student Council serving as vice-president his junior year and co-president his senior year. He was a member of our National Honor Society serving as its president his senior year. For his NHS service project, Jason organized a book drive, "Books for Africa", in his junior year. Through this drive, our students led by Jason were able to donate over 300 books. Jason also discussed being on the golf team at SJCA, how he "was not good at all" in his sophomore year when he joined the team, how he improved, and that the team made it to states in his senior year. He enjoyed his experience as a golfer and is proud of the improvement and accomplishments they were able to make. Through all the leadership and involvement opportunities at SJCA, Jason felt he was well prepared to get involved and have a positive impact at Notre Dame. Jason has been serving in Student Government as a Senator in his residence hall while at ND. As a Senator, Jason attended weekly meetings to discuss and vote on orders and resolutions pertaining to student issues. The Senators at ND seek to improve student relations with one another and the university. In this role, they are also charged with making funding decisions regarding clubs at Notre Dame.

As mentioned previously, Jason is our only National Merit Finalist so far in the history of Saint Joe's. While Jason is obviously a talented and dedicated student, it was cool to hear how he credits the academic preparation he received at SJCA and the people of Saint Joe's in setting him up for success at Notre Dame. Jason pinpointed how each of the Four Pillars of Faith, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service are all important in his life as a student at Notre Dame. Jason attends mass at ND every Sunday and each residence hall at the university has its own priest. Jason has made the Dean's List at Notre Dame for the past three semesters and his involvement in leadership and service positions with student government have been key to his overall experience at ND.

After completing his study abroad program this upcoming semester, Jason will return to Notre Dame. He is on track to graduate in the Spring of 2023. He is currently applying for other internships in the summer of 2022. While Jason, is not certain on his ideal job or where he wants to go in the immediate future, he mentioned how maybe he will eventually settle in the State College area. He likes to travel, read, play golf, and fish in his free time. He plans on doing those things in addition to working toward a successful Civil Engineering career while positively impacting the world around him.

**Any family updates or other updates you want to include?**

John just started freshmen year at Alabama. Audrey is in her final year of PA school at RIT.

**Tell a little more about the things you are most passionate about.**

I'm very passionate about reading. I credit most of my academic success to reading nonstop throughout my childhood.

**One of your favorite quotes or Bible verses?**

"This too shall pass"

**Advice you would give to current Saint Joe's students?**

My advice would be to obviously study hard and get good grades but to also

enjoy all the times with your friends before you go your separate ways and enter college or the real world.

## Saint Joe's House Cup Is Up For Grabs!



House Council (formerly Student Council) spent a majority of last year developing the foundation for the implementation of a House System at Saint Joe's. Each student is assigned a house, of which he or she is a member for four years. Houses will spend time together to work on initiatives in support of building the four pillars into the culture of student-life on campus. Throughout the year the houses will also compete in various academic, athletic, and social contests, earning points toward the crowning of the winning house in the Spring.

"The members of last year's Student Council did some great legwork in exploring the House System and it's effectiveness in other school communities." Says Chad Walsh (House Council Advisor). "The house system started in boarding schools in the United Kingdom, was picked up in boarding schools in America, and now has matriculated into day schools like ours. From the research we have seen that school culture tends to take off after implementing this type system because it allows for a share of ownership and leadership within the student body, with the goal of supporting the overall identity and spirit of the whole school. This group has worked to develop a starting point that we believe will work well with our specific school culture and are excited to see where it takes us."



Keep an eye out for Saint Joseph's commercial!

This commercial features Saint Joe's alumni Kathleen Simander and Jonah Clark alongside several other talented Saint Joe's students.

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Scan to learn more about  
Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy!

## Important Dates

Labor Day- No School



September 6, 2021

In-Service Day- No School  
September 17, 2021

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## Athletic Events

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

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