

St. Joseph's Messenger

*A BULLETIN FOR INSPIRING
SCHOOL FAMILIES*

"GROUNDED IN THE TRADITION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL IS A COMMUNITY DEDICATED TO FORMING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH FAITH, ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, AND SERVICE TO OTHERS."

FR. BLAKE'S FILES



For those of you who do not know me, I am Fr. Blake Rozier. I am the pastor of St. Joseph and St. Augustine Catholic churches. I am also very happy to be the pastor of St. Joseph Catholic School. If you are new to the school community, it is so good that you have joined us. I look forward to getting to know you and all of our school families. It was difficult last year with all the restrictions to get to know people, and I am hoping and praying that this school year will be more conducive for building community. I was the new guy last year. It was my first year as pastor of this community. Amidst the difficulties of the year, I had a good experience. I hope all of our new families feel very welcome and come to know the many blessings of being a part of St. Joseph Catholic School.

As pastor, I desire a vibrant, Catholic community, so that God may be glorified in all that we do. We have a great Catholic community and we want to continue to do our part to give glory to God in all things. Besides seeing you and your families at various school functions, I hope to see you consistently at church on the weekends. It is here that we come together as the family of

God to worship our Lord and be formed in the way of faith. The consistency is important so that we give God the opportunity to mold us through His grace, through His Word and Sacrament. We can then go out to the world to be the light of Jesus, as we are called to be. What a blessing for us and the world today!

Weekend Mass times are 5 pm on Saturday (at least until November) at St. Joseph and on Sunday, 8:30 am at St. Augustine and 10:30 am at St. Joseph. It would be great to see you every weekend. I look forward to getting to know you!

Also please take note of the fall events included on Page 3, such as upcoming **Theology on Tap** events and a new **book study** for St. Joseph's mothers. Wednesday night **Faith Formation Kick-Off** is September 29th at 5:30 PM. More information can be found at www.stjosephscatholic.org

I like Minnesota sports, good food, good music, the great outdoors...I can relate to a lot of people. Please introduce yourself if you see me around.

Let's have a wonderful school year! May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

-Fr. Blake

Welcome Teachers!

We are so excited to welcome back Mrs. Kathy Johnson (aka “Mrs. J.”) for the first half of the 5th Grade year, and Mrs. Amy O’Shea as our new 1st Grade teacher! They graciously took a few minutes of their prep time to share some of their favorites with us.



What are you most excited about this school year?

Mrs. J. - *I am mostly excited to pray with the students and share the Catholic faith with them. I love hearing them connect with the sacraments, prayers and Bible stories.*

Mrs. O’Shea - *I am excited for the new things that the students will be learning and knowing that I was able to be part of their learning journey, but also all of the things that students will be teaching me in return. I look forward to the milestones as a class and the new adventures to come.*

What are your favorite fall activities?

Mrs. J. - *Some of my favorite fall activities are the school celebrations. Spaghetti/Open House Night, Marathon and Halloween (All Hallow’s Eve) are on the list. I am looking forward to All Saints’ Day and the Bishop coming to celebrate with us!*

Mrs. O’Shea - *Fall is my favorite season. I enjoy both bow and rifle hunting, four-wheeling in the crisp fall air, finally getting out camping as it is now nice and cool to enjoy the camping experience and especially the bonfires and smores! Taking scenic drives to see the fall changes in the leaves is also a favorite of mine.*

What is your favorite Bible verse?

Mrs. J. - *Psalm 28:7 0- The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.*

Mrs. O’Shea - *John 3:16 - It is the first one that I ever learned and reminds me of God’s love and sacrifice for me, reminding me how much I am loved and that I am a child of God.*

Who is your favorite saint?

Mrs. J. - *One of my favorite saints is St. Scholastica. She was a twin to St. Benedict. Their story has them taking care of each other, and being a twin to a brother, I can relate to her.*

Mrs. O’Shea - *My favorite saint is St. Kateri Tekakwitha. I feel that she reminds us to let go and let God handle our worries. I admire her peace and use it to remind myself when I am letting my worrying get the best of me*

Fall Events

THEOLOGY ON TAP
GRAB A PINT &
EXPLORE YOUR FAITH!

SEPT. 30 - HOLINESS IS A SURRENDER AWAY:
HOW FOLLOWING GOD'S WILL LEADS TO OUR HOLINESS
Connie Bruesch, Executive Director of Ministry, Transformed by Love Ministries, Brainerd, MN

OCT. 28 - ANSWERING THE CALL:
A VOCATION STORY AND SHARING OF GRACES
Fr. Trevor Peterson, Associate Pastor at Blessed Sacrament Church in Hibbing, MN

NOV. 16 - FROM CHRISTENDOM TO APOSTOLIC MISSION:
LIVING OUT THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH
Fr. Matt Miller, Associate Pastor at St. Francis and All Saints Churches in Brainerd, MN



MADDOG'S PIZZA
7 PM
COME EARLY FOR
DRINKS AND FOOD

SEE YOU THERE!
BRING A FRIEND!

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL PRESENTS

Momnipotent Book Study

We invite all mothers in our school community to share fellowship and faith as we discuss the book *Momnipotent: The Not-So-Perfect Guide to Catholic Motherhood*

Fall Meeting Dates: 9/16, 10/7, 11/11 & 12/9
6-7 PM

St. Joseph's Church - Bride's Room

Please read Chapter One before our first meeting. Even if you cannot read the book ahead of time, please come! Contact Beth.varberg@gmail.com with any questions.

LIMITED AMOUNT OF BOOKS AVAILABLE IN SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$6 OR USE YOUR AMAZON SMILE ACCOUNT!

Keep up to date with St. Joseph's Church happenings - make sure your email address is up to date at <https://staugustinestjosephs.flocknote.com>

Virtues in Practice

Our guiding document is "Virtues in Practice", created by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation (Nashville).

The three theological virtues are FAITH, HOPE, & CHARITY (love).

In 2021-22 our focus is **CHARITY** with an emphasis on COMMUNITY.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

(1 John 4:7-8)

CHARITY: Loving God with all your heart, mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself.

A VIRTUE is a good habit that leads us toward God & opens our hearts to God's grace.



The school window in the main front area of the school will display the word CHARITY, and each month, our artistic Kindergarten teacher will add a new virtue (*good habit*) that is grounded in charity. These virtues are **Friendship, Courtesy, Purity, Fortitude, Prudence, Respect, Forgiveness, Responsibility.** AND-as you walk up to the Music Room, you will see these virtues listed on the stairs.

At First Friday Rosaries, we will recite the Act of Love (Charity) prayer.

Each month, ALL St. Joseph's School students will learn about the "virtue of the month" and about saints that exemplify this particular virtue. Although the virtue will be the same for each class, the saints will be different among some grade levels.

Saints for September



SAINT GERTRUDE (1256-1301, Germany) St. Gertrude was a German Benedictine nun, mystic, and theologian. She had a special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. St. Gertrude produced numerous writings. Her *Spiritual Exercises* are still used by some to deepen spirituality through prayer and meditation. Her feast day is November 16.

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL (1580-1660, France) St. Vincent de Paul was a French Catholic priest who dedicated himself to serving the poor. He helped to found the religious order named the Daughters of Charity. He was renowned for his compassion, humility, and generosity. Vincent is the patron of all works of charity. His feast day is September 27.



VEN. LAURA VICUNA (1891-1904, Chile & Argentina) Blessed Laura Vicuna's father died when she was 3. Her mother, in poverty, agreed to live with a wealthy man so her daughters could attend a boarding school run by the Salesian Sisters. Laura wanted to become a Sister and serve God. She became very ill at age 13 and was sent home. While there, she was physically abused by the man with whom her mother lived; she did not live much longer. She spoke of her devotion to God with her mother before she died, and her mother returned to God and the church. She is the patron saint of abuse victims. Her feast day is January 22.

