



## Upcoming Events

08/31/16—Progress Checks Home Today  
 08/31/16—Mass @ 8:30am  
 09/05/16—No School—Labor Day  
 09/13/16—Youth Protection Meeting

**Family FAITH Night** – Please mark your calendars for Sept. 20, 2016. That is the first 2016-2017 Family FAITH Night at SJB. On this night, we are asking you to come to school with your student (s). While he/she/they attend faith filled activities in the classroom, parents will attend a presentation in the parish hall by Sr. Tonette Sperando. Sr. Tonette is the Prioress of the Benedictine Community in Cullman. Plan on dropping your students off around 6:20 in the school and our presentation will begin at 6:30pm

### Grandparents' Tea September 22, 2016

K4-5th grade parents be sure to be on the lookout this week for an email about our Grandparents' Tea including the link to the online registration form.

Parents are responsible for registering all grandparents attending the Tea via the online form.

Please contact Jennifer Farrell with any questions

[piccioni5@yahoo.com](mailto:piccioni5@yahoo.com)

**Drama Auditions:** This year, the SJS Drama Department will be presenting a Fall Variety Show and "Mary Poppins" in the spring. Auditions for 4th-5th grade students will be on Wednesday, September 7 and 6th-8th grade students will be Thursday, September 8. Auditions are from 3-4:30pm in room 105. Drama is open for 4th-8th grade students. Permission slips can be obtained from Mrs. Zoeller or downloaded from the school's website. Break a leg!



The fall sports season has begun, and our soccer and volleyball programs are in full swing. Over 140 kids have signed up for fall sports!

The K4/K5 and 1st/2nd grade soccer teams are playing games each Saturday morning at St. John's field. The 3rd/4th, 5th/6th, and 7th/8th grade soccer teams have been busy practicing and begin playing games this week. The 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade volleyball teams have also been practicing hard and begin playing games this week. As soccer and volleyball schedules are finalized, watch for updates to the calendar on the Crusader Club website at [www.stjohnb.com/ccsite](http://www.stjohnb.com/ccsite). And look for fall sports news and highlights in future newsletters. We hope you will come out and support our student athletes!

**SAFETY PATROL MEETING:** On **Thursday, September 1st, 2016**, there will be a meeting for all students in Safety Patrol. We will start at **3:20 pm and end by 4:00 pm**. It will take place in **room 221**, Mrs. McClinnish's room. All students interested in running for a position as President, Vice-President, or Chaplain, should have a speech ready (1-2 minutes). Attendance is mandatory as we will elect our students representatives during this meeting.

Please pick up your child in front of the school between 4:00 pm and 4:05 pm. We will send the students to aftercare after 4:05 pm. Thank you. Mrs. McClinnish

### † Mass Schedule †

Saturday Evening 5:30pm  
 Sundays 7:00am, 8:30am, 11:30am & 5:30pm  
**Weekdays**  
 Monday—8:30am  
 Tuesday—6:15am & 8:30am  
 Wednesday—8:30am & 6:30pm  
 Thursday—8:30am  
 Friday—8:30am  
**Holy Days** 6:00am, 8:30am & 6:30pm

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Thursday 5:30pm—6:20pm  
 Saturday 3:30pm—5:00pm (Other times by request)

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Monday—Thursday 9:00am—6:00pm Friday 9:00am—noon  
 First Friday 9:00am-9:00pm First Saturday 9:00am—10:00am

**Box Tops News:** Our first quarter competition is underway. Mrs. Lones's 3rd grade class is currently in 1st place with 583 Box Tops collected, followed by Miss Glosemeyer's 6th grade class with 488 collected and Ms. Esteve's 2nd grade class rounds out the top 3 with 367 collected. Remember, the three classes that bring in the most Box Tops this quarter will each receive a classroom reward so continue to collect and send them in with your child. As a reminder, Box Tops do have expiration dates on them. Just like a coupon, if they are expired we cannot submit them, so be sure to send them in as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support!

**SCRIP NEWS:** If you didn't pick up a 2017 Coupon Book at Back To School Night, we still have some available for sale with OnDemand SCRIP. The 2017 Coupon Book costs \$25 and will be available while supplies last. Included is an order form that showcases all the SCRIP retailers included in the 2017 Coupon. Consider ordering some SCRIP to use with the coupon for an additional rebate to help our school! As a reminder, SCRIP orders default to be sent home with your youngest child in their homeroom class. You can indicate otherwise if you want to pick up at the school office or sent home with another child.

We have 3 **Logan's \$25** gift cards available OnDemand. **Logan's** is being discontinued with the SCRIP program so after these are sold, they will no longer be available. So, come quickly to claim them first! **Logan's** is also in the 2017 Coupon Book!

Current bonus rebates include (items in **bold** are available OnDemand): **Albertson's 5%**; **Landry's 11%**; **SuperValue/Cub 5%**; **TGI Fridays 10%**.

Bonus rebates starting September 3 include **WaWa 2.5%**.

Check out details at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). Questions? Email [sjscrip@gmail.com](mailto:sjscrip@gmail.com)

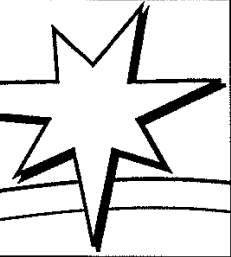
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# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

September 2016

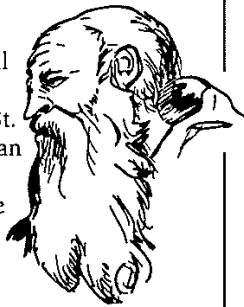
St. John the Baptist Catholic School  
Sherry Lewis, Principal



## Thoughtful Moments

### St. Jerome

After a classical education in his native Stridon, St. Jerome became an expert in Greek and Latin. At the age of 18, he was baptized in Rome and began more rigorous study. He was ordained, went to Constantinople in 380 AD to study Scripture, and then to Rome as secretary to the pope. It was then he completed his great work of translating the Bible into Latin, called the Vulgate. "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ," said Jerome.



### Confession spirals

Spiral notebooks make good Confession companions. In a spiral notebook, children can copy the form for Confession as a reminder, the Act of Contrition, the Holy Spirit prayer, and common prayers your priests may give for penance. They can also jot down their sins to tell the priest and then easily tear them out afterwards.

*"Hold fast to instruction, never let it go; keep it, for it is your life"*  
(Proverbs 4:13).



## Make a fresh start with a new school year

Each new school year offers a new beginning. This is a chance to rethink your priorities, create a new family rhythm, and acquire virtues so parents and children can grow and learn.

**Rethink priorities.** In past school years, have you found your family pulled in too many directions by a too-busy life?

Consider blocking out time for family activities you value most: family meals, prayer together, Mass, religious education, school work, visiting relatives. Make these "immoveable." Then schedule other activities that will fit without causing stress. Say "no" to anything else.

**Create a new family rhythm.** Creating a predictable rhythm to days can give

your family life order, balance, and joy. Base the rhythm on anchor points of waking, bedtime, meal times, and school/work. Add in natural, calming

activities children can count on such as morning prayer, nighttime devotion, bedtime stories, and spiritually seasonal activities.

**Acquire virtues.** Virtues help us give the best of ourselves. As a family, choose a virtue each month

that you would like to strengthen. The four Cardinal Virtues are considered key to acquiring others. Prudence enables us to make good choices. Justice helps us to play fair and see others' points of view. Fortitude ensures we don't give up when the going gets tough. Temperance keeps us from overdoing and keeps us in balance.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

The word "catholic" comes from a Greek word that means "throughout the whole" or "universal."

The first record of the Church being called "Catholic" quotes a first-century letter from St. Ignatius to the Smyrnaeans,

## Why is our Church called "Catholic"?



"Where the bishop appears, there let the people be, just as where Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church." St. Cyril of Jerusalem (347) wrote, "Now it [the Church] is called Catholic because it is throughout the world, from one end of the earth to the other."

## All God's children are loved

God created each of his children unique and all have great value in his eyes. How can you help youngsters appreciate and respect all God's children?

**Nurture curiosity.** Bring the world into your home. The local library is a rich source of books, maps, music, and movies about other cultures and people to whom you can introduce your children. Encourage youngsters to wonder what it is like to live in places different from theirs.

**Encourage flexibility.** Children who can adapt to new situations, improvise, and shift

strategies to meet challenges become more independent and creative problem solvers. They are also more likely to be competent in dealing with people from different backgrounds and cultures.

*"Judge not, that you be not judged"* (Matthew 7:1). Everyone on earth is God's beloved child. People who look, act, and sound different have life stories that are distinctive from ours. Teach children to show respect and empathy for those with disabilities, physical or mental difficulties, or who are experiencing hardships and may need help.



### Scripture LESSON Luke 16:19-31, Learn God's language of love

This is the story of a rich man who enjoys his life on earth, and a beggar who suffers, ignored, outside his door. In the afterlife, it is the rich man who suffers torment and begs for relief.

The rich man was condemned for two reasons. The first was because he had become blind to the suffering of others. He deliberately ignored the misery of the poor man right outside his door. He had the resources to bring a change in the man's situation but did nothing.

The second is because the rich man knew what Scripture said about how

God expects his followers to care for each other, but he ignored it. Living our faith means transforming prayer into deeds of love.



**What can a parent do?**  
The key to learning God's language of love and how he wants us to speak it can be found in the Bible. Put your family Bible in a conspicuous spot in your home, one that will remind you to read it together daily. Then talk about putting what you learn into action.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**September 16 – St. Cyprian (258).** Born in Carthage to pagan parents, Cyprian converted to Christianity. A renowned theologian and speaker, he became a priest and then bishop of Carthage. He helped Pope St. Cornelius defend the Church against heretics and set guidelines for readmitting lapsed Christians. Cyprian was arrested for refusing to worship idols. He was exiled and executed.

**September 28 – St. Wenceslaus (929).** As the king of Bohemia, Wenceslaus worked to end the persecution of Christians in his country.

He encouraged German missionaries, built churches, and cared for the sick and poor. Political conflict led to his assassination by his brother. The "Good King" was immediately recognized as a martyr.

**September 28 – St. Lawrence Ruiz and companions (1630).** Lawrence was born in the Philippines to Christian parents—a Chinese father and a Filipino mother. Accused of murder, he fled, traveling with four Catholic priests and a leper to Nagasaki, Japan where there was violent persecution. They were arrested, brutally tortured and martyred on Okinawa.



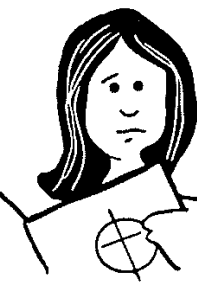
### Parent TALK

Up to now, the questions my children have asked about our faith have been easy to answer. What I don't know off the top of my head, I can look up in the *Catechism*, the *Bible*, or our other Catholic sources.

As they get older, the questions get more challenging. "Where did Jesus go after he died and before he rose?" "If you do something you once knew was wrong but forgot, is it still a sin?" And my favorite, "is your iPhone a false god? You are on it all the time."

To stay ahead of my girls, I stepped up my own religious education. I take an online scripture study class. I belong to a challenging women's faith group. I also attend lectures our pastor offers whenever I can.

Just as my learning didn't end when I graduated from school, my faith education can't stop with my Confirmation.



**Our Mission**  
To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
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# Men's Evening of Faith and Fraternity



## Giving Thanks To The Lord: Growing Daily in Gratitude and Mercy

**Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup> after the 5:30 Mass in the Parish Hall**

Speaker will be **Mr. Daniel McCormick** from The Diocese of Birmingham

**Suggested donation of \$5 includes dinner and presentation**

**Reservations Preferred:** Either call the St. John's Parish office at 256-722-7929 x106, place the form below with a check payable to St. John's in a clearly marked envelope in the collection basket or email [eservidio@stjohnbchurch.org](mailto:eservidio@stjohnbchurch.org) by **Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>**.

For more information contact **Elizabeth Servidio** at **256-722-7929x106** or [eservidio@stjohnbchurch.org](mailto:eservidio@stjohnbchurch.org)

Bring a friend, make a new one and grow in faith

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*Yes, I will be attending!*

*Please detach and place in collection basket in a clearly marked envelope along with your donation.*

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I will be bringing a friend(s) \_\_\_\_\_