



Band Concert

The band students invite you to their Christmas Concert Thursday, December 4th at 6:00pm in the St. John's School Cafeteria.



December 12TH is SPIRIT SHIRT DAY!

Students who bought a t-shirt to support the 8th grade retreat can wear this year's spirit shirt and non-uniform bottoms. If you did not purchase a Spirit Shirt, you must wear your uniform.



UGLY SWEATER DAY!

All students and staff can wear **UGLY** or **Christmas themed sweaters** with out-of-uniform bottoms on **Thursday, December 18th**. If you do not have a sweater, join the fun and wear Christmas and Advent Colors to school!! All clothing must be appropriate for school.

Volunteers Needed!



Sunday, December 14th, SVDP will need volunteers to deliver gifts and 3 food boxes to families in our community. If your family would like to participate, they should come to the school cafeteria starting at 8:00 am (North entrance of the building). This is an opportunity to share in the true spirit of the season of Advent. See the flyer below for more info.



Upcoming Events

Dec 3: School Mass at 8:30am

Dec 4: Band Concert, 6pm - Cafeteria

Dec 8: School Mass at 8:30am
Holy Day-Immaculate Conception

Dec 12: Spirit Shirt Day!

Dec 18: Ugly Sweater Day 

Dec 19: Mass at 8:30am*, Dismissal at Noon, No After Care, End of 2nd Quarter
Students may come out of uniform if they wear NICE Christmas clothes.

The Four Candles of Advent represent the four Sundays of Advent, and they symbolize **hope, peace, joy, and love.**



Week 1: Purple Advent

Candle, Hope: In the first week of Advent, just like the Prophet Isaiah, we anticipate the birth of Jesus and the arrival of the Messiah.

Week 2: Purple Advent Candle, Faith: This candle symbolizes the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem. It calls you to prepare the way of the Lord.

Week 3: Pink Advent Candle, Joy: This candle reminds us that Jesus coming is near and the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus. This is the middle point of Advent, also known as Gaudete (Latin word for Rejoice) Sunday.

Week 4: Purple Advent Candle, Peace: The final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

Advent does not stop with the lighting of candles on the wreath every Sunday at Mass. As Catholics, we should give extra by incorporating the joy of Advent in our daily lives.

PTO update

December 3, 2025

NEWSLETTER

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Christmas for the Kids

One of SJS's favorite Christmas traditions is coming soon! Watch for details from your room parents about supporting the Saint Vincent de Paul Society's Christmas for Children program. Each class will help provide gifts for local families in need and share the joy of the season with our community.



Wrapped Gifts
are due **Friday,
December 5th**
to Coordinator,
Lauren Arrance.

**NOW AVAILABLE FOR
PREORDER SJS
BLANKETS & BEANIES!**

**Warm up with a
Crusader Blanket!**

**CLICK HERE
TO PURCHASE**



**RaiseRight™
FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

Order on the App or through
Katie Lee, Scrip Coordinator.
sjscrip@gmail.com

**SHOP gift cards to make
purchase at retailers like:
Kendra Scott, Disney,
Cabella's, Old Navy, & Nike.
Use Publix, Walmart, or Target
cards to buy for holiday meals
or plan a holiday trip using
airline or hotel gift cards!**



Upcoming Events

DECEMBER

Friday, 5th
SVdP Gifts Due

Friday, 12th
Specials Vouchers
Forms Dues

Friday 19th
Scrip Sales in
School Lobby

**THANK
YOU**

TO ALL OF OUR
ROOM PARENTS
FOR
COORDINATING
ALL THE
THINGS
FOR OUR
CLASSROOMS!

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR
OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM
YOUR ROOM PARENTS AS
THEY GATHER DONATIONS
TO MAKE PURCHASES
FOR SVDP, TEACHER
VOUCHERS, AND CLASS
HOLIDAY PARTIES





The Advent Season is here! Our Room Parents take great care in collecting money and giving gifts to your child's homeroom teacher and aide. Would you like to offer thanks and blessings to the Specials teachers and St. John's Staff? The SCRIP team will collect and distribute "Merry Christmas" SCRIP vouchers for the St. John's employees listed below. Participation is purely voluntary. If you would like to participate, **please fill out this form with the specific amount designated for each person OR with a "✓" to indicate the total amount should be split evenly among those selected.** Return this form with payment (cash or check made out to St. John's PTO) to the school office. Please mark **"VOUCHER ORDER"** on your envelope. Return form and payment by **Friday, December 12th.** Vouchers will be distributed on Thursday, December 18th. Please email sjscrip@gmail.com or kfh277@gmail.com with any questions.

Office	✓ or \$	Specials Teachers	✓ or \$
Chrissy Underwood		Karelin Rivera, Spanish	
Janet Pellegrino		Kristen Mendiola, PE	
Annette Stipak		Rebecca Parkes, PE Aide	
Kim Murdzek, Nurse		Amanda Merring, Music	
David McGuinness, Building		Angie Songy, Resource	
Susanne Terry, IT		Nancy Arzonico, Counselor	
Katy Sperry, Library, Computer, BASC		Claire McIlwain, Art	
Megan Lacey, Athletics			
Cafeteria		BASC	
Megan Lubeski		Mary San Miguel	
Rose Passwater		Mary Anderson	
Sandra Guzman		Allen Anderson	
Lourdes Jacobsen		Irene Applegate	
		Amy Celuch	
Middle School Electives		Daphne Lady	
Jenn Yobs		Christine Madera-Jordan	
Michelle Nemec		Jessica Poldiak	
Jennifer Lones			
David Hayes		Total Amount:	



Please list your family name as you would like it to appear on the vouchers.



Friday, January 23, 2026

Register
Now!

Grandparents' Tea



Important Notes

- All families with PreK students **MUST** attend the AM session.
- Students can only attend one session, so grandparents need to agree on which session to attend.
- There are a limited number of seats available for each session and registration is on a first come, first serve basis. We anticipate the sessions to fill up, so register early!
- Families can only register for one session: duplicate registrations will be deleted.

Have Questions?

Email Us at: GrandparentsTea@stjohnb.com

- Email us if you have family members at the school who share the same grandparents. We want to make sure you are all seated together, so please email us!
- Email us if you need to make changes to your registration. We can help make any of the needed changes!

Information Needed to Register:

■ For each attending grandparent:

- First and Last Name
- Email Address (if they want to receive event updates)
- Dietary Restrictions

■ For each attending student:

- First and Last Name
- Homeroom Teacher's Name
- Dietary Restrictions

Volunteer



This is the only
way for parents to
attend!



Clickable Links

AM Session

8:30 - 10:00

PM Session

1:00 - 2:30



AM Session

8:30 - 10:00



PM Session

1:00 - 2:30



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December 2025

In this month of December, **our Back Pack program continues to serve children with weekend shelf stable, ready to eat food support.**

Back Pack wish list: child friendly small tuna or chicken easy open pouches, Snack on the Run tuna or chicken packs, shelf stable yogurt pouches, meat sticks such as Chomps, and fruit cups (we have plenty of applesauce). Lance crackers, any flavor and Pop tarts (any brand and flavor).



YOUR recent donations have allowed us to support children in our local community, and this is truly appreciated. Thank You!!



The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry will be handing out shopping lists after the weekend masses with recommended items that will be donated as part of our Christmas food boxes for families.

The St. John's Giving Tree is organizing Christmas gift giving and will support many of our SVDP friends. Additionally, each classroom at St. John's School will be supporting a SVdP family - sharing the true spirit of the season.



Thank you to everyone here at St. John's School for your tremendous support of our St. Vincent de Paul program. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at: 256-722-0130

Susan Abell
St. Vincent de Paul