

## WINTER 2017 Newsletter

St. John the Baptist Catholic School

256 722 0772

### **Meet Ms. Glosemeyer, St. John's 6th grade teacher**

*First alumna teacher joins the staff*

As a student at St. John the Baptist Catholic School in Ms. McAlear's kindergarten class, Ms. Glosemeyer already knew she wanted to pursue a career in education. On her "Student of the Week" poster board, she included that she wanted to become a teacher when she grew up.

A St. Louis, Mo. native, Ms. Glosemeyer moved to Alabama with her family in 1997 as part of the BRAC relocation. She attended both St. John's and St. John Paul II Catholic High School. After high school, Ms. Glosemeyer attended the University of North Alabama where she received her degree in secondary education with a concentration in English language arts.

"Teaching is such a rewarding vocation because you are directly impacting the kids," said Glosemeyer. "I cannot be more thankful and blessed to be a part of a school that cares so much about the students."

From Fallfest to the Seder meal in 4th grade, to school dances and sports, Ms. Glosemeyer is happy to be back in the same halls she once walked as a student. She is excited to be teaching middle school because of the enthusiasm students bring to the classroom each day. Ms. Glosemeyer wants to support the students while also challenging them to reach their full potential.

"Being a student at St. Johns is more than being a good athlete or making the good grades; it is about having a well-rounded experience inside and outside of the classroom," said Glosemeyer.

When not in the classroom, Ms. Glosemeyer enjoys watching sports, DIY crafts and spending time with her family and friends.

## Letter from the Principal

Dear Families,

As we prepare this Advent season, I want to pause to reflect on how blessed I am to be a part of this St. John's family and its mission. I would like to take this opportunity to share just a few reasons we are grateful this season.

We are thankful for our students who come to school every day ready to learn – they give us all a daily reminder of what is important and why we are here. We appreciate the support of our families in creating an outstanding partnership for our students. We give thanks for the teachers, assistants, nurse, lunchroom staff, and support staff who really care about student achievement and have the best interests of our students at heart. We are also grateful for our volunteers who enthusiastically contribute so much to our school.

Most importantly, we are thankful for the parents that have kept the faith in us. They continue to share their most valuable possession with us and—in most cases— work hard and advocate to be a partner in their children's faith formation, education, safety and well-being. For this, we are ever so thankful.

In closing, thank you for being a part of the St. John's community. We are thankful for what the last 20 years has brought us and look forward to the future.

Blessings,

*Sheryl B. Lewis*

## **Grandparents enjoy tea at St. John's**

In celebration of Grandparent's Day, St. John's hosted the second annual Grandparents' Tea. With nearly 200 grandparents attending this year, many students were able to spend time with their grandparents. With such large interest, the event was offered at two times on September 22. Students met grandparents in the parish hall where they enjoyed conversation, questions and a reception. Students gave their grandparents special bookmarks they made for the occasion.

Grandparents and students were entertained by the St. John's middle school choir. Thank you to all of the grandparents who were able to attend the event - we look forward to seeing you next year!

## **New priest appointed pastor of St. John the Baptist**

Fr. Bryan Lowe has not wasted any time getting to know the students at St. John's Catholic School. In addition to engaging with students at weekly mass, Fr. Bryan has visited the k4 students and entertained questions, he read to the 4th grade students and he also shared with the 5th grade students about vocations.

A chemist by degree, Fr. Bryan found his calling while attending mass in his early professional days. He asked for a sign and was given a prayer for vocations in response. Although an introvert at heart, Fr. Bryan loves the kids and he is thankful to be in another parish community with a school.

Asked why Catholic education is important today, he said, "Religion is in everything you do. The connection to learn about God in everything educates the whole child."

To wind down, Fr. Bryan enjoys golf, model trains and cheering for his teams - Boston Red Sox and the University of Colorado Buffs.

## **\$20 for 20 Campaign**

Creating the St. John's Experience

To help St. John the Baptist Catholic School celebrate twenty years of academic excellence and sending servant leaders into the world, **we are asking for those in the St. John's community to consider making a \$20 - or more - gift** to celebrate the wonderful work happening in our school and to ensure it continues.

The St. John's Annual Fund was established to help meet the needs of the school. It is a pivotal part of the overall funding at the school, and contributions **help bridge the gap** between tuition and the actual cost to educate a student.

Participation in the campaign shows both the support and pride for all of the programs, including St. John's important **mission of producing productive citizens and faith-filled servants of God**. Directing your gift to the campaign allows the principal to allocate funds where the need is greatest.

**Your small gift can make a big impact.** Your gift of just \$20 will supply one religion book for one student, \$50 can provide a science workbook that is much needed for today's changing world, \$250 will allow our students access to Chromebooks and \$400 will support students learning and instruction through iPad resources.

**Please consider making a 100% tax deductible gift** to the St. John's Annual Fund today. We want you to know that *every* gift matters!

To make a gift to the St. John's annual fund, please mail a check to:

St. John the Baptist Catholic School  
% Annual Fund  
1057 Hughes Road  
Madison, AL 35758