



ST. JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Stark County Catholic School

400 W. Lisbon St., Waynesburg, OH 44688 | (330) 866-9556 | stjameschoolwaynesburg.org

November 2021 Parent News

Message from the Principal:

Dear Parents,

The Fruit of the Spirit for November is "Peace". During the Last Supper, Jesus said to his disciples, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give you." —[John 14:27](#). When he saw them next, after rising from the dead, he again said, "Peace be with you" ([Luke 24:36](#)). During their darkest hour, as they were caught in the grips of terror and confusion, *peace* was the gift Christ gave to His disciples.

But what IS peace?



Peace is staying calm even when things are bad, scary or seem impossible. We don't have to fear or worry because we trust God. When we keep spending time with God by reading the Bible and praying, we grow in peace! The Bible actually tells us "do not worry

about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks. And God's peace will keep your heart and mind on Jesus. This peace that God gives is so great, we can't even understand it" (Philippians 4:6-7).

Ms. Reece provided the teachers with information on helping students cultivate peace in their lives. In the classrooms, the teachers are setting up Calm Corners where students can go if they are anxious or upset. The teachers are helping the students identify their emotions and practice coping skills such as taking deep breaths, praying, meditating, using a stress ball, blowing bubbles, drawing, or writing about their feelings.

We are also beginning a program titled "Strong Kids". The program is provided by the Sisters of Charity Foundation for the Catholic Schools in Stark County. The purpose of Strong Kids is to promote children's mental health by focusing on Social and Emotional Learning. SEL is a process that teaches young people how to apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions, and achieve personal goals.

As we approach the holiday season, I pray that you may experience the peace that comes from knowing God walks with you every step in your journey through life. May you take the time to feel God's presence and peace within and around you each day,
Kathy Kettler

Dates to Remember:

Nov. 24, 25, 26 – NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec. 2 – Christmas Fundraiser
Delivery

Dec. 4 - Light Up Waynesburg
Parade 5:30pm

Dec. 8 Midterms sent home

Dec. 9 & 10 – Santa's Secret
Shop

Dec. 10 – Polar Express Day –
Wear Pajamas.

Dec. 16 – Virtual Christmas
Program

Dec. 17 – Christmas Mass 9am
& Christmas parties

Dec. 20-31 – Christmas Break
Dec. 21 St. James Day at the
Nest

Jan. 3 – Classes resume



SCHOOL NEWS

Light Up Waynesburg

Please join us on **Saturday, Dec. 4** for the Waynesburg Tree Lighting and Santa Car Caravan Parade. We will start the season this year with Santa leading a car caravan in a Mohawk Valley fire truck. Anyone interested in joining the caravan can meet at St. James School at 5:30pm. If you are feeling the spirit of Christmas, you are encouraged to decorate your car for the caravan.

St. James K-7 students will ride in a truck from Sarchiones. Pre-school students will ride in wagons with parents. We would like our students to wear Santa hats. Please return the attached sign-up sheet as soon as possible so we know how many people will be joining us.



Christmas Fundraiser Pick-up

Thank you to all who sent in order forms for the Christmas fundraiser. The items will be delivered on **Thursday, Dec. 2nd** and can be picked up on Thursday or Friday afternoon, Dec. 2nd or 3rd.

Santa's Secret Shop



Once again we are pleased that Miss Alex and Miss Julie are preparing Santa's Secret Shop for the children in Pre-school through 7th grade to do their Christmas shopping on **Dec. 9 and 10**. Order forms will be sent home soon.

Santa's Secret Shop

POLAR EXPRESS DAY

On Friday, Dec. 10, the 6/7 graders will be visiting each classroom to read The Polar Express. They will serve hot chocolate and marshmallows after the story. The children may wear pajamas for the day.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Pre-school – Dec. 16 at 10:30am

Pre-K – Dec. 15 at 11am

K-7 Mass at 9am followed by viewing of Christmas Program and Party – Dec. 17

"LIGHT OF THE WORLD" VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Due to COVID concerns, we will have a virtual Christmas program again this year. The seating in church for a live program is too close and would not adhere to our COVID social distancing policy. So the children are preparing a virtual Christmas Program which will be available for viewing on Thursday, Dec. 16. More details will be coming.



ANGEL AUCTION APPRECIATION

We want to express sincere appreciation to Laurie Farber, Lisa Casto, Alex Blemler, and Katie Kinsinger for organizing and managing the Angel Auction. They did a fantastic job! With the help of friends, local businesses, parents, and parishioners, the on-line auction was a great success. The school profited over \$4,000. The proceeds will be used to pay utility bills during the winter months.

NOVEMBER TURKEY DINNER

Special thanks to the wonderful team that worked to make the November dinner a great event! We want to thank all the parents who donated food for the dinner, QCS for donating the turkeys and paper supplies, school staff and parishioners for baking turkeys, and parishioners for sending delicious desserts. Our sincere thanks to those who attended or ordered take out. We served over 200 dinners. Pictured is the team that organized and served dinner. Special thanks to Alex Blemler, our chief cook and bottle washer; along with Frances Dierick, master of mashed potatoes; and Scot Bowman, our official taster tester. The kitchen crew received abundant praise for the delicious meal! The net profit for the dinner was \$2310.



PHOTO GALLERY

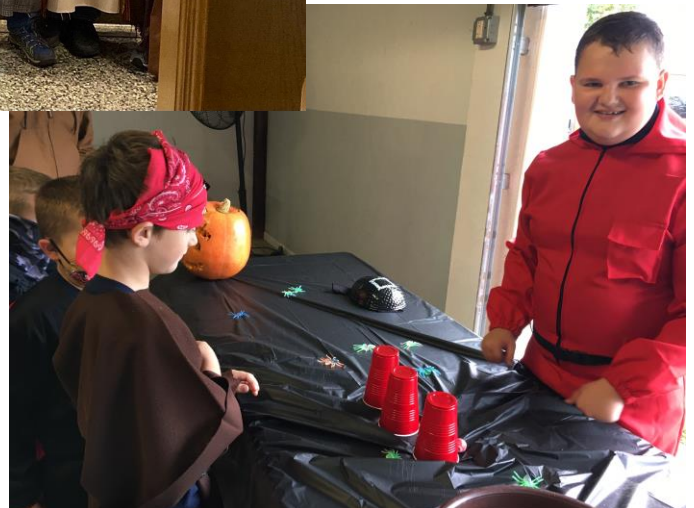
All Saints Day Mass

Fourth grade saints posed with Fr. Joe and Deacon Dave at All Saints Mass. Pictured are: Lilly Wade (St. Kateri Tekakwitha), Brelyn Lonca (St. Josephine Bakhita), Daniel Friedman (St. Juan Diego), Alice Jones (Blessed Nennolina Meo), James Keleher (St. James), Andrew Bolanz (St. Andrew), and Jagger McCort (St. Jude). To the right, James tells Fr. Joe about the life of St. James.



Trunks for Treats Halloween Party

Thanks to all the parents who brought treats and decorated for our Halloween Party. Your generosity made it so much fun for the kids. Special thanks to the 6/7th graders for planning games for the younger kids to play. Pictured to the right is Cayden Cosenza doing a magic trick for first graders Thomas and Carson.



To the right, Ms. Reece, Ms. Nichols, and Ms. Brownsword came in costume as three blind mice.



Below, Lilly Rine and Izzy Hull watched Emerson Micco pin the nose on the jack-o-lantern.



Below, 6/7th graders competed in the Donut Challenge.



FIRE SAFETY

Kindergarteners learned about fire safety when the Mohawk Valley Fire Department brought fire trucks for all the students to see and climb through.



FIRST GRADE SCIENCE CLASS

First graders studied the life cycle of plants. Pictured is Leo Hunt displaying his work. Behind him, Carson, Noah and Tori finish their displays.



VETERANS DAY PRAYER SERVICE

On Veterans Day the school gathered around our new flag pole to pray for veterans. The fourth, sixth and seventh graders led the prayer service. Leo Friedman played America the Beautiful on the harmonica. Mrs. Cordes led the whole school singing and signing "God Bless America." The flag pole has been donated by Gene and Mary Reichard's family. Griffin Flinner was inspired to salute the flag!

