





Dear Parents.

Peace! How quickly a school year can pass through our lives. In some ways September 2024 seems like ages ago and on the other hand it seems like yesterday. We began this academic year with the words from scripture, *REMAIN IN GOD*. Throughout these months we have woven those words into our everyday activities and experiences. Hopefully they are rooted in our hearts and the hearts of our children. Remaining in God is a life long decision made on a daily basis. We are hopeful that the children understand that decision will affect their words...spoken, written, texted to an individual or in a group chat and the choices they make each day. Our kids are blessed that they have a team of adults surrounding them with an awareness of God's great love and ours for them.

Whoever thought this time last year, even this time three months ago we would have an American Pope guiding our church? It is exciting to see how excited the children are and their response to his picture and his message of peace.

As you are probably aware Pope Leo XIV has connections with people from this area. The church bulletin (May 18, 2025) had an excellent write up with Fr. Rich's letter and the opening words of Pope Leo XIV. It is on the parish site and would be worth reading again. I benefit from reading, rereading and reflecting on the written and spoken word so it becomes more of a reality. The fact that "pontiff" comes from a Latin word meaning "bridge" is powerful. Can't help but think of our theme for 2023-2024, *Eucharist...Bridge to Unity.* 

Congratulations to the Class of 2025. Traditional 8th grade events are scheduled beginning with the Clap Out on Wednesday, June 4th. They have their trip to Baltimore on June 5th, Dance on June 6th, and Graduation Liturgy and Exercises on Sunday, June 8th. This year Graduation is on the great Feast of Pentecost. What a great connection for them as they complete one phase of their education and prepare for another. We wish them God's Blessings as they complete their Elementary Education and move on to High School. Blessed are the high schools that they will attend. We are hopeful they will accomplish great things in their future. We look forward to hearing about their accomplishments. Pray with and for them that they continue to receive Eucharist regularly being that Bridge to Unity in their future endeavors. While they are graduating from SJA School, they continue to grow in their faith, preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in November. Pray that they continue to open their hearts to the Holy Spirit.

Congratulations to our High School, College and Graduate School Alumni. We wish you all good things in your future endeavors. You are always welcome to stop in and see us. We are very proud of you.

Thanks to all who organized and attended our Golf Outing at Indian Springs, Designer Handbag Bingo and Race for Education. All three events were great fun and fundraisers, helping to keep your tuition at a reasonable cost.

A separate letter will be coming home regarding uniform expectations for 2025-2026.

We have a tradition at SJA of taking Flat Jesus with us wherever we go on vacation and staycation. As we move forward into the summer months, we encourage you to take Flat Jesus with you. Flat Jesus is attached to this email and will be available on our website this summer. We look forward to receiving your pictures at <a href="mailto:flatjesus@stjoansk-8.org">flatjesus@stjoansk-8.org</a>.

The school supply list for the 2025-2026 school year will be on the school website next week. Many parents have commented that they appreciate the early notice so that they can take advantage of Back to School sales prior to the end of summer rush.

Once again Field Day was a huge success. We are grateful that the Wednesday and Thursday rains ended in time for a Field Day free of sunburn. Thanks to Miss Gliick and all the volunteers who made the day possible.



Our hallways looked like the Philadelphia Art Museum. The Annual Art Show was Thursday, May 29th. We were blessed with great weather and a great crowd. It is fun to watch the kids look at the pictures and make so many positive comments.

Many hours of preparation go into the school yearbook and literary magazine. Thanks to our teachers for assisting the students with their literary skills. Thanks to Miss Ambrose, Miss Gliick and Mrs. Appalucci for all the time and energy making the publications possible. Please review the importance of writing only positive comments in the publications.



We are very grateful to our coaches and students who participated in Golf and Track. Congratulations and thanks for representing SJA with your skills, talent and good sportsmanship.

Happy Father's Day to all our Dads, Grandfathers, Godfathers and Uncles. May St. Joseph continue to guide and project you in this awesome role.

There is a ministry in our parish called Mary Statue Home Visit. Please click <u>HERE</u> explaining the details of the Mary visit. Through Mary's intercession may there be peace in our hearts, homes, schools, neighborhoods, and world.

Special thanks to all who were able to attend our final PTA meeting for this school year. Those who attended brought a spirit of joy, interest and gratitude for a successful year. Hopefully you have a deeper understanding of our Theme and Brain Symposium. The slide presentation certainly celebrated many of the 2024-2025 school year.

Mark your calendar for a Celebration of 60 years of Catholic Education. The event will take place on Saturday, October 25th at 6:30 PM at Indian Springs. Saturday evening Mass will be at 5PM. More details to follow.

On Tuesday, June 10th, there will be a PTA Carnival Meeting. As you are well aware the Carnival is our biggest Fun and Fundraiser. We are hopeful that every family will be actively involved in this community building event. Hopefully by now you have received a phone call or email asking you to attend. With your help different grades will be assigned to specific nights to assist and be one of the hundreds of volunteers it takes to set up, work and clean up before, during and after this huge event. Thanks in advance for your time, commitment, energy and good will. As always it is an opportunity to reconnect after the summer, meet new people and help us continue to offer a financial scholarship to each student. Every penny raised goes directly into the school budget for the upcoming school year. See you at the meeting.

Our Annual Talent Show with participants grade 3rd and up, will take place on Wednesday June 11. If your child is performing you will receive a notice. We are very grateful to Mrs. Walczak and Mr. Peiffer for organizing this event.

The closing Retreat Day for the 2024-2025 school year will be Thursday, June 12th. This gives us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the happenings of the year, be grateful for the many blessings we have received, think about the possibilities for summer of 2025 and how we can continue to Remain in God.

The last day of the school year will be Friday, June 13th with 12:30 PM dismissal. Please take note as this is a change from the original calendar. We will end the year with a special closing liturgy, followed by report card distributions and an opportunity to view the School Year Video.

Wherever these summer weeks take us, let's continue to bring our children to church each weekend so that they can receive Eucharist and be Eucharist for others. May each day of June, July and August find us *Remaining In God*.

Many thanks to those who made 2024-2025 a peaceful, happy experience. Your positive energy is greatly appreciated and contagious.

Stay healthy. Stay safe. Stay connected to Jesus.

Happy Summer!

God's Blessings, Sister Pat



