

St. Joseph Parish

2022 - 2023

ANNUAL REPORT



**THE HANDS OF CHRIST
OPEN TO ALL...**

1619 WASHINGTON STREET GRAFTON, WISCONSIN

Letter from our Parish Administrator

Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of St. Joseph Parish and School, I am proud to present our Annual Report for 2022-2023. As you can see in the pages ahead, our parish remains strong and committed to our mission to be the Hands of Christ. Thank you for helping us fulfill our mission this past year and thank you in advance for all that you will offer—time, talent, and treasure—to help us fulfill it in the year ahead.

For me personally, this past year has been an opportunity to get to know our parish. We are blessed with so many wonderful parishioners and committed staff members. This results in all the various ministries we are engaged in as a parish which are on display in this report. I am humbled and grateful to be part of all the good things God is doing in and through our parish. I hope you feel the same way!

This Annual Report also gives me the opportunity to reflect on my primary goal from this past year, which was to be as present as possible. This meant, first, being present to our staff and supporting them in their work. A parish is a community of communities—or a family of families, as Pope Francis has described it—and the first community, or family, is the one formed by the priest and staff.

Being present to our staff, though, was in service of a larger ministry of presence: namely, to you, our parishioners. It was my goal this year to make myself as available as possible to get to know you and to meet your spiritual needs. I take seriously the words of Jesus that a good shepherd knows his sheep and his sheep know him. One of my favorite ways to get to know parishioners is to share a meal with them, and I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had to do that this past year.

I'm also grateful for the opportunities I've had to celebrate the sacraments with you, both at our parish and at the various hospitals, hospices, and assisted living facilities throughout the area. It's unusual now for a week to go by when I'm not called to provide the anointing of the sick for someone at one of our local hospitals. Celebrating baptisms, first communions, confirmations, funerals, and my first wedding here, were also privileged moments this past year. It's been a privilege as well to meet with many of you one-on-one and talk about the ways God is at work in your lives, both in the joys and challenges, the ups and downs.

Another joy for me this past year has been being present in our school: visiting classrooms, celebrating school Masses, and joining in various events and activities. I'm inspired by how committed our principal, teachers, and staff are to providing a good education to our students and passing on the Catholic faith to them. I'm inspired by our parents who make countless sacrifices, many unnoticed, to send their children to our parish school and who are so committed to its success.

There's a lot more that I could say about this past year, but I'm also excited about the year ahead. With gratitude for the past, and hope for the future, may we turn to our patron, St. Joseph and invoke his intercession. May he, who was the faithful spouse of the Blessed Virgin and guardian of the Redeemer, watch over us, protect us, and continue to guide us on our journey. St. Joseph, pray for us!

In Christ,



FR. NICK BAUMGARDNER, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Statement of Financial Activity

	<u>Year Ending June 30,</u>			
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2024</u>
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>Revenue</u>				
Envelopes & Offertory	\$ 1,252,636	\$ 1,281,638	\$ 1,242,679	\$ 1,296,500
School Tuition & Fees	715,965	664,935	695,868	682,400
Christian Formation Tuition & Fees	31,867	35,200	37,962	36,500
School Donations, Fundraising & Other	172,481	197,940	200,515	183,300
Other Parish Donations & Income	121,902	102,560	205,556	135,000
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 2,294,851</u>	<u>\$ 2,282,273</u>	<u>\$ 2,382,580</u>	<u>\$ 2,333,700</u>
<u>Expenses</u>				
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 1,668,286	\$ 1,700,008	\$ 1,606,879	\$ 1,743,400
Buildings & Grounds	206,796	220,410	199,053	210,100
Supplies & Other Expenses - Parish	231,785	224,555	190,669	225,200
Supplies & Other Expenses - School	152,513	137,300	147,392	155,000
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 2,259,380</u>	<u>\$ 2,282,273</u>	<u>\$ 2,143,993</u>	<u>\$ 2,333,700</u>
Total Surplus (Deficit)	<u>\$ 35,471</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 238,587</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<i>Love One Another (not included above):</i>				
Revenue	\$ 131,889	\$ 132,264	\$ 180,052	\$ 128,000
Expenditures	\$ 33,731	\$ 200,967	\$ 31,533	\$ 135,000

Financial Successes:

- Higher school enrollment boosted tuition and fees above budget and prior year.
- Overall expenditures came in below budget as lower repair and maintenance needs, reduced spending, and open positions offset inflationary increases in several areas.
- We received \$132,000 in funds from the Love One Another campaign allowing us to continue to invest in much-needed improvements and upgrades.

Financial Challenges:

- Health insurance costs are increasing at a rate higher than inflation.
- Envelopes and offertory contributions were below budget; we will continue to monitor and manage expenses in light of price increases while focusing on our parish and school mission.



DEACON SCOTT WIESE, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Letter from our Trustees

Dear St. Joseph Parish Family,

As trustees, we serve St. Joseph Parish on the Pastoral and Finance Councils, and along with Fr. Nick, the Archbishop, and the Vicar for Clergy, are directors of the parish corporation. Reflecting on our fiscal year, we extend our thanks to you, our faith-filled and resolute parish family. Your goodness supports our mission, “The Hands of Christ...Open to All”. More than words; this is the way of life in our church, our community, and our world. Please accept our deep appreciation for the unwavering welcome and kindness you share.

Our ‘shepherd’, Fr. Nick Baumgardner now has a year under his belt. Together with him, we celebrate and share the important work of a common vision and foster goals in continuing to build our community. Fr. Nick has revealed a sense of humor and his gift of connecting the rich context of our faith with a relevant message in his homilies. He offers additional spiritual opportunities, including daily Mass, which has been met with steady attendance. He is a strong supporter of our new Men’s Group now in its second year, and we’re pretty sure he attended every Fish Fry! St. Joseph’s has been asked by the Archdiocese to open its rectory for living quarters. We will spend a few months in preparation and expect Fr. Nick to move into the house adjacent to the drive on 17th Avenue early in 2024.

With sincere gratitude we said goodbye to our longtime Director of Liturgy and Music, Randy Hilgers. On May 1, we greeted a new face and voice to our worship in William Stevens. William brings his love of music and the Church to bear in our weekly encounters with the Mass and continues our tradition of providing a reverent and vibrant Mass experience for our parishioners and visitors.

Ever committed, our talented and hard-working Pastoral Staff and committees persist in their efforts to serve the parish through dozens of mission-focused ministries. Your generous stewardship provides for the many spiritual and temporal contact points for our parish and broader community. In the past year, we started the aforementioned Men’s Group, once again celebrated our Lenten Fish Fries and St. Joseph Feast Day, held a Corpus Christi procession, and launched preparations for our 175th parish anniversary year. The parish also received the deed for the St. Francis Xavier Cemetery at Town Ten, which was the first site of what would later become St. Joseph Parish. The cemetery was rededicated on July 31, 2022.

We continue to fulfill our promise to be good stewards of your generosity, using Love One Another funds to maintain and improve our buildings and grounds, create a comfortable and safe place to worship and learn, and preserve and enhance our cemetery landscape and facilities.

Our new fiscal year brought a changing of the guard in our Trustee – Secretary leadership being handed over from Ron Putzer to Lisa Delorit. We thank Ron for his faithful guidance over the past several years, and cheerfully welcome Lisa. Her long-term experience with and love for our parish will ensure continued stability of our leadership team.

Looking ahead to our 175th year anniversary on November 7, 2024, we thank God for those who set the cornerstone of Catholic faith in our community. We rest in the assurance God’s providence will guide our future as we live in the present as the hands of Christ.

Peace to all,



CHUCK BOEHM TREASURER



LISA DELORIT, SECRETARY

BAPTISM 28

"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." Gal. 3:27



FIRST EUCHARIST 40

"Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life.'" John 6:35



CONFIRMATION 25

"They were all filled with the Holy Spirit."
Acts 3:4



ADULT CONFIRMATION ²

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses." Acts 1:8



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION ¹

"Our hearts are restless till they find rest in Thee."
St. Augustine



MARRIAGES

7

"And over all these put on love,
that is, the bond of perfection."
Col 3:14



FUNERALS

34

"The souls of the righteous are
in the hand of God."
Wisdom 3:1



FAMILIES

1192

MEMBERS

2996

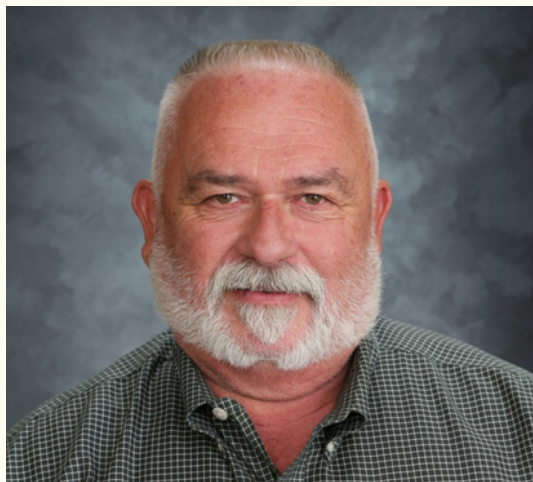
NEW FAMILIES

59

"So faith, hope, love remain, these three;
but the greatest of these is love." 1 Cor 13:13

CELEBRATIONS

"Every sunset is an opportunity to reset. Every sunrise begins with new eyes." Richie Norton



Celebrated Randy Hilgart's 29 years as Director of Liturgy and Music



Welcomed Fr. Nick Baumgardner
His first day was on June 28, 2022 and he
presided at Masses for the 1st time on July 2nd
and 3rd

Also, welcomed

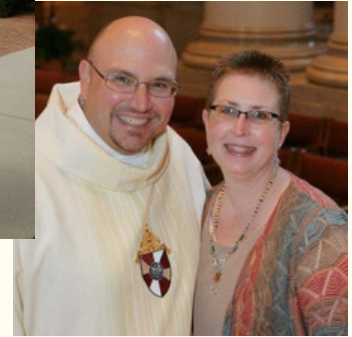


KC Kranich, Director of Youth and Young Adult
Ministry



William Stevens, Director of Liturgy and Music

CELEBRATIONS



In October 2022 we celebrated Deacon Scott Wiese's 10th Anniversary of his Deacon Ordination
September 8, 2012



Deacon Al and Rocki Lazaga 56th Wedding Anniversary



In June 2022 we celebrated Deacon Al Lazaga's 30th Anniversary of his Deacon Ordination June 12, 1992



Dan and Jill McElroy
50th Wedding Anniversary

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!" Phil 4:4



Robert and Catherine
Cabelka
50th Wedding Anniversary



Sal and Barbara Natoli
60th Wedding Anniversary



Todd and Marjo Padick
65th Wedding Anniversary



Celebration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
Fr. Nick blessed our pets.

CELEBRATIONS



St. Joseph Feast Day



November | December 2022

"We don't talk about Bruno"

CELEBRATIONS

We celebrated the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ,
also known as Corpus Christi.

"Since Christ himself has said, 'This is my Body,'
who shall dare to doubt that it is His Body?"

St. Cyril of Jerusalem



Corpus Christi Procession

RESTORE

"The God of all grace who called you to his eternal glory through Jesus will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you after you have suffered a little." 1 Peter 5



Stained glass window from original 1860 church



Steeple from former church restored to our main entrance



St. Joseph Parish has over 85 active ministries working together to be the Hands of Christ. The next many pages reflect a small portion of our community in action.

REDEDICATION

"As Christians, the care we show for our cemeteries and those who are buried in them reflect our faith in the resurrection of the body and in the communion of saints."

Fr. Nick Baumgardner



St. Francis Xavier Cemetery Project Unites Past & Present



"When we see a cemetery that is well taken care of, it's a reminder of the dignity of the human person, of our responsibility to pray for the deceased, and of the fact of our own death and the need to be prepared for it when it comes." Fr. Nick Baumgardner

LOS TOROS

Our mission in Los Toros is a mission of solidarity. The Los Toros Foundation has been serving the educational, cultural, health, and community development needs of the people of Los Toros for over 36 years! Cultural exchanges for both youth and adults happen every year through various mission trips and experiences.



The Sewing Center in Los Toros is one of the most important centers for building community, skills, confidence, and mutual support for the women of the area.

The Sewing Center building itself was constructed with donations from the people of St. Joseph Parish. In addition, many of the sewing machines, sewing supplies and other items were made possible by the generosity of St. Joseph members over the years.

Proceeds from the Farmers Market sales go to support our brothers and sisters in Los Toros through various programs.



St. Joseph Parish School athletics donated volleyball gear to the girls at Los Toros Middle School in the Dominican Republic! The girls were very excited to receive these items.

LOS TOROS

Los Toros scholarship students, Congratulations!



Pedro Luis Reyes Beltre received his BA degree in Modern Languages from the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo in August of this year. A Beca Scholarship student.

As a language major, Pedro is fluent in English and also manages very well in French. St. Joseph parishioners who have travelled to Los Toros with little or no Spanish have had successful and meaningful experiences with the help of Pedro as their translator.

Pedro's message: "Thank God for my family, friends, Los Toros Foundation, and all those who in one way or another contributed to this cause with their grain of sand. Thank you for trusting and believing in me. This degree is for you."

Pamala Ogando graduated from the UTESA (Technological University of Santiago) in July thanks to the support offered by the members of our parish through donations to the Los Toros Mission. Pamela Ogando wrote this open letter of gratitude to St. Joseph Parish on her graduation day: "Thanks to God, my family, friends and your support, today I officially became a doctor!"



Maria Elena Mejia Perez (Bamel) has received great news promising a bright future ahead! Bamel has recently been awarded a scholarship for further advanced studies in Spain upon completion of her degree. The scholarship is awarded by the Dominican Republic's Ministry of Education, Science and Technology Division, in collaboration with universities in Spain. She will study internal medicine with a subspecialty in neurology and will be studying in Spain for approximately three years. Bamel has been studying medicine at the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo thanks to the generosity of donors to the Los Toros Mission scholarship program.



LOS TOROS

Los Toros scholarship students, Congratulations!

Angel Niwton Reyes graduated from the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo.

A Beca Scholarship student.
His major, in the School of Humanities, is in Letters, focusing on Language, Linguistics and Literature.



Augustin (Bla) Mendez graduated from the University of Santo Domingo – San Juan. Bla majored in Education with a focus on Physical Education. Bla hopes to gain a teaching position either in the primary or secondary level and is eternally grateful for the support he has received from the people of St. Joseph Parish through their donations to the Los Toros Mission.

SPECIAL FUNDRAISER: HOGARES



An urgent mission fundraising request went out in spring this year to assist residents of Los Toros in their housing needs.

An increased number of families needed help with critical home repairs, upgrades from dirt floors, leaky thatched roofs, and occasionally, a replacement home.

Families must also help in the repairs of their home. They must also provide 50% of the cost of the home.

St. Joseph Parish raised more than \$23,000 to support the housing needs in Los Toros!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



St. Vincent de Paul of St. Joseph's is a group of parishioner volunteers helping neighbors right here in Ozaukee County. Assistance may include emergency rent, utilities, food, clothing, household goods and/or referral services. On a person-to-person basis, members offer help, hope, and encouragement to people in need. They lend an ear to listen, a hand in a time of crisis and a hope to guide people toward programs that can bring lasting change into their lives.

St. Vincent de Paul is active in back-to-school supply drives, several "Bundle Sunday's" offered throughout the year, many food drives and Christmas giving tree opportunities to help our families in need!

A Source of Help and Hope – Neighbors Helping Neighbors

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal order of Catholic men started in 1882 that has over 2 million members. Membership requirements are Catholic men over the age of 18 years and a commitment to the teachings of the Catholic Church. The Knights are involved in our church through donations for community projects, supporting seminarians, and helping our youth.

GREETERS



Welcoming you is our nature!

DEAF COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



St. Joseph's is proud of our over 37 years of deaf interpreters at our Masses three weekends each month.

WEDDING MINISTRY



Married couples work with engaged couples to help them prepare for lifelong successful marriages that bring them happiness and joy, by living their commitment to each other, to God and to the Christian community

FUNERAL MINISTRY



Volunteers serve as lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, ushers and altar servers during funeral liturgies.



The American Legion Post 355 attends funerals for our veterans.

MINISTERS OF CARE



There are 40 Ministers of Care currently serving at hospitals, residential facilities and to the homebound.

TEAMS WORKING TOGETHER!



The 6th graders at SJPS helped load all the food boxes the parish donated to Capuchin Community Services during Advent.

50 PLUS ST. JOSEPH FEAST DAY



This ministry welcomes adult parishioners aged 50 and better to join them for luncheons and social get-togethers throughout the year.



St. Joseph is a place that is fun for everyone!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



St. Joseph faithful community prays to Jesus Christ, who is present in the Eucharist.

“VINO & VERITAS” “WINE & TRUTH”



Reflection gathering lead by Fr. Nick on our Catholic Faith. The evenings talk was on Divine Revelation which is made up of both Sacred Scripture and Tradition as taught by Christ and revealed by the Holy Spirit.

MORNING OF REFLECTION



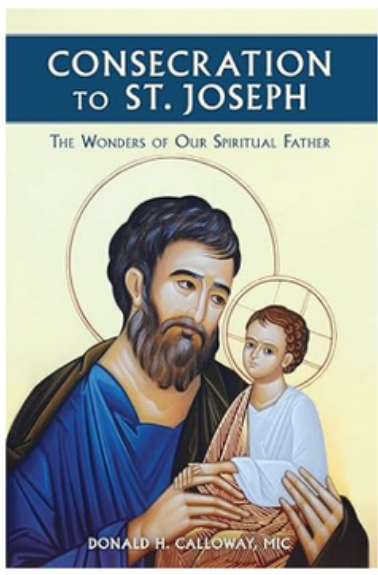
Morning of reflection was held for our current and future volunteers that renewed our commitment to serve Jesus in our community parish.

SCRIPTURE STUDY

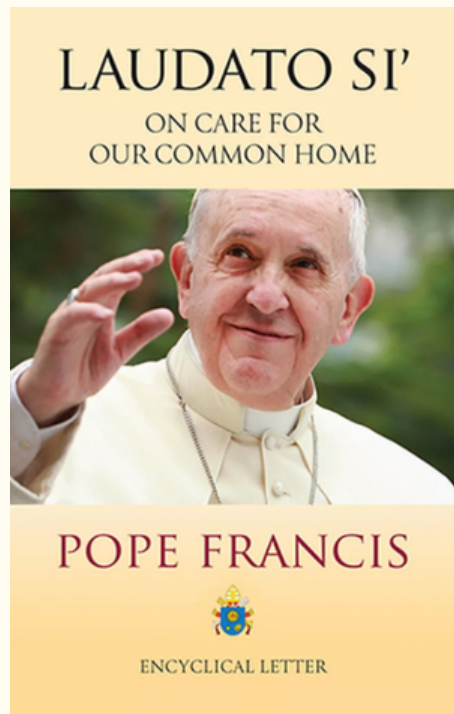


Study group reflects on the upcoming Sunday's readings. They have faith discussion along with fellowship and then attend Mass together afterward. 21 parishioners participate in this group.

STUDY | JOURNEYS



Group Consecration



Laudato si' Creation Care Program



Journey with St. Joseph

MEN OF ST. JOSEPH



An interactive men's program that combines the latest findings of modern science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop authentic male leaders capable of transforming themselves, their families and greater society.

7 SISTERS APOSTOLATE



A call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of Fr. Nick—a "holy wasting" (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.

FISH FRIES

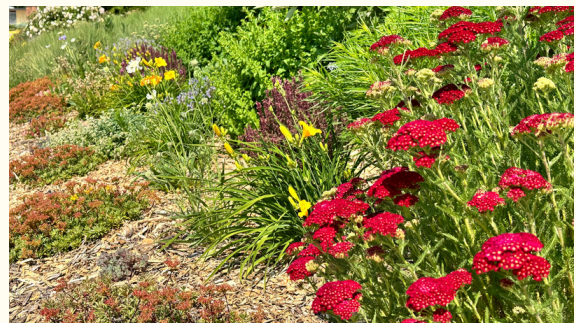
A Wisconsin's tradition in part attributed to the Catholic Church!



Fish fries are a wonderful way to bring our parish families together and in solidarity help to follow our Lenten fast. Over 100 school and parish volunteers are needed for each of our 5 fries.



PARISH GROUNDS



Many hands keep our grounds beautiful year round.

HUMAN CONCERNS



Our Human Concerns Committee represents St. Joseph Parish by fulfilling our Baptismal call to serve one another. Education is one of their main goals, working to provide parishioners with information and formation on a variety of topics as related to Catholic Social Teaching.

CATHOLIC ECOLOGY



At Work, Play and Prayer in the Fields of the Lord. Joe Meyer from Catholic Ecology Center gave a talk on ecology and how to play and pray in the fields of the Lord.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING



Human Concerns Committee shared all the different ways St. Joseph Parish respects life throughout the year from feeding the hungry to helping pregnant women.

Gena Orlando, director of the Wisconsin National Suicide Prevention Center spoke on prevention, awareness, resources available and how to get involved.

SUICIDE AWARENESS TALK



JUST FAITH GROUP

Studies scripture and serves in the community

MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary is a daytime sanctuary and multi-resource center for homeless and at-risk individuals with core values of healing, spirituality, recovery, peer empowerment, dignity, nonviolence, advocacy, voice, sustainability and mutual transformation.



Visit to MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary in Milwaukee to learn how we can serve the homeless.



Hunger Task Force is Milwaukee's Free and Local food bank and Wisconsin's leading anti-hunger organization. A voice for the voiceless.

PRAYER GARDEN

Visit to the Hunger Task Force in Milwaukee to learn about how they work to feed the hungry in Wisconsin.

The Marian Memorial Garden is a place for parents to pray for their children who passed before them. Parents symbolically place their children into Mary's care by laying a stone with their children's names at the foot of the statue.



WORKCAMPERS



Workcampers served as the Hands of Christ in Montague, MI. this year along with workcampers from St. John XXIII. 16 youth and adults from St. Joseph joined 16 youth and adults from St. John XXIII.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

216 Children and Youth



Catechists Training

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



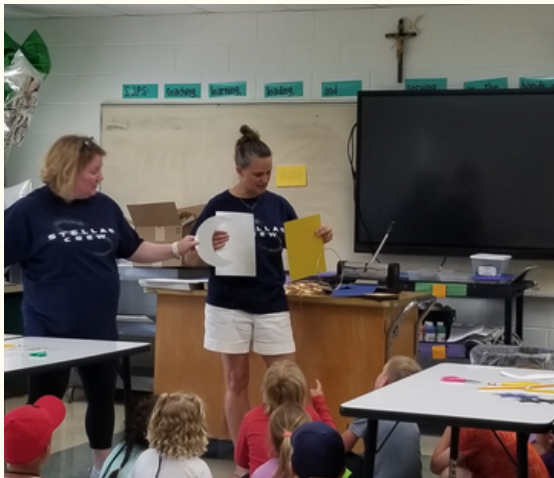
CONFIRMATION



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We launched kids on a cosmic quest where children of St. Joseph's had a blast shining Jesus' light to the world.

50 participants



Dedicated volunteers rocketed kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that incorporates light years of faith-building fun.



PARISH SCHOOL

GRADES K₃ - 8

St. Joseph's School offers an Early Childhood program in grades K3-K5, an Elementary program for grades 1-5, and a Middle School program for grades 6-8. Our well rounded and expansive curriculum produces some of the top ranked high school students in academics and beyond. Our goal is to educate the whole child in mind, body and spirit.

K₃, K₄, & K₅



Our Early Childhood Programs offers a secure and loving Catholic environment where a child can develop intellectually, spiritually, physically, socially and emotionally.

- Weekly Mass | School Prayer
- Teaching Staff with over 72 combined years of teaching experience
- 1:10 student to teacher ratio
- Learning through play and exploration



PARISH SCHOOL

GRADES 1-5

Our Elementary Program develops skill sets in students that meet enhanced educational expectations. Children are educated as a whole child in mind, body, and spirit. Our curriculum is based on the Milwaukee Archdiocese Grade-Specific Catholic Education Curriculum and prepares students to be collaborative passionate, life-long learners.



ELEMENTARY PROGRAM



- Weekly Mass | School Prayer
- Develop Core Skills and Confidence
- Foster Positive Social Skills
- Fully Accredited School
- 1:13 student to teacher ratio
- Clever Touch boards and iPad integrated technology, Chromebooks
- Specials: Library, Physical Education, Art, Music, and Spanish (Optional: Piano, Voice, and Guitar lessons)



PARISH SCHOOL

GRADES 6-8

We are fully accredited and follow the Archdiocese Curriculum Guide by grade and the Wisconsin Academic Standards. Our instructors provide personalized attention to each student. Our graduates not only acquire an educational advantage but also develop life-long social skills to prepare them for the future.



MIDDLE SCHOOL



- Weekly Mass | School Prayer
- Fine Tune Communication Skills
- Advanced Mathematics and Analytical Reasoning
- STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Based Science Curriculum
- Foster Confident Social Development
- Clever Touch boards and Student Chromebooks
- Specials: Library, Physical Education, Art, Music, and Spanish (Optional: Piano, Voice, and Guitar lessons)
- Athletics (basketball, volleyball, track)



PARISH SCHOOL

2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

St. Joseph School has been awarded an Archdiocese of Milwaukee 2023 Exemplary Award for Mission and Catholic Identity.

Acknowledgements include:

- Fr. Nick & Mrs. Matthews for their outstanding faith filled collaboration in leading the school.
- Consistent use of prayer journals with students and the diversity of prayer offerings.
- Deeply connection art projects with scripture.
- Pervasive presence of mission throughout the halls & classrooms.
- Having the Liturgical seasons serve as the driver of activities.
- Fr. Nick for his exemplary presence in the school & Weekly Faith Challenge to students.
- The Students & Staff Activities & Wellness (SAW) Program.

OUR SCHOOL FAMILY



Here at St. Joseph our school feels more like a family. All of our teachers and staff know each child by name. Our families take an active role in the education of our children.

Other 2022-2023 Highlights are:

- Annual Auction
- Craft Fair
- Catholic Community Foundation Angel Fund Grant
- GIFTS Greenhouse Grant
- Family Fun Night

