

January 4th, 2026



St. Joseph Parish School Lancer Times

Weekly online school communication from the Leadership Team

Administration email: principal@stjosephgrafton.org

Important Dates to Remember

- School Resumes - Mon. 1/5
- Carols Around the Tree, 2:30pm - Mon. 1/5
- Calendar of Cash Drawing Begins - Mon. 1/5
- Auction Meeting (library), 6:00pm - Tues. 1/6
- All School Mass, 8:30am - Thurs. 1/8
- School Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00pm - Thurs. 1/8
- January Choice and SNSP count - Fri. 1/9
- Fish Fry Meeting (Mrs. Gratz's classroom), 6:30pm - Mon. 1/12
- GHS Counselor Talk w/ 8th graders - Tues. 1/13
- iReady Testing - Tues. 1/13/26 - Thurs. 1/15
- No School, teacher inservice - Mon. 1/19
- 8th grade vs Parent-Teacher Volleyball game - Fri. 1/23
- Catholic Schools Week Kick-off - Sat. 1/24/26 at 4pm Mass
- Open House, 5:00pm - Thurs. 1/29
- Early release, 11:35am - Fri. 1/30



~ A Message from the Leadership Team ~

Dear St. Joseph Parish School Families:

Welcome Back & Happy Epiphany

Welcome back SJPS families! We hope you enjoyed a joyful and restful Christmas break filled with special moments together. Today, at Mass, we celebrate the **Epiphany of the Lord**, which reminds us of the Wise Men following the star to find Jesus.

Epiphany is a beautiful reminder that Jesus is a light for everyone and that we are called to share that light through kindness, generosity, and care for others. As we welcome our SJPS students back into the building tomorrow, we will continue to encourage them to use their gifts and talents to help make our

school and world a brighter place by living our mission of Teaching, Learning, Leading and Serving as the Hands of Christ.

Thank you for your continued care and love for St. Joseph Parish School. We look forward to a wonderful 2026 working in partnership with each and every one of you. Blessings for a safe, happy and healthy new year!

Inclement Weather School Closures

In the event of inclement weather, our school will follow the guidance and closure decisions of the Grafton School District. Any delays or closures will be communicated to families as soon as possible. Notifications will be sent via email and text message and will also be shared with local news stations. Please be sure your contact information is up to date so you receive timely alerts. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we prioritize the safety of our students and staff.

Blessings,

St. Joseph Parish School Leadership Team

Reminder

Just a gentle reminder that this time of year can also bring an increase in illnesses among students. To help keep our school community healthy, we kindly ask that you keep your child home if they are experiencing any symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, vomiting, or other signs of illness.

Allowing children time to rest and recover at home helps prevent the spread of illness and supports a safe learning environment for everyone. Please remember that our school policy for returning after an absence states: The student may return to school when he/she has no fever, is no longer vomiting, or is diarrhea free for 24 hours. Those 24 hours should be without the support of over the counter medications.



Congratulations St Joseph Parish School Staff, Students and Families!

SJPS has achieved the high standards of excellence required of all Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation members

and is fully accredited by the Board of Directors for the 2025 - 2026 school year.

In addition, the school also successfully meets the Standards for accreditation of the Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation. NFNSSAA commends the school community for meeting the rigorous requirements for accreditation and providing a high-quality educational experience for the community it serves.



**Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation
Certificate of Accreditation**

This is to Certify

St. Joseph Parish School - Grafton
K3-8

has achieved the high standards of excellence required of all Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation members and is fully accredited by the Board of Directors.

2025-26



Thomas A. K. K. K.
President
Ken M. Suttie
Executive Director
December 1, 2025



NFNSSAA
National Federation of Nonpublic
School State Accrediting Associations
Accrediting Excellence. Empowering Schools.

*National Federation of Nonpublic School
State Accrediting Associations*

CERTIFICATE OF NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Issued to

***St. Joseph Parish School - Grafton
K3-8***

The school successfully meets the Standards for accreditation of the Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation. NFNSSAA commends the school community for meeting the rigorous requirements for accreditation and providing a high-quality educational experience for the community it serves.

Carol Las
NFSSAA President

2025-26 Academic Year

Jan M. Suttie
NFRSA Executive Director

STATE CHAPTERS:

Arkansas Michigan Minnesota Missouri Wisconsin



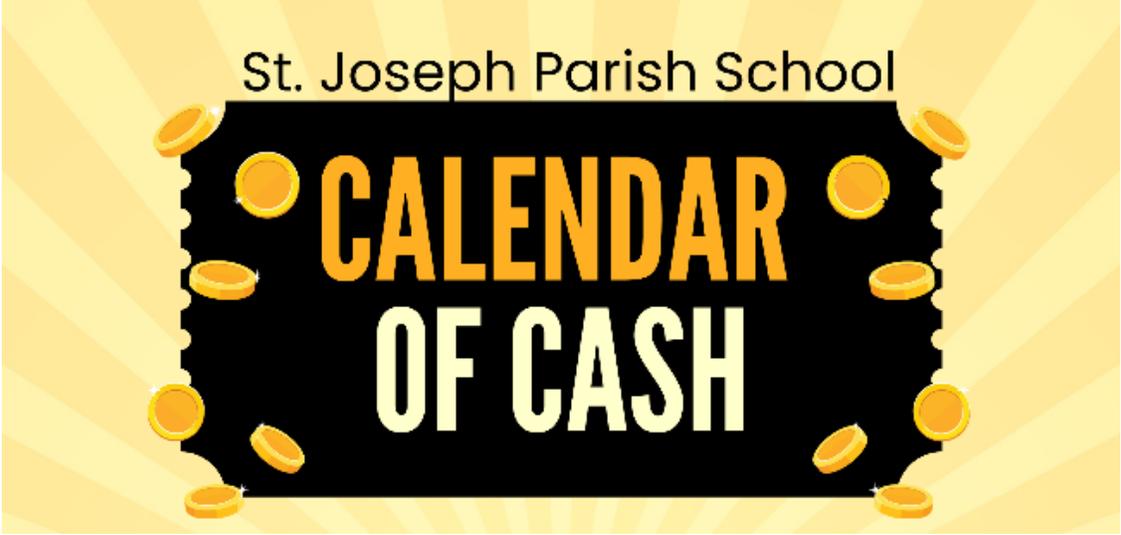
SJPS Extended Care: If you are in need of childcare for your SJPS student, we are pleased to offer both morning (6:30 - 8:00am) and evening (3:15 - 6:00pm) childcare through our Extended Care Program. Please use the link provided below to sign up your student(s).

*We know things happen, but if you need to sign-up for a day after the Monday of that week, please reach out to Amanda Christian via email @ achristian@stjosephgrafton.org or through the Extended Care Class Dojo to confirm your child's placement

December Extended Care Sign Up

Calendar of Cash drawings begin Monday, 1/5/26! Winners will be announced in the following week's Lancer Times, SJPS Facebook page and the Parish Bulletin.

Thank you for supporting our wonderful school.



Our Lenten **St. Joseph Fish Fries** are rapidly approaching! If you would like to get involved in the planning process, please join us at our meeting on Monday December 15th at 6:30 PM in the St. Joseph School Library.

Role	Description
- Marketing and Signage Captain	- Arrange with local media to share promotional material for fish fry events
- Dessert Captain	- Coordinate dessert emails for school families and parish bakers; assist with day of set up and portioning
- Sponsor Captain	- Reach out to local businesses for sponsors to offset costs
- Scheduling/Volunteer Captain	- Manage Sign up genius for volunteers and assign volunteer roles for each fish fry
- Fryer Captain	- Manage main fryers during fish fries to cook during each event
- Beverage Captain	- Recruit bartenders for the events, pick up alcohol and NA beverages for each event

Contact Andrea Hayes (Arakoczy13@gmail.com, cell: 262-617-8128) if you are interested or with questions. More communications will be sent out after Christmas for the event-time volunteering.

We look forward to seeing you at the St. Joseph Fish Fries!

Dear Saint Joseph Parish School Families:

A gentle reminder regarding car drop-off and pick-up as we begin 2026:

- At this stopping point, we will ask you if you wish to get out of your vehicle to buckle or unbuckle a child(ren). If so, we will have you pull forward to one of three spots next to the cones on the playground. There you may get out of your car and do what you need to do. A staff member will either receive your child in the morning or walk your child down to your vehicle at pick-up time. Once you are ready to pull back into the line of traffic, we request that you indicate your need to pull out using your blinker.
- If you do not need to unbuckle or buckle child(ren), then we will load or unload your vehicle onto or off the sidewalk under the canopy and you may then simply pull away and exit the parking lot at the assigned exit.

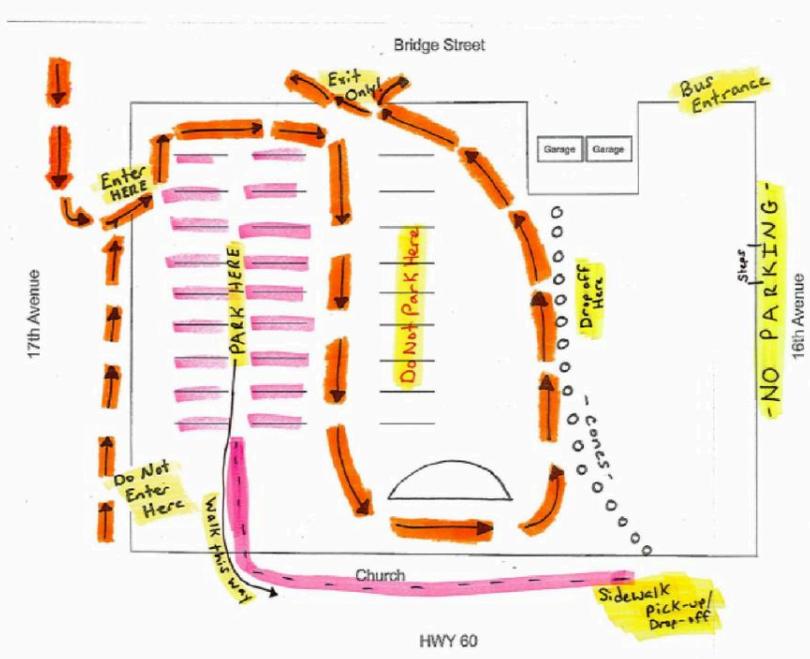
By following this procedure, we hope that all children and adults will remain safe during these often hectic and stressful times of the day. This also allows the entire line to continue moving forward smoothly.

Warmest Regards,
The Principal Leadership Team
Chris, Julie and Carren



For safety purposes, please only **ENTER** the parking lot from the **17th Avenue** driveway and **EXIT** only onto **Bridge St** during morning drop-off between **8:00 - 8:15am** and during afternoon pick-up between **3:00 - 3:20pm**.

Thank you for your support in maintaining a safe SJPS campus





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ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL RAISERIGHT

'Tis the season for giving... and earning at the same time!
Remember to buy gift cards, shop online, or dine at participating
restaurants through St. Joseph Parish School's
RaiseRight program.

Every purchase helps earn money for St. Joseph Parish School's Home
& School and in turn give a percentage back to your school account.

HOW TO ORDER:

OPTION 1

Order online at raiserright.com/shop-online

Enrollment code is [A2F8B5C91447](https://raiserright.com/shop-online)

(Scan the QR code to take you directly to connect to our school)
Orders will be sent to you directly and can be placed at
anytime.

*Online orders that exceed 15 gift cards will be sent to the
school office. Please place these orders by 12/11/25 to be
included in the school batch order. If not they will be
included in the next order after Christmas.



OPTION 2

Order in the school office or over the phone with Daphne Lingsweiler, 262-
375-6505, ext. 0. These orders need to be placed and payment received by
12/11/25 at 3pm to make it into this order. Anything received after will be
included in an order after Christmas.

Orders placed through the school office can be picked up
starting on Thursday, December 18th from 7:45am-3:45pm.

Please contact Daphne Lingsweiler in the school office at
262-375-6505 ext.0 with any questions or accommodations.

We appreciate your support!

Weekly Classroom Highlights

By: Mrs. Christian, K3 Teacher

School Scene

By: Amanda Putzer, K3 Teacher/Extended Care Director

K3 has a very busy and very full class again this year! Early in October we went to the pumpkin farm to learn about the growth cycle of a pumpkin, pet farm animals, and take a hayride out to the pumpkins. It was very fun and educational! Halloween was fun as well and the children really enjoyed the dress-up days leading up to the Catholic Schools Walk. The children had a lot of fun eating pie together and learning what it means to be thankful and grateful during November! Now, the students are learning about the Holy Family and what Advent is. Beginning last week, the 1st week of Advent, the K3 students, along with the rest of the school, participated in a variety of activities and prayer services to celebrate and reflect on the meaning and importance of Advent.

St. Joseph Parish School: Teaching, Learning, Leading, and Serving as the hands of Christ



~ GIFT CARDS OF GRATITUDE ~

A HUGE thank you to all the SJPS families who graciously donated gif cards from various local establishments and varying amounts to be used this year as a way to show appreciation for our SJPS Staff!



Each full, 5-day week, during announcements, a student randomly draws a staff member's name and they are awarded a "gift card of gratitude." This is an unbelievably generous and exciting gift we are able to share with our staff.

Winners so far this year:

- Miss Johnson - \$10 Culvers
- Miss Cathy - \$100 Amazon
- Ms. Longoria - \$25 Amazon
- Mrs. Temple - \$25 Culvers
- Mrs. Vaculik - \$10 Culvers
- Miss Cheryl - \$5 Culvers
- Mrs. Gratz - \$5 Starbucks
- Mr. Smith - \$25 Target
- Ms. Myers - \$10 Amazon
- Mrs. O'Dell - \$5 Culvers

SJPS at Weekend Masses

This year, as a school, we will be collectively focusing on continuing to enhance our School-Parish connection. To that regard, each month, a homeroom/grade will be featured at a weekend Mass!

What this all includes is: students are invited to attend Mass with their families (preferably in uniform), a piece of work they have done or an activity will be set up in the Gathering Space for parishioners to see how awesome we are as a school and to invite them to interact with school families, Fr. Tim will say a little "blurb" during Mass to showcase that grade and a light hospitality will be provided.

A schedule of each homeroom's weekend Masses are:

- **January 24th - 25th @ all Masses - All classes (Catholic Schools Week)**
- **February 14th @ 4:00pm - K4**
- **March 15th @ 8:00am - 2nd & 3rd**
- **April 19th @ 10:30am - 5th - 8th**

~ Community Announcements~

ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



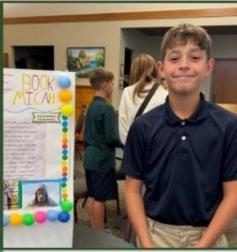
We are excited to honor our school, Parish, and SJPS community as we celebrate Catholic education with special activities January 24th - 30th.



Early Childhood
K3, K4, K5



Elementary
1st -4th Grade



Middle School
5th -8th Grade

OPEN HOUSE

January 29, 2026
5 - 7pm

1619 Washington Street
Grafton, WI 53024



www.stjosephgraffton.org/school

~ Information from Previous Lancer Times ~



St Joseph Parish School Theatre Department is excited to announce our upcoming production of Moana Jr! Show dates are Thursday and Friday, May 14th and 15th, 2026. This year's production will also be including our 3rd Graders for the first time since our production of The Wizard of Oz!

More information will come your way after Christmas, with auditions happening in late January.

If you might be interested in volunteering to assist with the production, kindly contact Andy Smith (asmith@stjosephgraffton.org)

TOT OPEN GYM



Join us in the St. Joseph Parish School gym from **8:30-10am** to run and play! Open to children ages 6 and under not currently in school. Caregivers must stay with children.



Please enter through the main School doors and sign in with the office when you arrive.



October 29
November 12
December 10
January 7
January 21



MINI MUSICAL MONDAYS

Mr. Smith, the music teacher, will lead children in some lively sing-alongs and hands-on instrument fun one Monday a month! Join us in the St. Joseph Parish School music room at **9am** to sing and have fun! Open to children ages 6 and under not currently in school. Caregivers must stay with children.



Please enter through the main School doors and sign in with the office when you arrive.



November 3
December 1
January 5
February 2
March 9
April 13
May 4

Monthly Outreach	January Extended Care	Home and School
Safe Environment Training Registration	Drop-off/Pick-Up Map	SAC Meeting Minutes
Donate to our Annual Fund	Parish Bulletin Look-up	Visit our website

St. Joseph Parish School
1619 Washington St. Grafton, WI
262-375-6505

School Office email: schooloffice@stjosephgrifton.org

Administration: principal@stjosephgrifton.org

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