

February 22nd, 2026



## St. Joseph Parish School Lancer Times

Weekly online school communication from the Leadership Team

**Administration email: [principal@stjosephgraffton.org](mailto:principal@stjosephgraffton.org)**

### Important Dates to Remember

**REGISTRATION FOR 2026 - 2027 IS OPEN!**

- Musical Rehearsal (All Cast), 3:30 - 4:45pm - Tues. 2/24
- 3rd - 8th Field Trip to MPM - Wed. 2/25
- Musical Rehearsal (Moana and Maui only), 3:30-5:00 - Wed. 2/25
- Mass @ 8:30am - Th. 2/26
- Stations of the Cross in Church, 5:30pm - Th. 2/26
- No School, Teacher Inservice - Fri. 2/27
- Second Fish Fry, 4:30 - 7:30pm - Fri. 2/27
- No School - Mon. 3/2
- Clubs and Extracurricular Photos - Wed. 3/4

~ A Message from The Leadership Team ~



Dear St. Joseph Parish School Families:

Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent, and we are reminded that Lent is a journey that we walk together as children of God. For our SJPS students and families, Lent is an opportunity to learn what it means to follow Jesus in everyday ways by learning about and practicing the three pillars of Lent:

- **Prayer – spending time with God each day**
- **Fasting – giving something up to make more room for God**
- **Almsgiving – helping others with a generous and loving heart.**
- 

Even small acts like saying an extra prayer at bedtime, choosing to be kind even when it's hard, or donating to someone in need, help us to grow to be more like Jesus. Thank you for all the ways you support your children in learning and living our Catholic faith. We look forward to walking this Lenten journey together with all of you.

Blessings for a peaceful Lenten season,

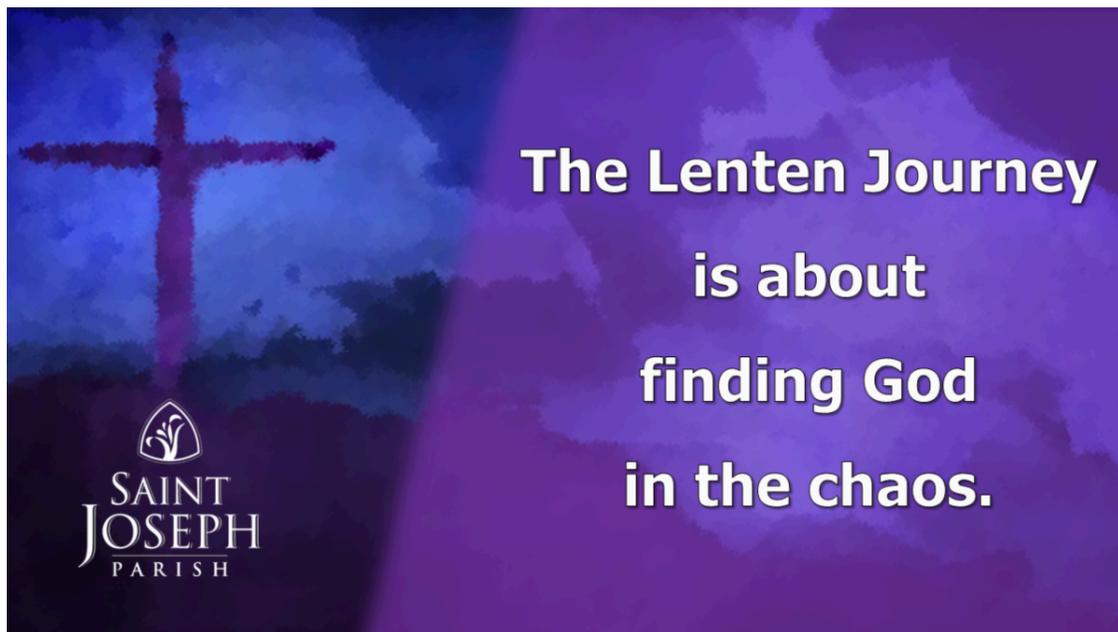
The Principal Leadership Team

**Additional Reminders:**

- Please sign up to volunteer at Fish Fries or just come out to eat and support this major fundraiser. \*\*Any student who volunteers at or comes and eats at a Fish Fry can earn an Any Day but Mass Day dress-down coupon! See Mrs. Gratz after announcements
- Registration is open for all grade levels K3 through 8th grade! The per family registration fee is currently \$200, but will increase to \$250 on March 1st.
- Please don't forget to put your name card in your vehicle for drop off and pick up!

Blessings to you all,

The Principal Leadership Team



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**LAST WEEK TO REGISTER EARLY and  
SAVE ON YOUR FEE!**

A quick reminder as we look ahead to the 2026–2027 school year, if you're planning to enroll your child, we encourage you to register soon to secure a spot. Current registration fee is \$200 and will increase to \$250 as of March 1st - reserve your spot now!

**ENROLL NOW**

We're grateful to partner with your family and look forward to another great year together! Please reach out if you have any questions.

2026 - 2027 Tuition Information

Tuition Support Options

Register [HERE](#)

## 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.

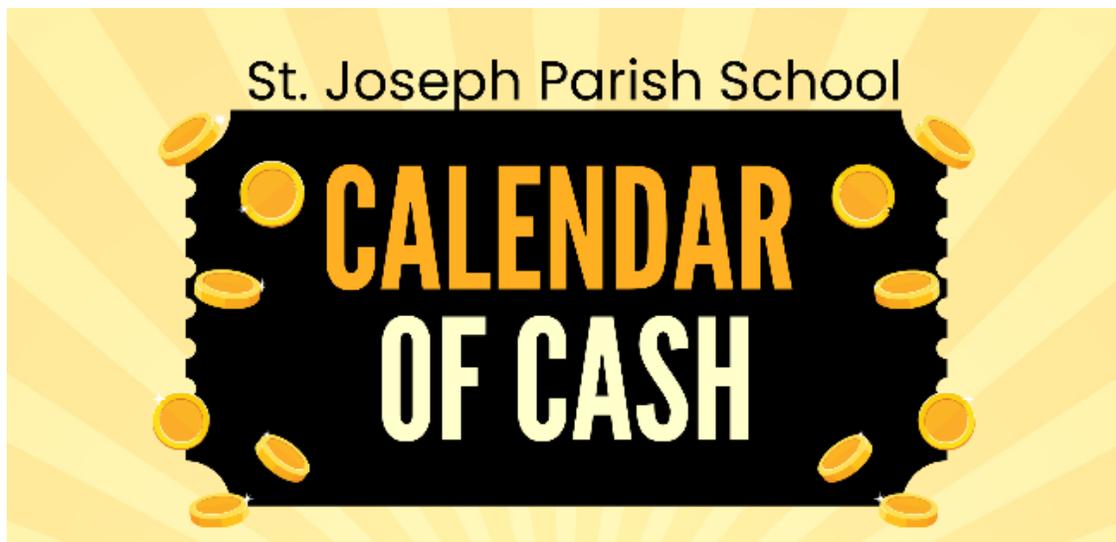


### Donation Request

If you or a family member have empty, cleaned out plastic ice cream tubs, the School Office will happily take those off your hands.

Thank you!





Calendar of Cash Winners:

To be announced tomorrow!

Checks will be mailed to each winner. Congratulations!

**St. Joseph Fish Fry**  
SINCE 2000!  
Dine-In or Carry-Out • 4:30pm to 7:30pm  
1619 Washington St., Grafton

**Feb. 20, 27**  
**Mar. 6, 13, 20**

Fried Cod, Baked Cod, Fried Walleye,  
Fried Shrimp, St. Joe's Platter

Traditional Potato Pancakes Served! Kids Meals Available.

Scan QR Code to pre-order meals

**It's almost time for the Lenten Fish Fries!** As a school fundraiser and completely volunteer-run, we need your help to make these events a success!

**Volunteer sign up:** We need help before, during, and after all 5 Fish Fries.

You may sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D49ABAA2EA5F49-61877449-stjoseph>

**If you are unable to make it to the Fish Fries but still want to help, we have opportunities:**

- **Laundry:** wash towels and aprons after each Fish Fry (Pick up on Saturday, return to church by Thursday before the next Fish Fry). Please email Andrea Hayes ([arakoczy13@gmail.com](mailto:arakoczy13@gmail.com)) if you are interested in this. It can be for 1 week or up to all 5 weeks
- **Silverware wrapping:** Roll the plasticware that we use during all Fish Fries. This can be done at home and brought back anytime before the Fish Fries during the week
- **Additional desserts:** Many guests rave about our excellent homemade desserts that are included with all Fish Fry meals! If you like to bake, you can help us by bringing an extra dessert. This is included on the sign-up genius listed above

Contact Andrea Hayes ([Arakoczy13@gmail.com](mailto:Arakoczy13@gmail.com), 262-617-8128) for more information.

***We look forward to seeing you at the Fish Fries!***

# FISH FRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

[Fish Fry Volunteer Sign Up Link](#)

Don't forget to sign up to clean tables, serve meals, offer drinks or share desserts during our Fish Fries! Volunteering is a fun and exciting time for our families and students - both present and past!



[Click here to view our Fish Fry promotional video!](#)

The logo features the word "SCHOLASTIC" in white capital letters on a red rectangular background, positioned above the words "BOOK FAIR" in large, bold, white capital letters on a green background with a wavy bottom edge.

Thank you for making our Scholastic Book Fair a success!

As a result of your efforts and enthusiasm, we **earned \$2,390 Scholastic Dollars** during Catholic's Schools Week. Our school produced **\$4,770 in sales** and we were able to **purchase \$1,300** in books for the Teachers and Library this year.

All this wouldn't be possible without volunteers from our school community!!

- Andrea Hayes
- Brittany Hess
- Char Blaubach
- Hannah Belknap-Webber
- Mandy Gullicksen
- Mel Iserloth
- Nancy Morgan
- Rene e Peplinski
- Stephanie Nino De Guzman



Our deepest gratitude and a special thanks to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to help! They set up and took down the fair, sold books during the event, supported early readers with their wish lists and organized teachers wish lists!

I hope to see you and your child at our next Fair. Until then, happy reading!



Are you a business owner? Do you know someone interested in donating an item or service?

The SJPS Auction team is looking for items or services donations for the 2026 Boots and Bling Dinner Auction! Email [auction@stjosephgraffton.org](mailto:auction@stjosephgraffton.org) if interested!

Please reach out to Kelly Osowski or Kate Tretow for any questions.



**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@stjosephgraffton.org](mailto:achristian@stjosephgraffton.org) or through the Extended Care Class Dojo to confirm your child's placement

[February Extended Care Sign Up](#)

## Weekly Classroom Highlights

By: Mrs. O'Dell, Interventionist

### St. Joseph Parish School – January I-Ready Growth Highlights

St. Joseph Parish School students completed their mid-year I-Ready assessments in January, marking the second of three benchmark assessments administered each school year. Students in grades 5K–8 participate in I-Ready testing each September, January, and May. These assessments help teachers monitor growth, identify instructional needs, and plan targeted support for all learners—including our special needs students and diverse learners.

The January results show **remarkable progress** across the school, with gains in every major domain of reading and math.

#### Reading Achievement

Students demonstrated strong growth in all areas of reading.

- **Overall reading proficiency increased from 56% to 76%** of students performing at or above grade level.
- In **Reading Comprehension**, students grew from **45% to 70%** at or above grade level.
- Every reading domain showed improvement, reflecting the hard work of both students and teachers.

#### Math Achievement

Math results also show significant gains across all grade levels.

- **Overall math proficiency increased from 51% to 73%** of students performing at or above grade level.
- In **Algebra and Algebraic Thinking**, students grew from **56% to 81%** at or above grade level.
- Growth was evident in every math domain assessed.

#### Percentile Rank Snapshot

When looking at national percentile rankings:

- Only **12 students in reading** scored below the 50th percentile.
- Only **11 students in math** scored below the 50th percentile.

This means the vast majority of St. Joseph students are performing at or above the national average.

### ~ 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:

- Mrs. Christian - \$5 Culvers
- Mrs. Lemke - \$5 Starbucks
- Mr. O - \$5 Culvers
- Mrs. Lingsweiler - \$5 Starbucks
- Mrs. Stengel - \$10 Culvers
- Miss Jackson - \$5 Culvers
- 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

**~ Community Announcements~**

# DOMINICAN HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS

20  26

Calling All Performers, Entertainers, Storytellers, Athletes, Budding Scientists, and more! This summer, Dominican High School 2026 Summer Camps are back with a welcoming, fun, and immersive environment for campers to develop their critical thinking skills, explore their creativity, get involved in a new sport, and make new friends!

## OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED ALL SUMMER LONG INCLUDE:



JR. KNIGHTS  
SUMMER  
SPORTS  
CAMPS



SUMMER  
ACTIVITY  
CAMP



DOMINICAN  
THEATRE  
CAMPS



**SCAN THE QR CODE**  
to learn more about our summer camp offerings,  
including cost, registration info, and more.

# Mom's Night Out

Join us for a saint peg doll exchange!



**March 24<sup>th</sup> 7-8:30pm**

St. Joseph Parish Gathering Hall

Contact Lorraine Lochen to register by Feb 20th:  
[LORRAINE.E.LOCHEN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LORRAINE.E.LOCHEN@GMAIL.COM)

## **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:

- March 15th @ 8:00am - 2nd & 3rd
- April 18th @ 4:00pm - 5th - 8th \*Date change

~ Information from Previous Lancer Times~

# FLASH 2025 - 2026 Turquoise T-Shirt Sale

\$5.00/shirt

Stock available:

YS - 20

YL - 6

AL - 3

A2XL - 1

"We have a closet full of gently used uniform items generously donated by school families. If your child has outgrown their current sizes, we invite you to use this resource before buying new. Please call the office or stop by to check availability of specific items and sizes—we're happy to share!"



## Cut Tuition Costs with RaiseRight

Everyday earning that's easy and effective

Earning through RaiseRight fits into your daily life! Simply shop online through RaiseRight and buy gift cards to use on everyday expenses, and brands automatically give up to 20% back to the school. **You can easily earn over \$1,000 per year.**

### How it Works



#### Buy gift cards or shop online

Browse hundreds of brands on RaiseRight that offer gift cards and online earnings.



#### The brand gives back

A percentage of each gift card or online purchase through RaiseRight goes back to your school as earnings.



#### Earnings go to the school

The school shares those earnings with you to offset tuition or cover other costs and fees.

### 3 Steps to Get Started

1

#### Scan the QR code to join the school's program

Or visit [RaiseRight.com/Enroll](https://RaiseRight.com/Enroll) and enter the enrollment code provided by your coordinator. **A2F8B5C91447**

2

#### Complete the short signup form

Create a secure RaiseRight account in just a few easy steps.

3

#### Start earning

Buy gift cards and shop online through RaiseRight.



SCAN TO JOIN



© 2025 RaiseRight

# Future Open Gym Dates

2/14/26

3/14/26

4/11/26

## 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.



**February 4**  
**February 18\*\* 10-11:30am**  
**March 4**  
**March 18**  
**April 8**  
**April 22**  
**May 6**  
**May 20**



## 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**

### 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.

<a href="#">Monthly Outreach</a>	<a href="#">February Extended Care</a>	<a href="#">Home and School</a>
<a href="#">Safe Environment Training Registration</a>	<a href="#">Drop-off/Pick-Up Map</a>	<a href="#">SAC Meeting Minutes</a>
<a href="#">Donate to our Annual Fund</a>	<a href="#">Parish Bulletin Look-up</a>	<a href="#">Visit our website</a>

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

School Office email: [schooloffice@stjosephgrifton.org](mailto:schooloffice@stjosephgrifton.org)

Administration: [principal@stjosephgrifton.org](mailto:principal@stjosephgrifton.org)

~St Joseph Parish School: Teaching, Learning, Leading and Serving as the Hands of Christ~

St. Joseph Parish | 1619 Washington Street 262-375-6505 | Grafton, WI 53024 US

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