

**Saint John the Baptist  
Catholic School**

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Established 1914  
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Home of the Saints since 2018



**School Newsletter**  
**December 27, 2023**

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#SaintJohnSaints

The mission of Saint John the Baptist Catholic School is to educate God's children and promote Catholic values through academic excellence and service to others.

### Upcoming School/Parish Events

**December 25-January 1 - NO SCHOOL**  
**January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**January 2 - Classes Resumes**  
**January 8 - Youth Night (grades 5 and up)**  
**January 10 - NERR Quiz Bowl**  
**January 17- In-School Spelling Bee**  
**January 18 - End of Quarter 2**  
**January 19 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service**  
**January 22 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service**  
**January 22 - Jesu Vesperi**  
**January 22 - National Sanctity of Human Life Day**  
**January 23 - Start of Quarter 3**  
**January 24 - NERR Spelling Bee**  
**January 29 - February 2 - Catholic School Week**  
**January 29 - Pre-School Open House**  
**February 14 - Ash Wednesday**  
**February 17 - Father/Daughter Dance**

### Jesu Vesperi

"Jesu Vesperi" is latin and is translated to "Evening with Jesus". Hosted by the Archangel Youth Group, we invite kids of all ages, parents included! You do not need to sign up, simply show up, have fun, and enjoy great fellowship!

### Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week is a week long celebration that honors Catholic Schools. This year our teachers are working very hard to make sure we have a successful week. Please make sure to keep your eyes out for upcoming events during Catholic Schools Week. We will have a daily donation theme, dress up days, and various activities throughout the week. The more your student(s) engage in the daily activities the better chance they have in winning during our "Sweet Treat Raffle".

### School Staff Contact Info

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### Cold Weather

Although it has been a warm winter so far, Wisconsin weather has been known to change quickly. Please make sure to send your child(ren) with the appropriate weather gear: jackets, gloves, hats, boots and warm clothes. We have extra gloves and hats in the office if forgotten. If a student forgets their snow gear, they will not be able to play in the snow.

### PreSchool Open House

Do you know anyone with young student(s) looking for a preschool for the 2024-2025 school year? Let them know that St. John's will have an PreSchool Open House on **January 29th**. They will have a chance to know all about St. John's and tour our school. We look forward to seeing new faces at the Open House!





### 3K NEWS FOR DECEMBER

Our month of December has been very busy with the season of Advent and learning about the Nativity story. Each day we were in school we added another piece to our Manger scene beginning with Mary and concluding with the Three Wisemen. The children learned how each of the people were important in the beautiful story of Jesus' birth. We also lit our paper candles on our Advent wreath each week in preparation and anticipation of Jesus' birthday.

The children were thrilled with a surprise visit from St. Nicholas on December 6 in our classroom. We had just read a story about St. Nicholas and the good things he did and so the children knew a little bit about him when he came to visit. They were also pleased to receive a candy cane from him and heard the story of the candy cane.

Speaking of candy canes, one of our letters we learned about this month was the letter J and how Jesus begins with the letter J. The children also worked on a project making a candy cane out of the letter J. To build upon the lesson of Jesus' birth, our next letter K, became a manger when turned sideways and was placed with the candy cane J to make a beautiful picture showing Jesus lying in the manger. The children learned that Jesus is our King. A picture of the children proudly sitting by the bulletin board with their art is shown below.

Our third letter for this month was L which appropriately begins the word Love which the children learned is what the Christmas story is about.

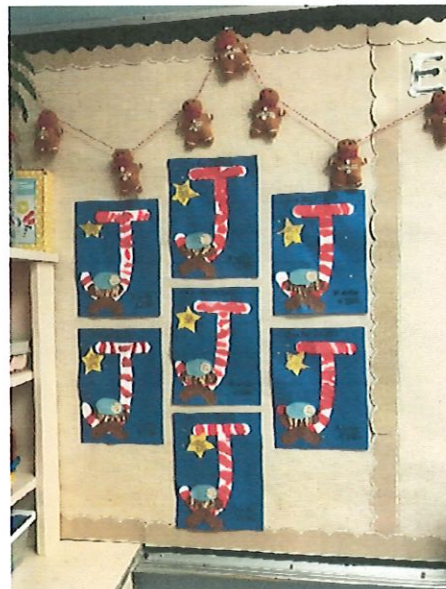
Along with all the activities of the school day the children worked very hard every day learning and singing the Christmas songs for the Christmas program. They really enjoyed the song "I Hate to Wait for Christmas." They were very patient waiting for their turn at the practices and after all that hard work the final Christmas program was a beautiful success and the children should be proud of their efforts.

On the day before Christmas vacation began we celebrated by having a birthday party for Jesus. The children first decorated the classroom with green, red, and white streamers which they had fun putting all over the room. We played a couple games one being where they each taped a star on a manger scene while blindfolded trying to get the closest to the top of the stable. There were lots of giggles when the blindfold was removed to see



where they put the star. We also heard a story about the animals celebrating Jesus' birthday and watched a movie about the Nativity along with Frosty the Snowman. The children were asked what Jesus would want for his birthday and we talked about how being kind to one another, sharing, and being good listeners are gifts for Jesus because they show love for others. Finally, you can't have a party without a few treats so they all enjoyed Christmas cupcakes and snacks.

Whew...what a fun month and so many things we learned in just three weeks!

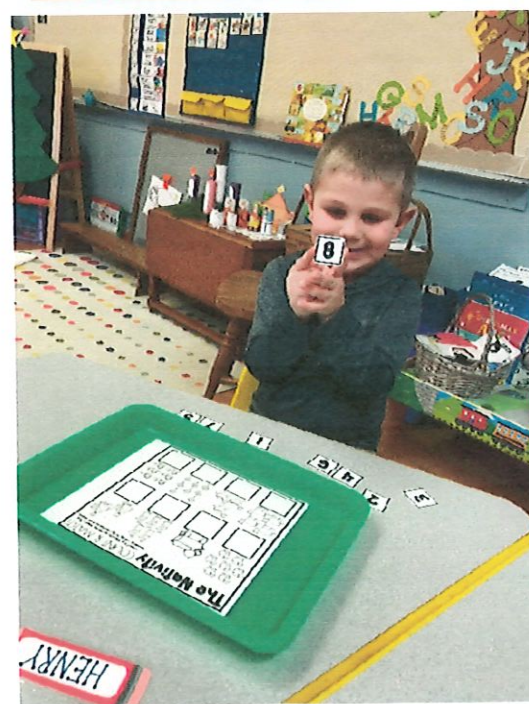






**BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS**







# 4 YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

December  
newsletter

1

It is Christmas!

**JESUS IS THE REASON  
FOR THE SEASON.**



## DECEMBER NEWS

**Christmas Program:** We had loads of fun with the program and continued to sing a few of the songs. We are filled with spirit for the Holiday Season!

**Playtime:** We have enjoyed learning about our letters and numbers. We split into many centers: Math, Writing, Art, Sensory Table, Puzzle, Blocks, Books, and Kitchen. We can play with a Magnet Board with big and little alphabet letters. Sometimes we get the chance to play with Play Dough too.

Events: 1/9 Youth Night  
5th-12th graders @ 5:30-

7pm

1/10 NERR Quiz Bowl at  
St. Joseph's in Stratford  
1/19 & 1/22 NO SCHOOL  
Teacher Inservice  
1/28-2/3 Catholic  
Schools Week (CSW)



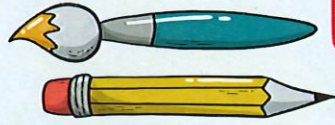


On December 12 for St. Lucia (St. Lucy has her Feast Day Dec 13th) the 7th and 8th graders (our Reading Buddies) came to our classroom with ginger snaps and hot chocolate.

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# HELLO FROM THE K/1 HOMEROOM!

Hello from the K/1 classroom! Happy Christmas break! What a busy month December has been. The students did a wonderful job at the Christmas program! They were great listeners during their many practices for the program. They were also great role models for the 3K and 4K students!







## Kindergarten

In Superkids, the kindergarteners met Tic, Tac, and Toc. We talked about the letter Tt and the sound it makes. We learned to read words that begin and end with T.

The students practiced their writing skills by writing a letter to Santa!

In Math, the students have been working on addition and subtraction. They are able to solve addition and subtraction expressions using their fingers, counters, and by drawing pictures!

In Science, we are creating a class pinball machine. We have started by talking about engineers and what they do. We learned that engineers find out about a problem and then they start to ask questions to help learn more about the problem. The students are acting as engineers and their question is "How do we make a pinball start to move?" So, our next step was talking about force and how objects move! We will start creating our pinball machine after break!

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and a relaxing break!











# Grade Two December News

## The Monthly Recap

December in Grade Two was short... just like November. As it was with November, we still seemed to pack a whole month's worth of learning in! Reading with the Superkids had us learning a lot about vowel sounds. Our SUPER Magazine also taught us all the things that go on at night, while WE are usually sleeping. In Math, we started working with number lines, learning the importance of order and spacing. The photo to the left shows us with our third, and most accurate, attempt to randomly place the numbers 0-30 on a string. Mrs. Werner thought getting it right in only 3 attempts was pretty good!

## Upcoming Events

In Second Grade, we have the joy of preparing for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. On Wednesday, 31 January, we will meet our Grade Two CCD friends as we gather for First Reconciliation. Please pray for us as we prepare for this sacrament by learning about sin and penance, discovering the lives of Saints who turned back to God, and memorizing the "Act of Contrition."

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HELP...we are trapped in a snow globe!!! Just kidding~this is us with the Christmas present we made for our parents!





## Advent with Grade One

While the weather sure did not make us feel like Christmas was near, we kept busy inside with Advent activities and preparing for our Christmas Program to help us get in the mood for the season! Juan Diego's cousin Lupita visited us and challenged us to do something kind each day until Epiphany. We will tell you more about that in our January news. We also enjoyed several Advent Saints and Angels art projects. Check out the photo to see us with our favorite one!



## Spreading Christmas Cheer

Each month different classes at school make cards or gifts for the parishioners on our Shut-In list. December was the month for K-2 to join together for a project. We made Nativity ornaments out of contact paper and tissue paper. They turned out great, especially after we laminated them. Though the activity was fun for us, we also learned how important it is to take time to spread cheer to others!





🎄 Merry Christmas and Happy 2024 from Grades 3 and 4--

It was so nice to be visited by St. Nicholas and St. Lucia! That's a great tradition in remembrance of those special saints. Third and Fourth even took a little break to do a bit of painting.

Saint Juan Diego was our Saint of the Month for December. Saint Juan Diego's challenges were: pray a **Family Prayer for Advent**, commit to a daily devotional (we were using our Absolutely Advent), study the tilma and share what you learned about it, and give Jesus a gift for his birthday. The gift to Jesus can be something such as all our efforts in preparing for our school program. Chapters following the Commandments in Our Life With Jesus Religion text were on Reconciliation. We made arrangements and celebrated that sacrament with Father Alan. Then we finished up 2023 with the chapter "The Christ Child is Born."

Math 3 has been rounding within 1,000 to the nearest 10 and the nearest 100. ELA 3/4 has been practicing with a few of the many irregular verbs. In Social Studies 3/4 did a small ornament exchange with some Catholic Schools from each of the 5 regions of the US. In Reading, we are about half-way through with Owls in the Family. Most recently, we gave tangram puzzles and limericks a try. Maybe you had never realized that you are probably quite familiar with a limerick--"Hickory, Dickory, Dock." Can you tell what you need to do to make a poem a limerick?

🎵 🎶 🎄 Thanks to the contributions from so many in so many ways we had an incredible, wonderful, beautiful "Miracle on Main Street!" To the students that learned all their lines and lyrics, to those who helped before, during, and after the program, & to all those who came to enjoy it, we thank you all!! 🎄 ❄️



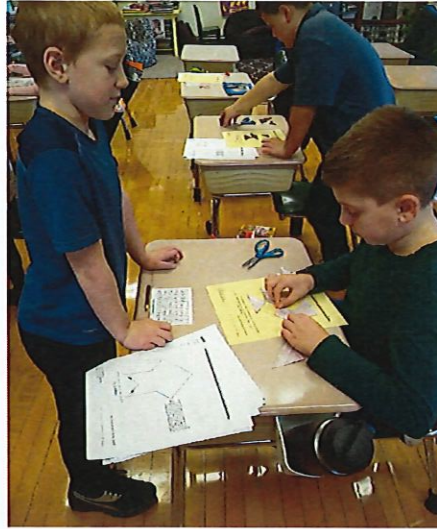
The STARS of the program from grades 3-6



The STARS of the program from grades 7-8

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🎄 Ornament exchange, Tangram puzzles, and painting to celebrate St. Nick 🎄



***“Glory to God in the highest  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” ~Luke 2:14***

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# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

## MRS. MICHLIG



### 5 MATH:

We have finished learning about multiplying and dividing fractions and have moved on to learning about multiplication and division with multi-digit numbers. Students should continue to practice their multiplication and division facts over the Christmas break.

### 5/6 ELA:

We just finished learning about adjectives and we have finished writing our descriptive essays. Students explored descriptive word choice and imagery to create some amazing essays! Don't forget to continue reading your AR books over the break!

### 5/6 SOCIAL STUDIES:

We have finished learning about the rise of the Christian Church and are now beginning to learn about the Byzantine Empire.

### 7/8 GEOGRAPHY:

We have completed our topic 3 about Middle America and have finished topic 4, where we learned about South America. Students learned about the Incan civilization, among others, and what it's like to live in South America.

### 5/6 RELIGION:

We have begun diving into more of the Catholic Creed. So far this December we have learned about Moses leading God's people, the words of the Prophets, and the Annunciation of Jesus. After Christmas break, students will be learning about the Holy Family and the kingdom of Heaven.





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The middle school students worked very hard practicing for our Christmas program! They put in a lot of hours rehearsing and practicing and they did a spectacular job!

Middle school band students also participated in their band concert at the beginning of December! They all did a fantastic job!



Thank you all so much for your excitement and support as we get ready to welcome Baby Michlig! I look forward to hearing about the students' progress while I am gone. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Christmas break! -Mrs. Michlig



# School Newsletter



## This Month In 7/8 Homeroom

There were many opportunities for the upper grades to demonstrate their leadership skills during the last month. Celebrating the Saint of the Month (Bl. Chiara Badano), St. Lucia's Day, the band performance, and having leading roles in the Christmas program were just a few. Keep up the good work, students!



## Saint Lucia's Day



- ### Upcoming School Activities
- Quiz Bowl Competition!
  - Spelling Bee
  - Saint of the Month



# Middle School Subjects

Students continue to work hard in Math. Sixth and 7th graders have been learning about percentages and 8th graders are learning about solving equations for an unknown. All grades continue to brush up on their computation skills using XtraMath. In Science, 5/6 grade students are learning about mixtures, dissolving, and soluble solids. The 7/8 graders are now learning about rock transformations and the energy required for those processes to occur.



## A Note From Ms. Wozny

I was so impressed by the acting and singing at the Christmas program this year! What a talented bunch! The other day the middle school students dressed in either blue or pink as they tried to guess the gender of Mrs. Michlig's baby. It was somewhat even, but the blues won! Congratulations, Mrs. Michlig and family!



<https://edgarcatholic.org/st/j/>





*Phy. Ed. Newsletter*

# MERRY CHRISTMAS



Middle School finished up their basketball unit and started their floor hockey unit. They were very excited to have played their first floor hockey game ever!



Elementary School has gotten started on their floor hockey unit as well and have been working very hard to start playing a real game as well!

3K and 4K have been doing great in their continued efforts with fine motor skills. They love all the different activities throughout the weeks!



Hello and **Blessed Christmas greetings** from Art class!

It was a while ago but special thanks to all those students and office people who helped with **Veteran's Day decorations!** They looked great and were much appreciated.

Lately, students have been very busy with various poster contests, Christmas ornaments/decorations and the much loved masking tape animal project.

The first contest was for **the Fire Safety Poster**. Those will be sent off near the end of December but the class due date is already past since other upcoming projects needed attention too.

The first ornament was for the **Capitol Christmas Tree** in Madison and **celebrates 175 years of Wisconsin statehood honoring famous Wisconsinites** such as dairy farmers, cheesemakers, miners, christmas tree farmers, kindergarten teachers, police and firemen. Those are already on the tree in Madison so look for them if you get a chance to visit the capitol. Students who chose not to do an ornament for the capitol tree could opt to make one for our parish tree so you could see those in the parish lobby if you don't make it to Madison.

The second poster contest is themed "**May the Forest Be With You, Always**" and is sponsored by the Marathon County Land/Water Conservation Department. Those will need to be done just after Christmas break. I see some great progress on these and many have already finished

One other ornament project graces our stairway up by the **4K** room from the back door. There are a multitude of **heavenly host angels** up there praising God!



Many students are now working on their **masking tape animal project** (a favorite last year). I already have quite a menagerie growing: A T Rex, a penguin, a sea turtle, a bunny. A beagle, a shark...I look forward to seeing the collection grow. Grade 1 and 4K students all made **masking tape cardinals** for the parish tree in the church lobby.

A third (and familiar) poster contest will be the **Music K-8 Poster** one coming up in January. Start thinking of ideas for those designs! And blessings on your well deserved Christmas break!

Mrs. Wierzba

