



The Irish Insider

From Mrs. Appell . . .

Seniors, your college lists should be finalized! Stay on track with your grades and extracurricular activities. Make sure you have taken the ACT/SAT enough times to get your scores as high as you possibly can. Be sure to watch deadlines, especially ones dated January 1st since we do not return to school until January 6th from Christmas break. Continue to look for scholarships (you have been given multiple websites to search) and apply to the NCAA if you want to play Division I, II sports.

Juniors, stay on track with your grades and classes - it is never too late to improve! As soon as the PSAT results are back, take the time to review it and look at the ones you missed. Begin to evaluate your post-high school education options (4 year college, 2 year college,

vocational/technical, or military). Start a list of colleges that include both your "dream" schools and "safer" schools that you know you could get accepted to. Begin taking the ACT/SAT. If you are planning on playing Division I, II sports, start the NCAA application process. Your extracurricular activities play an important role on your college applications so consider taking on some leadership roles. Set up college visits and begin to learn about financial aid (CFWV.com).

Sophomores, you were able to take both the PSAT and PLAN tests this year, so when the results are back, take the time to review the answers. Stay on track with your grades. Begin learning about the college admission process and explore potential careers.

Practice writing and read, read, read! Visit Collegeboard.com to help you look for colleges that may be right for you. Get a summer job or volunteer at a non-profit organization. Build relationships with your teachers because they will be the ones writing your letters of recommendation. Visit colleges while on break or whenever you are near a campus.

Freshmen, review your PLAN test results when they return. Get involved by joining clubs and organizations, including sports. Explore your interests (CFWV.com, collegeboard.com, Myers-Briggs.com). Start building your credentials.

Everyone . . . This is your education . . . so TAKE CHARGE OF IT!

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First Semester Fundraising

Charity Choice 5K

St. Joseph Catholic Church and Schools, along with Prestera Center, Hoops Family Children's Hospital at Cabell Huntington Hospital and the Huntington YMCA, hosted the Third Annual St. Joseph's Charity Choice 5K Run and Walk on Saturday, October 12th. We had 327 participants registered for the event and over \$18,000 will be distributed to this year's benefactors! Winners

were Andrew Lester (male) and Kelley Mortakis (female). Thank you to everyone that participated, sponsored or volunteered!

29th Annual Reverse Raffle

Our largest fundraiser of the year was held on Saturday, November 23rd from 7pm-11pm at the St. Mary's Center for Education building. 500 tickets were sold for this event, which paid over \$16,000 in prizes to tickets holders.

Thank you to everyone that purchased a ticket or volunteered! If you missed this year's event, make sure you plan to attend it next year as it will be our 30th one!



Important Dates:

- 12/10 Senior College Night
- 12/17-20 Exams, End of 2nd 9 Weeks and Noon Dismissal Each Day
- 12/23-1/2 Christmas Break
- 1/3 Teacher In-Service Day - No School
- 1/6 School Resumes
- 1/16 Junior College Night
- 1/17 Sophomore Retreat
- 1/20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - No School
- 1/29-2/1 St. Joseph Central Catholic High School presents the OJ Mayo Classic
- 2/17 President's Day - No School

Community Service Corner

We recently had 110 students participate in an underwear and sock drive for the students of Guyandotte Elementary where these students are ranked as some of the poorest in our county. The teachers at their school have been taking it upon themselves to try and provide for their needs, but are quickly becoming overwhelmed. Our FCA Huddle, Pro-Life Ministry and NHS collected non-perishable food to donate to these students so they have food to eat over the

Thanksgiving week when there was no school. Our students also just completed a project for the Veterans of Hospice by collecting bottles of shampoo, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste and decks of playing cards for them. Students have also completed service hours for the Fatima Spaghetti Dinner, Catholic Daughters' Bingo, Jeannie's Run in the Sun 5K and the Marshall University/St. Mary's Medical Center Marathon, just to name a few!

National Honor Society is selling McDonald's BOGO discount cards for \$10 each. These can be purchased from any member of our NHS

Club News . . .

For more information on our Clubs and Organizations, including meeting times, check out our website at www.stjosephhs.org

Our students have been very busy this year! Here are just a *few* of the things that have been going on:

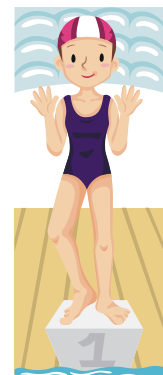
- **Key Club** members have been very busy! They have baked pizzas at the Ronald McDonald House, made "Monster Gourds" with the children at the City Mission, threw a Halloween candy scavenger hunt/party at the Kiwanis Daycare, raised funds for Trick or Treat for Unicef, attended the Fall Rally state convention, made breakfast for teachers & staff and decorated the teachers' doors for Thanksgiving for all that they do!
- **Pro-Life Ministry** has distributed over \$1,000 of baby supplies between "A New Beginning" and "Birthright" in celebration of 40 Days for Life. Members also completed a service project for "A New Beginning" where they painted their deck. The Club is holding quarterly birthday parties for students and faculty to celebrate life and publicize the Pro-Life message. They are also planning a nursing home visit during the month of December.
- **Venturing Crew** hiked 15 miles on November 9-10th on the Kanawha Trace and spent the night in a century old one-room schoolhouse where they cooked their meals on a campfire. In October, they went horseback riding at Babcock State Park and whitewater rafting on the New River. In January, they will be going caving at Carter Caves.
- **Archery Club** will be participating in a charity archery tournament for the Emogene Dolin Jones Hospice House at Cabell Midland on December 7th.

Winter Sports

The winter sports season is beginning! For schedules and more information on the following sports, please visit our website at www.stjosephhs.org:

Prep Basketball - Coach Rob Fulford
& Coach Dave Meddings

Men's Basketball - Coach Ross Scaggs
& Coach Greg Ferguson



Women's Basketball - Coach Shannon
Lewis & Coach Dave Jenkins

Swimming - Coach Emily Setser

Cheerleading - Coach Ernay Adams

Catholic Schools Week 2014 . . .



During the week of January 26 - February 1, 2014 we will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week! Here is a

tentative schedule of events that we have planned for this year's celebration:

Sunday: Mass - Students are asked to attend 10am Mass at St. Joe in their uniform. Students will start the week with prayer and thanksgiving for the great blessing that have come from attending a Catholic school. Music ministry, servers, gift bearers, Extraordinary Ministers, and readers will all come from the school.

Monday: Student Appreciation Day - Faculty and Staff will provide milk, juice, fruit, and donuts at break as a way of expressing gratitude for our student body. No homework will be given this night and no tests or quizzes will follow on Tuesday.

Tuesday: A Living Rosary - We will construct a rosary from helium balloons and raffia. All students will come to the gym and hold part of the rosary and offer their own intentions of why our Catholic School is important to them and why we are a community of faith, knowledge and service here at St. Joe. Then we pray the entire rosary. Once we have prayed the rosary we will release it outside. This is a symbol of our prayers being lifted up to heaven.

Wednesday: Mass - We will celebrate with our middle school brothers and sisters at 10am. The Mass will be offered for our benefactors and patrons. We will give an account of the number of service hours, service projects, and other Corporal Works of Mercy that our students participate in over the course of the school year.

Thursday: A Day of Prayer - We will begin in the morning with a novena prayer and then continue it at the beginning of each period throughout the day. Each classroom teacher would have copies of the prayer so the students will pray aloud at the beginning of each period. By the end of the day, we will have completed the novena.

Friday: Teacher Appreciation Day - Students have the opportunity to write a quick "thank you" to any of the faculty or staff that have made a positive influence in their lives during their time here at St. Joe. Each teacher will have a bag hanging on the outside of their door where the students can put their thank you cards. Time will be used in Theology classes to write them.

Our Academic Enhancement Committee is also in the process of planning for our students to become CPR certified during this week! Stay tuned for more details on our website and via email!

Advancement News . . .

With the end of 2013 in sight, it is the perfect time to reflect upon the past 12 months and the quickly approaching New Year! It is also a good time to review your charitable contributions and remember our school in your donations.

Now more than ever, parents look to private schools for a well-structured and safe environment to educate their children. Since 1924, St. Joseph Central Catholic High School has been offering outstanding education to our community's youth; however, a lot has changed since the 1920's. The most drastic difference is the increase in the cost of educating our children.

We are a tax-exempt organization, therefore donations made to the school are tax deductible, to the extent allowed by law. Contributions can be made in many forms, including, but not limited to the following: gifts of cash and appreciated securities; charitable gift annuities; endowments; matching gift programs with your employer; make the school the owner and beneficiary of an existing or new life insurance policy or your IRA; set up a charitable remainder trust or charitable lead trust; or, remember the school in your will. Thank you in advance for your continued support of our school. As you know, St. Joseph Central Catholic High School is worth the investment and sacrifice!

**Make sure to
reserve
April 5, 2014
to join us for
the Irish
Auction!**

**St. Joseph Central
Catholic High**

600 13th Street
Huntington, WV 25701

Phone: 304-525-5096

▶ Like us on Facebook!

We're on the web!
www.stjosephhs.org

Shout Outs!

- Congratulations to our teacher, Mr. David Meddings, and his wife, Candace, on their new baby girl, **Maleeah Jordyn!**
- Congratulations to our freshman, **Alexandra Bryan**, for winning the Catholic Daughters' Essay competition!
- Congratulations to 2 seniors, **Mychal Johnson** for signing with Notre Dame and **Griffin Dempsey** for signing with UNC Charlotte for Ladies' Basketball!

Our Mission is to educate the body, mind and soul in the Catholic tradition and to provide a safe, structured environment to aid students in their growth as individuals and as members of society.

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