



# St. Joseph/St. Robert School

## Weekly Newsletter

FROM THE DESK OF MRS.  
DURKIN

November 30, 2022

During this busy week, let's remember, "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

Dear SJR Families,

During Advent may our lives become gifts to those around us as we wait for Christmas and God's greatest gift of all.

Report cards will be distributed on Friday. Report cards are but one method of communicating about your child's progress. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher at any time with questions or concerns. You may keep the report card but, please, sign and return the envelope and indicate if you'd like to schedule a conference to discuss the report.

We have two opportunities to enjoy each others' company outside of school hours this week. It was nice to see so many of you at Chick-Fil-A last night and I hope to see you tonight at SJR's first annual tree lighting!

God bless you and have a wonderful week!

Mrs. Durkin



**CAROLING | HOT COCOA | FUN  
SJR'S FIRST ANNUAL**

# **Tree Lighting Tonight!**

**6:30 P.M.  
(CHOIR MEMBERS PLEASE ARRIVE  
AT 6:20P.M.)**







Congratulations and  
"Thank You" to the Cast  
and Crew of

**FROZEN** JR.





## ***Parish News***



St. Robert Parish Penance opportunity for Advent will be on Monday, December 12th, at 7pm. There will be 12-14 priests available to hear confessions in the Church & Msgr. Marley Hall.

St. Joseph Parish Penance opportunity will be Thursday, Dec. 15th at 7:00 p.m. Additional priests will be on hand to hear confessions. Remember, there will be no actual penance service, but rather confessions will start being heard at 7:00 p.m.

The regular schedule for confession lists the other times at confession is available in both parishes. Reconciliation (also known as confession or Penance) is a sacrament instituted by Jesus Christ in his love and mercy to offer sinners forgiveness for offenses committed against God.



Congratulations to Jude who received the Sacrament of Confirmation!

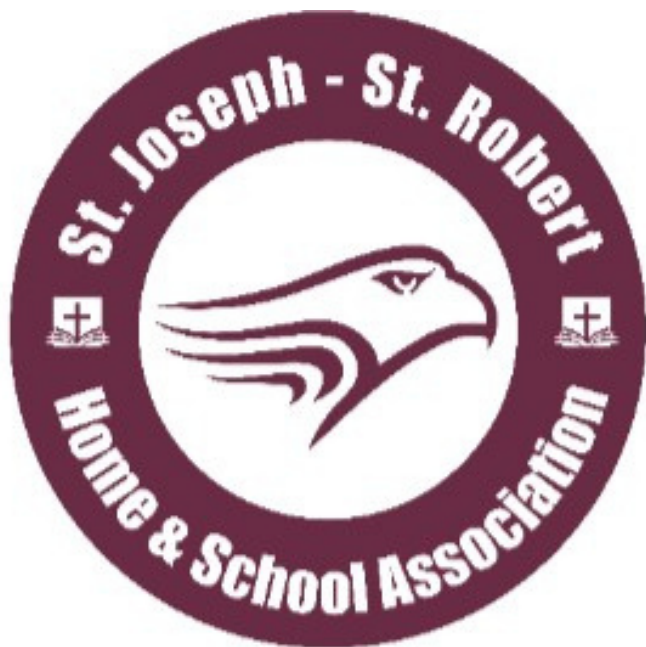
Please keep those students from St. Robert's Parish who will be making their First Penance in your prayers.

First Penance is at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 10th.



## ***Apple of My Eye***

I'd like to congratulate our "Apple of My Eye" winners for this past week: Matt, Dominic, Jake, Tatum, and Eloise! Their kind and helpful acts are some of the things that make SJR such a special place!



## Home and School News

We did it! We surpassed our walkathon goal of \$16,000 and raised \$18,157.51. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported this event! Your generosity is remarkable. I will be sharing this good news with our anonymous matching donor! 3rd grade won the pizza party!

Thank you to everyone who participated in Chick-fil-A spirit night. It was a fun night for all. The winner for the highest class participation is Mrs. Buckleman's Pre-K class! Congratulations and thank you! Look for those gift cards in your child's folder that can be used to get a free brownie or a free chocolate chip cookie at your next visit to Chick-Fil-A! The winners of the Chick-Fil-A lunch with the principal are Liam E. (PreK), MJ T.(1st), Owen T. (PreK), Kelsey (5th), and Caelyn (3rd)! I can't wait. I'll let you know the lunch date as soon as it is arranged.

We hope to see many of you at the First Annual SJR Tree Lighting this evening at 6:30 pm.

Mark your January calendar to attend the next SJR Home and School meeting on January 5th at 7:00p.m. There will be a SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: MARY COAKLEY, PH.D., Clinical/Developmental Psychologist. Mary Coakley is a child and family therapist who works in private practice in Huntingdon Valley PA. She received her Ph.D. in Clinical-Developmental Psychology from Bryn Mawr College in 1997. She specializes in working with children with neurodiverse conditions and anxiety disorders. She enjoys teaching parents positive, effective strategies to help their children become more resilient and competent. You do not want to miss this very informative presentation regarding, "Parenting Your Child to Reach for the STARS."

### Some fun events coming up this month:

**December 7th:** 6:30p.m. Our First Annual Tree Lighting is tonight! Join us in front of school!

**December 9th:** Christmas Ornament picture retakes. For students who were absent or submitted late forms

**December 12th:** Little Elf Shop – See flyer.

**December 23rd:** Milk and Cookies during the half-day. Santa comes to school (Shhhh!)

A great resource for any quick questions or to find out what's going on is following us on Facebook. SJR Home and School Association or on SJR Parents.



## LUNCH WITH MRS. DURKIN

from Chick-Fil-A





## DO YOU KNOW?

- YOU CAN REDIRECT  
YOUR PA STATE TAX  
DOLLARS TO SJR???



## News from the Director of Advancement

### December Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Webinars - Please Register & Learn More!

EITC is an amazing program that provides a significant tax credit to businesses and individuals that redirect a portion of their tax dollars to qualified SJR students for tuition scholarships. Remember that this is a win-win for everyone: the school receives 100% of the donor's contribution while the donor benefits from a 90% tax credit from the State of PA! Thus, the donor has the advantage of redirecting their PA tax dollars to SJR students that qualify for tuition scholarships.

There are 30 minute EITC Webinars offered throughout December and the sign up link: <https://forms.gle/EZAqGzWo7ommnkjc9>. Please share with relatives and friends that might be interested as well. For additional questions, please contact: Kathy Williamson, SJR Director of Advancement at 215.343.5100, ext. 209

### Informational Webinar Dates:

Friday, December 9 at 11:00 AM

Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00 PM

Monday, December 19 at 2:00 PM



Sign up for a  
webinar here!



### Tax Credits Available!

Redirect your State Tax Dollars AND  
receive a 90% Tax Credit!

Support Catholic Education by  
providing tuition assistance to  
families in need!

There are plenty of tax credits  
available, but they are being claimed  
fast!

Contact Kevin Kelly for more  
information today!



kkelly@foundationfce.org



610-793-8597

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM  
St. Joseph/St. Robert HSA!**



**A HOLIDAY SHOPPE IS WHERE THE CHILDREN  
CAN BUY GIFTS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY,  
FRIENDS AND EVEN PETS!**

**EACH CHILD WILL BRING HOME A MONEY ENVELOPE.  
PARENTS MAY FILL IN THE AMOUNT OF MONEY  
THEIR CHILD CAN SPEND PER CATEGORY.**

**WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THIS PROGRAM. OUR SHOPPE WILL HAVE  
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN THE FAMILY:  
SISTERS, BROTHERS, GRANDPARENTS,  
MOM, DAD & EVEN THE PETS**

**REMEMBER- NO PEEKING  
WHEN YOUR CHILD COMES HOME WITH THE PRESENTS!**

**GIFT PRICES RANGE FROM \$0.50 TO \$15.00**

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR HELPING TO MAKE  
THIS AN EDUCATIONAL AND ENTERTAINING PROJECT  
FOR ALL OF US.**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM KIDS HOLIDAY SHOPPES  
AND  
SJR'S HOLIDAY HELPERS**



**ST. JOSEPH /ST. ROBERT SCHOOL  
HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING**



**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.**

**LET'S HAVE A GREAT BEGINNING TO 2023!**

**COME JOIN US FOR OUR SECOND HOME & SCHOOL MEETING IN THE SJR CAFETERIA  
SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:**

**MARY COAKLEY, PH.D.**

**Clinical/Developmental Psychologist**

**Mary Coakley is a child and family therapist who works in private practice in  
Huntingdon  
Valley PA.**

**She received her Ph.D. in Clinical-Developmental Psychology from Bryn Mawr College  
in 1997. She specializes in working with children with neurodiverse conditions and  
anxiety  
disorders. She enjoys teaching parents positive, effective strategies to help their  
children become  
more resilient and competent.**

**You do not want to miss this very informative presentation regarding...**

**Parenting Your Child to Reach for the STARS**

**Every parent wants to raise a successful child. To effectively meet the inevitable  
challenges that life brings, children must develop resiliency at home, school, and  
with peers. In this workshop, Dr. Mary Coakley, Child and Family Psychologist,  
discusses how parents can promote resilience in their children and guide them  
towards personal and academic success. Using the acronym STARS, Dr. Coakley  
shares five facets of resilience: self-control; gifts and talents; healthy attachments;  
rejection of negativity; and spirituality. Parents will leave this presentation with  
new tools and ideas that can be implemented immediately.**

**REMINDER: Active Members who attend ALL three SJR HSA meetings are eligible for a  
\$500**

**Grand Prize drawing at the last meeting!**