

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1940 S. 77TH ST, LINCOLN, NE 68506

PHONE: 402.489.0341 | FAX: 402.489.3260 | SCHOOL.STJOSEPHLNK.ORG

WEEKLY WATCH

WFC, not KFC

Do any of you remember weeples?

In my first years of teaching at St. Joseph's, we did annual magazine sales as a fundraiser. To encourage participating, students got these little toys called weeples (I don't know if I'm spelling it correctly!), and the fundraising lady would come around on certain days to "feed" the weeples by giving students prizes if they sold a certain number of magazines. As you could imagine, it was a great distraction in the classroom. Aren't you glad we don't do magazine sales anymore? I certainly am!



Instead, we have WFC – Walk for Christ! No cookie dough sales. No plant sales. And no magazine sales! Rather than try to sell people things they don't need or want in order to support our school, many years ago we shifted to this yearly fundraiser that incorporates prayer, family and fun! We know that people love St. Joseph School and want to support Catholic education to raise the next generation of saints. Why not ask them to simply donate to support us and we will offer our prayers and love in return?

Do you know the actual cost to educate a child here in K-8? A little over \$7,000. That's a far cry above our modest tuition! Some families can afford much more and contribute to the parish collection to help cover the expense for their children and others. Other families can barely afford this much and also contribute what they can to the parish collection weekly. Therefore, WFC provides an opportunity for people in the parish and community to show their support for Catholic education by their contributions. Our SFA does a wonderful job of working together with the school administration, parish finance and parish building committee to support educational endeavors, building needs and various projects to make our school viable.

Meanwhile, students also collect prayer intentions from our families and benefactors – and we take this part seriously, too. Our most recent format for the day includes placing these intentions before the altar at Mass, celebrated by Bishop Conley. The whole school then walks together after Mass, and this year, different grade levels will pray a decade of the rosary for our intentions before we all meet on the back soccer field for the final decade of the rosary and a drone picture. Students then get to celebrate with a popcorn ball and times for bounce houses and dunk tank. It's a unifying and joyful event and you are welcome to attend!

Finally, I love this year's theme, "Pilgrims of Hope." During this Jubilee Year of Hope it is a good reminder that our hope is in Christ and each day is a step forward on our journey toward heaven. So, please check out the details of Walk For Christ below. Thank you for your beautiful support of our school and the extra efforts to make our family contributions meet our goals. God bless you!

In the Heart of the King,

Sr. Mary Angela, C.K.

BIST Tip: : “I can be okay even if others are not okay.”

This is another of the BIST Goals for Life. It carries two meanings in the school setting. For some children, seeing others who are distressed, angry or disobedient causes an empathetic response. They get preoccupied with why another is having a difficult time and find it hard to focus on their own work. In this case, if a teacher reminds them of this goal, it gives them permission to keep their attention on their own learning and let the teacher handle the child who is having difficulty. A second use of this goal involves how a child responds to another who is being unkind, rude or disrespectful. In this case, reminding him or her that we can be okay even if others are not helps them to see that, while the other child's behavior is not acceptable, that child is “not okay” and needs some sort of redirection, but retaliating will not help the situation. Think of situations at home where your children may find it helpful to recall this Goal for Life.

Counselor's Corner!

Our new school counselor, Ellen Judge, has put a note together to introduce herself to our school parents. Please take a moment to look over her letter found [HERE](#), as well as on our website.

Back Parking Lot Request from Beyond the Bell (BTB)

Dear Parents,

In the interest of safety for students who utilize our Beyond the Bell after-school program, we have begun using cones to block off the back parking lot blacktop from about 3:45-5:30 pm when weather permits outside activities. We have a lot of young children this year in 3rd grade and under, and they often like to play kickball and basketball on the blacktop, and we would like to make sure they have the option to do so safely, without worrying about traffic. **If you are dropping off or picking up a child for an extracurricular activity, such as volleyball or cross country, please park on the concrete section of the back lot or arrange to pick him/her up in the front parking lot.** Thank you for being part of making Beyond the Bell safe for all.

Sincerely,
Carrie Finson
Beyond the Bell Director



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Hello St. Joseph Family!

My name is Ellen Judge, and I'm excited to introduce myself as the new school counselor at St. Joseph's Catholic School!

You may have seen my bio in the summer newsletter, but I'd love to share a bit more. I'm originally from Maryland and graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville with a degree in Psychology with a clinical concentration. After college, I spent two years in Belize serving as a missionary with the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity, where I taught high school English and worked as a school counselor. I loved my counseling position, and it was there that I discovered my passion for supporting students in both their emotional growth and social development.

I am thrilled to now be serving your children here at St. Joseph's! My position is part time, and I am in the school Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday's. My role is to support students socially, emotionally, and behaviorally, helping them grow in confidence to become the best version of themselves.

Here's what's happening in counseling right now:

Lunch Bunch Groups: These small group lunches are designed to help students build friendships, strengthen social skills, and foster a sense of community. You may receive an email and permission slip if your child is invited to join a group. Groups are mixed in terms of social strengths so students can learn from and support one another.

Individual Support: Students may come to see me during the day for a variety of reasons—emotional regulation, resolving peer conflicts, or simply needing a movement break. If your child could benefit from ongoing support, such as regular check-ins, I will send home a permission form for your review. You are encouraged to reach out directly if you believe your child would benefit from this kind of support.

If there is any way I can support your child or family, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm here to help and am so grateful to be part of this wonderful community!

God Bless You!

Ellen Judge
Counselor
St. Joseph's Catholic School
Ellen-judge@cdolinc.net

Walk for Christ Info



Dear St. Joseph Catholic School Parents,

We are delighted to share details of our annual **“Walk for Christ”** week! Our theme this year is “Pilgrims of Hope” in honor of this Jubilee Year of Hope. This special week, dedicated to fostering spiritual growth, community spirit and vital fundraising for our school, will take place from **Monday, September 22 through Friday, September 26.**

This is our school's only fundraiser for the year. With a goal of raising \$40,000, your participation is crucial to its success. Due to a generous donor match, your donated dollar goes even further.

Contributions to the 2025 Walk for Christ event will have a significant impact in four key areas:

1. **School Enhancement:** Support improvements to our school’s security system, new Junior High laptops, and playground safety.
2. **Faculty Support:** Support our teachers with professional development, Christmas bonuses, and Teacher Appreciation Week.
3. **Community Events:** Provide bus transportation for student field trips, educational speakers for our school community, and the annual school picnic.
4. **Student Success:** Support student scholarships as well as our school’s general fund.

WALK FOR CHRIST EVENTS

1. **Walk for Christ T-Shirts:** T-shirts for preschool-8th grade school children will be available for pick up after all weekend Masses on September 13/14 and September 20/21. Parents can order additional t-shirts or spirit wear on our [Spirit Wear](#) site.
2. **Donation/Prayer Petition Envelopes:** Donation/Prayer Petition envelopes will come home with your youngest child on Thursday, September 18. Please prayerfully consider a donation by returning the envelope to school or [donating online](#).
3. **Amazing fundraising giveaways** are up for grabs each day of our fundraising drive!
 - Reserved Seating at the 9:00 am Easter Sunday Mass!
 - Classroom Ice Cream Party-Host an ice cream party for your child’s classroom!
 - Principal for the Day-Your child can become Principal for a Day!

Monday, September 22: Loved Ones’ Mass and Donuts

- **Loved Ones’ Mass and Donuts:** We encourage students to invite loved ones (grandparents, aunts, a beloved neighbor, or special family friends) to join us for a special Mass. Loved ones are invited to stay to visit and enjoy a donut after Mass.

- Please [RSVP](#) by **September 15** to help us plan accordingly.

Tuesday, September 23: Dress Up Day - Blind 'Em with the Light of Christ!

- Dress Up Day: Jesus told us to be the "light of the world," so let's shine so bright, so positive, so full of God's love that we light up every corner of our school and every person we meet!
- Students wear neon or brightly colored shirts with their uniform shorts or non-uniform bottoms.

Wednesday, September 24: Adoration Day

- Adoration Day: We will dedicate this day to strengthening our spiritual connection with Christ through special Adoration opportunities for students throughout the day (parents are welcome to stop by as well, especially for 2:55 Benediction). This focused time of prayer and reflection will allow students to deepen their understanding of Christ's presence in the Eucharist.

Thursday, September 25: Dress Up Day - Team Up for Christ!

- Dress Up Day: Let's show the world the incredible power of what happens when we stand together as a team! As members of the Body of Christ, we are all connected, all essential, working toward something bigger than ourselves.
- Students wear their favorite team jersey or shirt with uniform shorts or non-uniform pants.
- Donation/Prayer Petition Envelope Turn-In Day: This is the day to turn in all Donation/Prayer Petition envelopes. Every student who turns in a prayer petition will receive a thoughtfully designed St Joseph sticker! Classes with 100% participation will earn an extra recess or a homework free day!

Friday, September 26: Walk for Christ Celebration!

- 8:15 AM School Mass: Join our school family for a special 8:15 AM Mass celebrated by Bishop Conley.
- Immediately following Mass: Walk for Christ! All are welcome to join us on this prayerful walk as a unified St. Joseph Catholic School community!
- Students should wear their "Walk for Christ" t-shirts and uniform shorts or non-uniform pants.
- Post-Walk Celebration! The day will be filled with fun for our students, including games, bounce houses and a dunk tank!

WFC Volunteers

We depend on parent volunteers to help make this day a huge success! Please sign up [HERE](#) to volunteer throughout the day.

Mission Collection Congrats!

Thank you to all our school families who participated in our first Mission Collection of the year! We have broken a **Record High** for Mission Collections with this month's total at **\$529.86!** Way to go St. Joe Knights! Keep up the good work for our needy brothers and sisters in Christ!!!

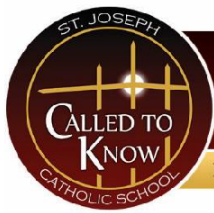
Nebraska State Patrol Security

Bulletin

To piggy back on last week's article, this bulletin from the Nebraska State Patrol and NIAC outlines key dangers and steps to take to protect yourself and others from this rapidly advancing form of technology. Artificial intelligence (AI) offers incredible potential, but its rapid growth and its current saturation in every facet of our society comes with significant risks to navigate.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.

BARK



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Dear Parents of 4th – 8th Grade Students,

When schools give students access to devices and online accounts, an incredible world of learning opportunities opens up — as well as potential dangers. Digital safety is critically important to St. Joseph School, which is why we are now using [Bark for Schools](#) to help us protect our students both online and in real life.

Bark monitors for signs of potential issues like:

- Cyberbullying
- Suicidal ideation
- Sexual predators
- Threats of violence
- And more

Alerts at the First Signs of Danger

When possible dangers arise on school-issued accounts, Bark for Schools sends us alerts so we can address the situation in a timely manner. These alerts also give us insights that help us promote the wellness of the entire student body.

Parents and guardians can benefit from receiving these alerts as well.

Get Alerts with the Free Parent Portal

Kids use their school-issued accounts both at school and at home, and families are often in a better position to respond to urgent alerts after hours, on weekends, and during breaks. These are times when administration may not be available in the event of an emergency. In the coming days, you will receive an invitation to create your free account for the Bark for Schools Parent Portal. As soon as you opt in, you will start receiving after-hours alerts when Bark detects potentially time-sensitive issues.

Monitor Texts, Social Media, and More

Bark for Schools is free for both our school and for you. For even greater coverage, you can also sign up for Bark for Families, which monitors texts, chat, email, YouTube, and 30+ social media platforms for potential safety concerns. You can find out more about how Bark for Parents works [here](#).

Violation Consequences

As stated in the St. Joseph Acceptable Use Policy, signed by every student and parent, “Any violation of Saint Joseph policies and regulations, these regulations, building guidelines, use agreements, handbook provisions or administrative orders or directives as issued from time to time on Computer Use by any Computer User as defined herein, including access to the Internet may result in removal of privileges, reporting enforcement agencies and additional disciplinary action, including possible expulsion of minors or students or termination of employment for staff members or employees.” Such situations will be handled in a case-by-case basis.

Learn more about [Bark for Schools](#) — including their commitment to [student privacy](#). If you have additional questions, please contact us by replying to this email. Thank you for your support as we strive to help keep our students safe online.

In Christ,

Kevin L. Naumann
Principal

Looking for Level 2 Page One Coach



If you are interested in leading a book club and competition team for the 5th and 6th grade page one team please email Rachel-Hanigan@cdolinc.net.



Go to <https://www.nepageone.orgcoaches> for more information.

Free & Reduced Lunch-Does Your Family Qualify?

St. Joseph participates in Nebraska Nutrition Services. With that our school families have the ability to qualify for free and reduced lunch based on income. A regular lunch costs **\$3.50**, but a reduced price school lunch is **\$0.40**. If you are unsure if your family qualifies please feel free to fill out an application anyway. Applications can be found [HERE](#).

****If your child(ren) qualified for free or reduced price meals at the end of the 2024-25 school year, you must submit a new application by September 30th in order to avoid an interruption in meal benefits.**

School Spirit Wear

Family members can show their school spirit too! Visit [LINK](#) to shop now through the end of school! Purchasers have the option of shipping to their homes for a fee, or selecting a pickup location (i.e. the school) for free. Items delivered to the school with batch weekly.

BIST Virtual Parenting Series

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As part of ongoing support for families, your child's school is offering a series of classes for parents and guardians through a partnership with the Behavior Intervention Support Team (BIST). These training sessions are designed to provide ways you can support your child's developing academic and behavior skills, as well as increase consistency between home and school.

BIST Virtual Parenting Series (All times are Central Time)

5:45 PM - 6:00 PM Enter Zoom Waiting Room

6:00 PM – 6:45 PM Informational Session

6:45 PM – 7:00 PM Questions and Answers

September 18: *"Just One Thing at a Time: Taking on tasks that seem overwhelming & addressing "perceived" helplessness*

September 25: *"Why is the Truth So Hard?: Rebuilding trust when our children lie*

October 2: *"We All Live Here; We All Help Here: Teaching ownership, responsibility & pride through "helping out" around the house*

These classes are designed to:

- Create consistency between school and home
- Provide language for adults to use when redirecting children
- Share ways to problem solve to increase your child's success
- Increase generosity and kindness in your children
- Bring a sense of calm to your home

Please join us for any or all three sessions!

How to Register for Free BIST Training:

These virtual classes are provided free of charge. However, we do ask that you **please register through our website on or before Friday, September 12, 2025.** Instructions for registration are on the page below.

We are excited to offer this opportunity to you!

Sincerely,

Marty Huitt, Director

Behavior Intervention Support Team/Cornerstones of Care

8150 Wornall Rd., Kansas City, MO 64114

@MartyHuitt

To register for this class:

1. Go to <http://BIST.org>
2. Click Log In on the home screen.
3. If you already created a username by previously enrolling in a BIST class, just log in on this screen.
4. If you have never registered for a BIST class, enter your information (Name, Email, and a Password). This will register you on the website, but not for the class.
5. At the top of the page, use the dropdown menu called "Classes." Click "Training Calendar."
6. Select the class you wish to attend (Parenting with BIST). Click "Register" under your preferred class.
7. Fill out the required questions and click "Register."
8. On the checkout screen, complete the billing details even though this is a free class.
9. Click "Place Order." The Order Details page is your confirmation of registration.
10. You will receive an email containing the Zoom link for the training sessions on Wednesday, September 17th. If you have not received an email containing the Zoom link by noon on September 18th, please contact our office at bist@cornerstonesofcare.org for assistance.

Celebrate the Huskers with SCRIP

Watch the Husker Football team in their next win at BUFFALO WINGS AND RINGS! Excellent food and great atmosphere! Support those who support us! \$25/10% back to school. Fill it out and send with you child. We will fill your order the same day and send it home with your child. Simple! Text Kate with any questions: 402-314-1416. [DOWNLOAD THE ORDER FORM!](#)

Coffee Shop Volunteer Opportunity

Service hours opportunity! St. Joseph coffee shop is looking for volunteers to serve coffee and rolls after masses. What an easy way for your family to volunteer together and your kids to earn service hours! (We ask at least one adult to volunteer with your child/children.) [Coffee and Rolls sign-up](#)

Pius X Homecoming Tailgate

Pius X is hosting its annual Homecoming Tailgate from **5:30 to 6:45 pm Friday, Sept. 19** in the commons area of the school. The event features sliders, hot dogs, chicken fingers and more, all for a free-will donation to support the school's campus ministry program. All are welcome, including: alumni; past, current and future Pius X families and students; and all other fans of the Thunderbolts.

Pius Trap Meeting



INTERESTED NEW SHOOTERS

**We're having a
practice just for you!**

- Introduction to Trap Shooting!
- 1-on-1 Instruction!
- Meet some of our coaches & shoot targets!
- Shells, targets, eye & ear protection, water & shotgun (if you don't have one) will be provided.
- Come see about joining us for the 2026 Season!

Who can join?

- 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Students (Junior Shooters)
- 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Grade students (Senior Shooters)

When does trap season start?

- PreSeason Practice (new shooters) - September 30
- Practices - February through April
- Conference Meets - Weekends in March & April
- State Meet - 1st weekend in May

TRAP SHOOTING 101
September 27, 2025 @ 9:30 am

Lincoln Izaak Walton Trap Range
10801 S 134th St
4 miles East & 1 mile South of
84th St & Hwy 2 Walmart

Find more fun pics from
last season on our
Facebook page -
Pius X Trap Friends



Need more info?

Contact Jeff Dreith
Head Coach
jdreith1985@gmail.com
402-202-6935

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