



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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WEEKLY WATCH

Unity

Have you seen the movie, “Boys in the Boat?”

I was reminded of it as we start this new school year. In the movie, based on a true story, young men in a remote university in the 1930’s train for the elite opportunity to compete in the Olympics with their rowing team. A few points stood out in my memory from this story:

- First, all the rowers need to be in absolute synchronization to achieve maximum speed. They not only need strength and endurance, but have to be attuned to one another. One main character, arguably the strongest of rowers, had to deal with his internal anger and challenges before he could truly contribute to the team. Once they worked through their differences and became vulnerable and compassionate with one another, the crew became unstoppable.
- Secondly, it was either the coach or a former rower who commented about how rowing could actually become a *spiritual* experience. He related that, when a crew has reached full attunement, it is almost like they are floating and moving as a single body – something beyond just natural skill.

It’s been a few years, but I haven’t forgotten that movie. It came to mind as I reflected on our opening faculty retreat and in-service days, as well as our first days of school. I can’t say that we have reached Olympic status yet – that is still to come! But my spirit has been buoyed on more than one occasion by the unity that is already developing. We have a new pastor who has beautifully shared out his vision for our Catholic school, and his commitment to support and stand behind that vision of forming ourselves and our students as disciples of Jesus Christ with an intimate relationship with Him. We have teachers and staff who are collaborating more cohesively than I’ve yet seen in my tenure here. Their commitment to our mission, their unity in common expectations and their energy in approaching this school year are bringing new life to our teaching and serving. We have students who have slipped right into routines in these first few days quicker than ever. There is a sense of peace and joy in visiting the classrooms where students know they are loved and valued as individuals and beloved children of God.

I look forward to further collaboration with you parents as our partners in this educational endeavor. As we reviewed with the staff Bishop Conley’s *One Heart in Christ* pastoral plan for education, we, too, are committed to “Educate to inspire virtue, service and a thirst to know Jesus.” As the bishop quoted Pope Benedict XVI, “A good school provides a rounded education for the whole person. And a good Catholic school, over and above this, should help all its students to become saints.” This is not a new concept, nor a new goal. But we renew our dedication to the formation of our students that goes beyond just intellectual knowledge. We are to model and foster intimate relationship with the Lord, virtue, character, integrity and the joyful knowledge of belonging to a school family, a parish family and the great family of the Catholic Church!

Jesus' prayer before He died was that we all might be one. Relying on His grace, collaborating and communicating through the challenges and blessings before us, I pray that we will be able to experience this reality more and more this school year. May God bless you!!

In the Heart of the King,



Sister Mary Angela, CK



BIST Tip: What is BIST?

BIST stands for Behavior Intervention Support Teams. It is a student behavior program that is built upon the foundation of Grace and Accountability. In the realm of behavior, Grace means providing a student what they need and not just what they deserve. Accountability is helping a child to own his/her choices. As part of our program, we also teach the students the 3 Goals for Life: "I can do something even if it is hard or I don't want to; I can make good choices even if I am mad or have an overwhelming feeling; I can be okay even if others are not okay." There are a number of other components including how we talk with students about their actions, often in the form of questions rather than directions. BIST helps both teachers and students to address negative behaviors in a proactive and positive way. If you would like to learn more about BIST, you can check out this website [BIST Philosophy » BIST](#). We'll also have more BIST tips in our upcoming newsletters!

Thank You!

Thanks to all those parents who provided the wonderful breakfast items and snacks for our opening in-service days. You are all so generous to us and we feel so blessed by your support! Special thanks as well to Sarah Peed, who coordinates the monthly sign-ups and helps with occasional meals. We would welcome one or two others to assist her in this process. If you are interested, please call the school office.

Pick Up & Drop Off Reminders

Getting back into routine always takes some adjustment and patience (with ourselves and others!). Overall, traffic flow has been going well in the morning and afternoon. Please note a few reminders below for the safety of our children and greater smoothness of our traffic:

East Parking Lot:

- Parents/guardians of afternoon preschoolers, kindergartners, 1st grade students, and their older siblings are encouraged to use the east (back) parking lot for pick-up so these students can dismiss from the east entrance. (contact your child's teacher for exceptions)
- **Cones:** Please **do NOT move the cones** from the east entrance! Staff will put these in place after Mass in the morning and move them at 3:10 in the afternoon. This is **critical** to follow since our children play on the blacktop even at the end of the day.

- **Lanes:** Thank you for patiently following the 2-lane pick-up system. If you need to buckle your child(ren), remember to pull forward and park so the line can keep moving.
- **Parking** is reserved only for daycare vehicles and those who are buckling children.

West Parking Lot:

- If you need to enter the school, please **park in the lot** and not in the line. Also, please **walk with your children to and from the car** if you are not in the car line so that they remain safe.
- Parents/guardians of 2nd through 8th grade students (without preK-1 siblings) enter the west (front) parking lot from 77th Street ONLY for drop-off and pick-up. **A-K school side, L-Z church side** (contact your child's teacher for exceptions)

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.

Back-to-School Night Reminders

Back-to-School Nights are opportunities for parents to hear from their child(ren)s' teachers regarding classroom norms, curriculum and communication for the year. Below are the dates/times for next week. We hope you all can make it!

Thursday, August 25

1st Grade – 5:30 pm

2nd Grade – 6:15 pm

5th Grade – 7:00 pm

Jr. High (7th/8th) – 7:45 pm

Tuesday, August 27

Kindergarten – 5:30 pm

3rd Grade – 6:15 pm

4th Grade – 7:00 pm

6th Grade – 7:45 pm



The first few days of school have flown by, and learning is underway! We even had our first fire drill of the year today. Great job, everyone!

Monthly School Rosary

As a means of praying for the needs of our students and school families, St. Joseph School will be offering a monthly school rosary. Parents are welcome to join us as you are able. The dates and times are listed on the finalized [school calendar](#) posted on our website, with our first one being **September 8th, Mary's birthday!** Most of the times will be at 2:50 pm so family members can join us. Classes will participate as they are available, so be aware that some classes may be absent on a given month. May our Blessed Mother intercede for us and lead us closer to her Son, Jesus!

Parish Adoration 2026

"Lord, Teach Us to Pray." (Luke 11:1)

Join the parish family for Adoration! On the 2nd Wednesday of the month, Jesus will be exposed in the monstrance on the altar. Exposition will begin after the 8:15 Mass and will conclude with Benediction at 7:30 pm that evening (no 2:55 Benediction that day). Stop by to make a visit any time during the day. The formal holy hour will be from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Please consider joining us and spending time with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. **Our first date is September 9th!**

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.

Dine Out with St. Joseph School!

St. Joseph SFA is hosting the first **Dine-Out Night at Chick-fil-A (4770 O Street) on Thursday, September 10th!** Scan the QR code to download the Chick-fil-A app, place your order, and **20% comes back to St. Joseph School.** Pick up your meal in the drive-thru or inside. Dining in? SFA volunteers will be on-site to help you order through the app.



Girls on The Run



JOIN GIRLS ON THE RUN!



Hello, **SUPERSTAR!**

Girls on the Run offers fun and engaging lessons that include physical activities and running games. This season's lessons in the "Hello, Superstar" class teach girls how to celebrate themselves and encourage the starpower to shine in others.

Girls on the run®

REGISTRATION OPENS AUG. 1



GIRLS LEARN HOW TO...



Build confidence and connection as part of a supportive club



Speak positive self-talk and increase self-worth



Recognize and manage complex emotions

Girls on the run

is an after-school class that builds confidence in girls with lessons on problem-solving, goal-setting, and healthy habits through movement-based games.

SCAN ME!



For more information and to register, visit

www.GOTRNebraska.org

Contact

Girls on the Run of Nebraska

✉ acypfers@gotrnebraska.org

☎ 402-483-0373



LINCOLN: ST. JOSEPH

- Monday/Wednesday 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.
- Season begins Aug. 31
- GOTR 5K October 25 in Lincoln

\$130 Registration Includes:

- 8 weeks of curriculum-based program
- Program T-shirt
- Curriculum workbook
- GOTR 5K entry for GOTR Girl
- GOTR 5K for her adult Run Buddy
- 5K medal, drawstring pack and other goodies at GOTR 5K

SCRIP is Back in Full Swing

NEW THIS MONTH: 7 BREW \$10 AND \$25 & WHITE OR WHEAT \$25

Fill it out and send with your 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!](#)

Tin Can Phones

We now have a St. Joseph Community for Tin Can phones! Tin Can is a Wi-Fi landline that lets kids call approved friends, grandparents, and family. It is a retro-style phone that plugs into the wall with no screens. Parents can manage who calls in or out via a parent app, so there's no worries about unsolicited calls. There is no cost to use the phone after the initial purchase if you want to call other tin cans (and there is an optional monthly service fee if you want the phone to call anyone.) Right now, if you order through our St. Joseph - Lincoln Tin Can Community, you will get the group discount: <https://tincan.kids/pages/community/st-joseph-lincoln>. Select your quantity and colors and place your **order by September 9**. The more families who order, the bigger the discount for everyone. Have additional questions? Contact Laura Gonnerman at 402-540-1386 or by email at lgonnerman@nebraska.edu.

Parish Night @ Pius X

Join us for Parish Family Football Night on Friday, September 11 as we celebrate our parish and Catholic school communities with an evening of faith, family, and football. Cheer on the Thunderbolts as Pius X takes on Aurora at Aldrich Field. Kickoff is at 7 p.m. Special admission will be available for Jr. Bolts players in grades 3 through 8 wearing their jersey, who will receive free admission. Jr. high students wearing a "We Are Pius X" T-shirt will also receive free admission. Family admission is \$15. We look forward to seeing our parish and school families at this special community event.

A promotional poster for Parish Family Football Night. The background is a dark, fiery orange and yellow gradient. At the top, a large, stylized 'P' with a lightning bolt and a cross inside is next to the text 'PARISH FAMILY FOOTBALL Night'. Below this, a football is shown with the text 'FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH' and 'Join us for a night of faith, family, and football We are celebrating our parish and Catholic School Communities'. A 'SPECIAL ADMISSION:' section lists two categories: 'FREE FOR JR. BOLTS PLAYERS (3RD-8TH) WEARING JERSEY' and 'FREE FOR JR. HIGH STUDENTS WEARING "WE ARE PIUS X" T-SHIRT - FAMILY ADMISSION FEE \$15'. A 'PROPERTY OF JR BOLTS' logo is also present. At the bottom, it says 'PIUS X VS. AURORA', 'KICKOFF 7 PM | ALDRICH FIELD', and 'GO BOLTS!' with lightning bolt graphics on either side.

PARISH FAMILY FOOTBALL Night

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We are celebrating our parish and Catholic School Communities

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PIUS X VS. AURORA

KICKOFF 7 PM | ALDRICH FIELD

GO BOLTS!

School Sisters of Christ the King 50th Jubilee!



*School Sisters
of Christ the King*

*50 Years of Joyful Fidelity to Christ the King:
Great is His Faithfulness*

UPCOMING EVENTS :

- **Sunday, August 23** - You are cordially invited to an open house for the new addition to our motherhouse, which includes our aging in place facility. The event will take place from 1:30-3:00 pm. at Villa Regina Motherhouse. No RSVP necessary.
- **Saturday, September 12** - 50th Jubilee closing event
 - 10:00 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Risen Christ with Bishop Conley;
 - 11:00 a.m. light reception in the Hall for all who attend

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!