



Summer NEWSLETTER



August 27, 2025



A note from Mr. Schmitz.....

Dear SJA Parents and Families,

We are underway! The first couple days have gone smoothly. We had our first school Mass this morning, and I would like to thank the parents who joined us. As with last year, we are working out the wrinkles on drop off and pick up. We are sending new Pik My Kid tags with a bar code and QR code on them which should speed up getting names into the system for pick up. Pray for strong WiFi at our entrance! Please remember in the afternoon when lining up on Law Street not to block access to the fire hydrant.

I would ask – and I know it can be difficult to get out in the a.m. – please arrive to drop your children off no later than 8:05. Students are to be in homerooms by 8:10, so this will give them the few minutes they need to walk through the building and get settled in. If you have questions that need to be answered, please find a place to park after you drop your child off, and then you will be able to find someone who can help you. We have a substantial number of students still coming in as late as 8:15, and that is very disruptive to the timing of announcements and, ultimately, first period classes.

While working on this note, the news of the church shooting in Minneapolis was brought to my attention. We are going to be working with the Archdiocese to get our school calendar password-protected on our website.

Don't forget the H.S.A. Ice Cream Social... It should be fun! Next Thursday beginning at 6:00 p.m. we will have Back to School Night. I will give you more details on that in next week's newsletter. Also approaching quickly is our 9/11 Freedom Walk. We appreciate your participation in our school events.

In closing, I wish all of you a great school year. I am very excited to have students back in the building.

Blessings,
Mr. Schmitz

25-26 Income Survey

We need your help! Every year our school has an opportunity to participate in federal and state programs that benefit our students with a variety of materials and services.

In order to determine the funding available for these programs, we must have an accurate record of family income information. To obtain this information, we are asking each family to complete our 2025-2026 Income Survey.

We ask that you please complete the survey by FRIDAY, September 18, 2025. Click [HERE](#) for the survey.

Families will receive 1 service hour for completing the survey. After you complete the survey(s), please email Sierra Vara at svara@stjoanarc.org with "Income survey completed" in the subject line to receive 1 hour of service.





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DATES TO REMEMBER

August 26-28 – 1/2 day for PreK 3 and 4; no extended care for PreK 3 and 4

August 29 – 1/2 day for all students; no extended care

September 1 - School Closed

September 4- Back to School Night 6-7:30pm

September 9- HSPT Registration opens

September 11- Freedom Walk to Festival Park

September 19 - 1/2 dismissal with Aftercare 12-4pm

September 22- School Closed

September 23- Candy bar sales begin

Car tags for pick up



Going home today are NEW car tags for each student. They are on hot pink card stock. These are to be used for pick up with the qr code to be scanned for a more smooth dismissal. Thank you for your patience as we adjust with a new school year.

Student Handbook

On Monday your student went home with a Handbook Verification form. Please return these forms no later than Friday, August 29th.

School store now open

Our school store is now OPEN! Please [click here](#) to place your order.

Spirit T-shirt 25-26 on sale now!

Please [click here](#) to purchase this years Spirit t-shirt which may be worn on Fridays during the school year. All orders are due by September 12, 2025.

Parish Bulletins



[St. Joan of Arc Bulletin](#)



[St. Patrick Bulletin](#)



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Supplies

Please note supplies may be brought in throughout the first week of school. Please have students turn into their teacher upon arrival.

Track it Forward

This is the website we use to track volunteer hours for the year. Each family is required to volunteer 20 hours per school year. If you choose not to volunteer, your FACTS account will be billed on May 14, 2026 for \$10.00 per incomplete hour for up to 20 hours. Existing families, please make sure your information is correct and you have an account on Track It Forward. New families, please click the link below to register and create an account for the school year. Each family only needs one account.

[Track it Forward website](#)

FACTS

Tuition payments are withdrawn automatically each month. Incidental expenses default to auto pay unless you go into your FACTS account and cancel this feature. Summer Camp, Extended Care, Field Trips and classroom materials are examples of incidental expenses.

TREX

Thank you for all the support for our Trex program over the past years. This year we will not be continuing our program, but know you can take your plastic to your local grocery store.

World's Finest Chocolate

This year our World's Finest Chocolate Bar fundraiser will begin on Tuesday, September 23, 2025. More information will be sent home the week prior to the start. The fundraiser will run thru October 17, 2025. Last year was a huge success and we can't wait to see what we can do this year!

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. Be one of the 1st 10 people to email Elisa Maid, Advancement Director, and receive a special SJA bag.

email@stjoanarc.org

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HSA

Come join us and other SJA families on Thursday, August 28th from 5-7pm for a small back to school social. There will be an ice cream truck serving cold treats for a nominal fee. Bring your chairs and blankets & get to know your fellow SJA knights. Sign up sheets will be available to help at our planned events this year, so be sure to bring your calendars too. Please join us Thursday, August 28 5-7pm for our Back to school Ice Cream Social. Please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more info.

Save the Date

Bingo October 11! See flyer below

Counselors corner.....

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! The first week can bring excitement and a little nervous energy for both students and families. Remember, caring for our mental health is just as important as caring for our academics. As St. Paul reminds us, " Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts" (Colossians 3:15). May we all begin this year grounded in God's peace, ready to grow together in faith, learning, and joy. Here's to a year of growth, peace, and little moments of joy along the way. - Ms. B



Faith Formation

Please join us for our Family Faith Breakfast & Mass events on the first Sunday of each month beginning September 7th! Donuts and juice will be served at 9:30am, and then families will have an opportunity to explore and learn together about a new topic each month. Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume during the 11:15am masses on the second and fourth Sundays of each month beginning September 14th. Sacramental preparation classes will begin in October, so please register your children now!

Freedom Walk

Calling all Scouts

We are planning the Freedom Walk on 9/11. If your scout is interested in helping out with color guard and the pledge please reach out to Elisa Maid at emaid@stjoanarc.org

"Go forward bravely. Fear nothing. Trust in God; all will be well."
- St. Joan of Arc

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Back to School Ice Cream Social
With
Frosty Express Ice Cream Truck



Join Us!

SJA School
230 S Law Street August 28
*nominal fee of \$5 or less 5-7 pm

Pastorate of St. Patrick's and St. Joan of Arc
FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION

Click here to register.

Parent Meeting and First Class September 28th

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion Registration

CONTACT SINEAD BOYD FOR MORE INFORMATION
SINEAD.BOYD@ARCHBALT.ORG
410-939-2525




The HSA Presents
Bingo¹⁴ Night



Friday, Oct 10th

\$20.00 Per Board

Doors open at 6:00 pm
Game starts at 6:30 pm

Small refreshments available for purchase

PASTORATE OF ST. PATRICK AND ST. JOAN OF ARC
CONFIRMATION Registration

Click here to register.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION FORM




Parent Meeting and First Class September 28th

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"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."
— Romans 12:12