



St. John Brebeuf School

Weekly Newsletter

January 02, 2026

A Letter from Mr Taylor

Happy New Year to our St. John Brebeuf families, and welcome to 2026. I hope this message finds you well and that you enjoyed a blessed and joy-filled Christmas season with your loved ones.

As we begin the new year, I want to once again extend my sincere thanks to our families for their generosity. Our faculty and staff truly appreciated your thoughtful personal gifts and contributions to the Holiday Gift Fund. Your kindness and support are never unnoticed, and we are deeply grateful.

January is packed with exciting events here at St. John Brebeuf. Our School Science Fair is quickly approaching on January 21st, and I cannot wait to see the creativity, curiosity, and hard work our students have poured into their projects. A special thank you to Ms. McPartlin for the guidance and encouragement she continues to provide our young scientists.

Our School Spelling Bee will take place on January 23rd. The top three winners will advance to the regional Spelling Bee on January 31st at St. Emily's. Best of luck to our eloquent wordsmiths as they prepare to take the stage and spell with confidence.

Our annual Daddy and Daughter Dance will be held on Saturday, January 24th. I have many wonderful memories of attending this dance with my own daughter, and I know this year's event will be just as magical. Thank you to our P/SA for continuing this cherished tradition that creates memories to last a lifetime.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, January 25th, as we kick off Catholic Schools Week with our monthly Family Mass at 10:00 am, followed by our School Open House from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our teachers, see the incredible work our students are doing, and experience firsthand what makes SJB so special. We will also have fun and meaningful activities planned throughout the week as we celebrate Catholic education.

We close out the month with the P/SA Chicago Wolves game on January 31st. The Wolves will take on the Grand Rapids Griffins in a competitive Central Division matchup, with first and second place on the line. It is also Star Wars Night at the Allstate Arena, so expect to see plenty of familiar characters from a galaxy far, far away. I hope to see many of you there, using the Force to help guide the Wolves to victory. Thank you to our incredible P/SA for organizing this exciting community-building event. More information is included below.

As we welcome in 2026, I look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday with renewed energy, fresh excitement, and great anticipation for all that the new year will bring.

Warm regards,
Adam Taylor
Principal

Important Dates to remember:

December 22nd - January 4th - Christmas Break

January 5th - School Resumes

January 7th - P/SA Meeting - 6:30 pm in Room 2

January 12th - Athletic Board Meeting - 6:30 pm in Room 2

January 14th - Midtrimester

January 15th - 8th Grade Graduation Photos

- Parent Sacramental Meeting

January 19th - No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 21st - Middle School Science Fair

January 22nd - Progress Reports Go Home

January 24th - Daddy/Daughter Dance

January 25th - Catholic Schools Week Begins

- 10:00 am Family Mass
- School Open House - 11:00 - 1:00 pm

January 25th - January 31st - Catholic Schools Week

January 31st - P/SA Chicago Wolves game

February 4th - P/SA meeting in Room 2 at 6:30 pm

February 6th - No School - Staff Professional Development

February 7th - Mom/Son Night

February 9th - Athletic Board Meeting in Room 2 at 6:30 pm

February 12th - Parent Sacramental Meeting for grades 2nd & 8th in the PMC

February 16th - No School - President's Day

February 18th - Graduation Photo retakes

February 20th - End of the 2nd Trimester

February 27th - Fun Fair (5:00 pm - 8:00 pm)

Holiday Gift Fund - Thank You!



Mrs. N.H. DiGirola

Megan Fitzgerald

Dear School Families,

As Christmas draws near and our halls glow with lights, laughter, and a bit of the Holy Spirit, we want to pause and say a heartfelt thank you for your generosity through this year's Teacher Fund. Your gifts have been received with deep gratitude and genuine joy.

This season reminds us that it truly is better to give than to receive, and you have lived that message beautifully. Your kindness has warmed hearts, lifted spirits, and reminded us just how appreciated we are. Like the shepherds who returned glorifying and praising God, we are filled with thanks for a community that gives so freely and so thoughtfully.

May your Christmas be wrapped in peace, sprinkled with joy, and filled with moments that make the heart say thank you. From our school family to yours, please know how grateful we are for your continued support, generosity, and care.

With sincere appreciation and Christmas blessings,

The Faculty and Staff at St. John Brebeuf School

Mr. Burgess

Sandra Steinworte

Melissa Atto

Jessica Shah

Karin Hornum

Ryson O'Brien

Margda Czaps

Lisa Carlisle

Kellen McKee

Mrs. Khatcherian

Rebecca Hannell

Dea's Compton

John

Jacqueline Loh

Mr. Tom Taylor

Michelle Grzeda

Cecilia Nuñez

Katarzyna Guzman

Jim (M. M.)

SIARA BATOROWICZ

Jennifer Brown

Nancy Luise

Alena

Staroslaw

Maya



Class of 2026 Lou Malnati's Pizza Coupon Fundraiser

Lou Malnati's®
PIZZERIA

Dear Families,

Thank you for your tremendous support of our 8th-grade class through the purchase of Lou Malnati's pizza coupons. Your generosity goes a long way, and the students are truly grateful for your encouragement as they work toward their final year at St. John Brebeuf.

Because of your support, this fundraiser has been a success. A limited number of pizza coupons are still available and can be purchased in the school office while supplies last. If pizza night is calling your name, we're ready for you.

Thank you for always showing up for our students and our school community. Your support makes a difference, one slice at a time.

Chicago Wolves



ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL FAMILY NIGHT WITH THE CHICAGO WOLVES

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 AT 7PM
VS. GRAND RAPIDS GRIFFINS**

**WOLVES KNIT HAT FOR ALL ATTENDEES
STAR WARS NIGHT**

Join St. John Brebeuf families
and friends for a night of fun at a
Chicago Wolves hockey game!

Everyone will receive a free
Chicago Wolves hat and be
seated together in the same
section. Our group name will
also be on the LED boards during
the game.

[Click here to download the flyer](#)

School Safety Patrol



Turquoise

Kayla A

Kamden A

Sebastian M

Dani R

Thank you for keeping us safe at arrival and dismissal

Kiddos Lunch Program



We're excited to kick off another year of Kiddos Lunches!

In case the lunch info from school hasn't made its way to you yet, we didn't want you to miss out:

Lunch ordering is now open, but you only have until Wednesday of next week at midnight to place your lunch orders

Returning Kiddos Customer?

Remember to **create a new account** at the start of each school year, so we have the most up-to-date information, including grades, teachers, etc.

The attached **Kiddos Ordering Flyer for 2025** has all the details you'll need to order, along with the **Restaurant Info Flyer**, with the fresh and scratch-made scoop on the restaurants serving your school.

If we can help with anything at all, please let us know at support@kiddoscatering.com

Order Now

Ready For a Break?

Here's How to Order Lunches!

First things first...

Order, Change or Cancel

By Wednesdays at Midnight, for the next week's lunches.

- 1 Head to Your School's Lunch Page**
Click here: www.kiddoscatering.com/sfb
Tip: Bookmark this on your computer or save to your phone's home screen.
- 2 Create A New Account**
Everyone starts fresh each school year so we have the most up-to-date info about your family, like your child's grade and your contact information.
- 3 Let Us Email You**
Be sure to allow emails from Kiddos; we only send what matters: reminders, lunch reservations, and updates.
- 4 Place Your Lunch Order**
For the easiest ordering view, click on the **Student Calendar** tab located on the top left of the order form.
- 5 Export Your Order to Your Device Calendar**
Go to the History Tab
Select Download Calendar

Quick Tips

Menus & Pricing: Click the name of a menu item (not the checkbox) to see its description and price.
Included Sides: Want to see what sides are included? Click the "Sides" link under the restaurant name.

Have questions? **We're here to help!** Email: support@kiddoscatering.com
Call: 775-360-8081

Lunch service you'll love, every day.

A Fresh & Modern Approach

We bring school lunch service out of the dark ages with tons of fresh and scratch-made menu choices **every day**, including healthy options, from the neighborhood restaurants you already love and trust.

Real Relief—When You Need It

With so many daily food choices, you can always find something your kids will eat and love, so you can use the service any time you need.

- Enjoyment Guarantee:** If lunch isn't loved, it's credited—really!
- Flexible Online Ordering:** Order, change, or cancel week to week.
- One Easy Ordering Screen:** Order for all kids and all dates, on one screen.
- Calendar Integration:** Sync your lunch orders to your calendar with one click.
- All-Inclusive Meals:** All available sides included with every lunch.
- Affordable:** Costs less than if you ordered from a lunch delivery service.

Passport to the World
Same journey, different path.

Passport to the World was created to give kids a fun, engaging way to explore life in other countries, highlighting the similarities in our daily routines while sparking curiosity about new cultures, foods, and places. Follow along on Instagram or Facebook.

Let's Collab!
We'd love the menu to reflect what your family enjoys, so let us know your restaurant and entrée preferences.

775-360-8081
support@kiddoscatering.com
www.kiddoscatering.com
[@kiddoscatering](#)

Every day **easier**.
Every lunch **yummier**.
Everyone **happier**.

KIDDOS
we get lunch

Inside Kiddos Lunches

The fresh and scratch-made scoop on the restaurants serving your school.



Buona

Buona's menu features scratch-made recipes crafted from premium ingredients, including all-natural chicken with no antibiotics, fresh pastas (not dried) with house-made sauces, and pizzas made from hand-rolled dough and premium cheeses.

Culver's

Culver's menu features fresh beef and all-white meat hand-breaded chicken tenders. They're committed to sourcing the best ingredients to prepare meals that are not only delicious, but also fresh.

Panda's

Panda's chefs wok-cook every meal in small batches using fresh-cut veggies and real ingredients, no high-fructose corn syrup, ever. Their scratch-made approach captures bold flavor, aroma, and signature "Wick Hei" with every bite.

Lou Malati's

Every Lou Malati's pizza is handmade from scratch with the freshest and freshest ingredients. Each year, the team hand-selects California vine-ripened tomatoes for the perfect sweet and tangy taste, and their fresh mozzarella comes from the same small dairy partner of over 40 years.

Potbelly

Potbelly crafts every sandwich to order, starting with fresh-baked Tusano bread. Premium meats, cheeses, crisp veggies, and house-made sauces are prepared fresh, while cookies are baked in shop daily for that irresistible taste.

Panera

Panera brings cozy comfort with warm sandwiches, freshly made soups, crisp salads, and bakery favorites. Everything is crafted with clean ingredients and tender, responsibly raised chicken for food that's wholesome, flavorful, and feel good.

ZUPAS

Cafe Zupas preps fresh, premium ingredients every morning for their scratch-made soups and sandwiches, pairing them into wholesome combos kids love to eat.

California Pizza Kitchen

California Pizza Kitchen is known for its creative, California-style pizzas along with bold salads and pastas. Every dish is made with premium toppings that are hand-cut and prepared fresh in-store each day.



Every day easier. Every lunch yummiier. Everyone happier.



Inside Kiddos Lunches

The fresh and scratch-made scoop on the restaurants serving your school.



Epic Burger

Epic Burger focuses on "a more mindful burger," serving all-natural and halal beef and chicken options made without processed ingredients, a fresh, flavorful take on a classic.

Fajita Petal's

Fajita Petal's serves fresh, flame-grilled fajitas with homemade tortillas and sides like rice, beans, and queso, all scratch-made for bold Tex-Mex flavor.

Jet's

Jet's Detroit-style pizza starts with fresh dough handmade daily from a proprietary flour blend, baked in custom steel pans for a light, airy center and crispy, caramelized crust. Their Jet Fuel sauce is made from high-quality vine-ripened tomatoes.

Giordano's

Giordano's signature mozzarella is made exclusively for them by Wisconsin cheesemakers, aged to perfection and shredded fresh daily. Their pizza sauce is prepared in-house each day from hand-picked tomatoes.



Every day easier. Every lunch yummiier. Everyone happier.



Kind regards,

Kiddos Lunch Team

Follow us on [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#)

School Uniforms



We are partnering with Schoolbellies for our school and PE uniforms. The items can be ordered online or in person by visiting the Schoolbellies store, located at 7246 West Foster Avenue in the Harlem-Foster Shopping Centre. PE uniforms are now required for all students in Kindergarten through eighth grade. The uniforms should be worn all day on PE days. If you have not received your PE uniform at the beginning of the school year, students may wear black or navy blue shorts (or sweatpants), with a black or navy blue t-shirt (or crew neck sweatshirt). Hoodies are not allowed. All students

are expected to be in full uniform as soon as possible. Please visit our website [here](#) for more information.

Treering Yearbook



Capture your memories in this year's

ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL

yearbook

Customize your 2 free pages

- Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Google Drive and more
- Answer fun memory questions to help remember the year
- The 2 custom pages are **free** and are printed **only** in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages are just \$1.99.

Regular price: **\$14.72**
*Does not include sales tax, if applicable

Deadline: **Apr 17**

To purchase your yearbook, use the QR code below or:
Must be a parent or student 13 years or older

1. Go to: treering.com/validate
2. Enter your school's passcode:

1014084732531224



 **Treering Yearbooks**

Order Now

Parish News



Please click [here](#) to visit our parish website

Become an Altar Server



BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER. We invite all children who have received the First Holy Communion to join our Altar Servers! Please, go to our website sjbrebeuf.org, download the registration form, fill it out, and send it to Fr. Sebastian - szebrowski@sjbrebeuf.org

St. John Brebeuf Children's Choir

Just a friendly reminder that choir rehearsals take place every Tuesday:

- 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM at school for Grades 3-4,
- 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM at the church (music room) for Grades 5-8.

If your child is interested in joining, please contact the choir director, Mrs. Ewa Kowcz-Fair, at 773-551-0284.

Let your children grow in faith and music! This is a wonderful opportunity to develop musical skills, build friendships, and enjoy meaningful time together.

[2025 Children's Choir Form](#)

Dear Parents,

My name is Ewa Kowcz-Fair, and I am the SJB Laudate Children's Choir Director. I'd like to share with you some information about scholarships and benefits that your child may be eligible for simply by being part of the choir.

As we all know, students can receive scholarships in high school or college for sports, but they can also earn them by participating in choir or music programs that demonstrate growth in their skills. I have many choir alumni who have already graduated from college and still reach out to me with fond memories of their time in choir.

Some students have told me it all started in 3rd grade, when they learned how to properly communicate with audiences, use correct diction while speaking, and sing both in groups and as soloists. I also hear stories of them landing solos in high school, traveling across the U.S., and winning awards in modern musical productions. The key is consistency - being involved in choir throughout grade school and high school can build lifelong skills that stay with them and may even open doors in the future.

If your child is in 3rd grade or above and enjoys singing, please consider giving them the gift of music - it's an investment that will bear fruit in their future. We are here at SJB.

- Grades 3 - 4 meet on Tuesdays at 2:00 PM at school.
- Grades 5 and up meet on Tuesdays at 5:00 PM in the Music Rehearsal Room at the church.
- Children from our Parish Families (Grades 5 and up) meet on Thursdays at 5:00 PM in the Music Rehearsal Room at the church.

We sing at School Masses, Family Masses, annually downtown at the Pueri Cantores Festival, and occasionally out of town.

Please feel free to call me with any questions about the choir.

Thank you,

Ewa Kowcz-Fair
Laudate Children's Choir Director
773-551-0284

Holy Name Men's Club Bingo

St. John Brebeuf



BINGO!

Sunday, January 4, 2026

St. John Brebeuf

Rev. Thomas P. May Parish Ministry Center
8305 N. Harlem Avenue – Niles

\$15.00 for 15 Games

Pay-Out's determined by Attendance

**Additional Chance to Win
PULL TABS AVAILABLE!!!!**

Doors Open at 2:30pm – Games Begin at 3:00pm

Refreshments Available

For Further Information Contact
Dennis O'Donovan at 847-744-2927
John Jekot at 847-651-7624

**College Football
National Championship Game
Monday, January 19, 2026**



Viewing Party At:
St. John Brebeuf
Rev. Thomas P. May Parish Ministry Center
8305 N. Harlem Avenue, Niles - Doors open at 6:00pm & Kick off at 6:30pm
(Hosted by the St. John Brebeuf Holy Name Men's Club)

New or Renew 2026 Membership @ \$15.00

Refreshments Will Be Served
(Beverages and snacks)

For Further Information Call
Dennis O'Donovan @ 847-744-2927 or John Jekot @ 847-651-7624

**Super Sunday Football Party
Sunday, February 8, 2026**

VIEWING PARTY AT:
St. John Brebeuf
Rev. Thomas P. May Parish Ministry Center
8305 N. Harlem Avenue – Niles



Doors Open at 2:00pm - Kick Off at 5:30pm
Only \$30.00 to Purchase a Wrist Band *(Children age 14 & under \$10.00)*
MENU ITEMS TO BE ANNOUNCED

Bring Your Friends and Family!!!

For Additional Information and Reservations Call
Dennis O'Donovan @ 847-744-2927
Andy Beierwaltes @ 847-966-6961
John Jekot @ 847-651-7624

Please R.S.V.P.!! This helps with meals planning!!!
Hosted by the St. John Brebeuf Holy Name Men's Club



St. John Brebeuf
**Youth
Ministry**



Every 3rd Sunday of the month



**MASS AT 6PM
AND MEETING
AFTERWARDS**



8305 N Harlem Ave, Niles, IL 60714
www.sjbrebeuf.org



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visit **myparishapp.com** to download



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App Store



ANDROID APP ON
Google play



Church Schedule

ST. JOHN BREBEUF CHURCH

Holy Masses:

Sunday:

In English: 5:00 pm (Vigil Mass), 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 6:00 pm

In Polish: 6:30 pm (Vigil Mass) 7:00 am, 11:30 am

During the week

Monday-Saturday: In English - 8:30 am, 7 pm (Tuesday, Thursday)

In Polish - 7:00 pm (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)

Other devotions and services:

Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament: 24/7 (access with the key tag)

Rosary: weekdays after the 8:30 am Mass

First Friday of the month: Confession at 8:00 am, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Confessions: Monday-Friday 6:30 pm; Saturday 4 pm

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Wednesdays after
8:30 am (English) and 7 pm (Polish)

First Saturday of the Month Devotion - after 8:30 am mass (English)
and 6:30 pm (Polish)

Family Mass - third Sunday of the month at 10 am (English)
and 11:30 am (Polish)

Fillipino Mass - Fourth Sunday of the month at 10 am

REP program - every Thursday from 6 pm to 7:30 pm

Youth Mass - Every 3rd Sunday of the month at 6 pm

Spirituality Group - second Thursday of the Month (after 7 pm Mass)
& fourth Thursday of the month (after 8:30 am Mass)

St. John Brebeuf School 8301 N. Harlem Avenue Niles, IL 60714
(847) 966-3266 www.sjbschool.org

