



# St. John Brebeuf School

## Weekly Newsletter

### January 23, 2026

#### *A Letter from Mr Taylor*

Dear Families,

Even in the cold, we had a very successful and meaningful day at school this week. Our students and staff approached the day with flexibility, perseverance, and positive spirits. Moments like these highlight the strength of our community and the shared commitment we have to one another and to our mission.

This morning, Father Paul and Deacon Andy celebrated Mass with our students and staff in the gym. The liturgy was beautifully celebrated, creating a calm, prayerful start to the day. I would like to extend a special thank you to our altar servers, David and Gabriel, and to our readers, Zoe and Jaxon, for serving with such reverence and confidence. Father Paul's homily invited our students to reflect on the apostles, their relationship with Jesus, and our own responsibility to guide others through Christ's message. Deacon Andy added an engaging and joyful element by leading SJB trivia, with questions reaching back to the 1950s when our school and parish were founded.

The remainder of the day was filled with learning and activity throughout the building. I am deeply grateful to our staff for their dedication, professionalism, and care in ensuring the day was both productive and welcoming for our students.

Please note that the Spelling Bee has been rescheduled for Monday, January 26th. We are excited to begin Catholic Schools Week with this tradition and look forward to cheering on our student participants.

Our Daddy/Daughter Dance has been rescheduled for March 21st. Additional details will be shared in the coming weeks.

Catholic Schools Week officially begins this Sunday with our 10:00 am Family Mass. I hope you will join us as we come together in worship and celebration. Immediately following Mass, we invite everyone to our Open House. This is a wonderful opportunity to tour the school, meet our teachers, staff, and families, visit the bake sale, and enjoy a volleyball scrimmage in the gym. Registration for the 2026–2027 school year will also open for new families. Thank you to our teachers and staff for the time, care, and pride they have put into preparing for this special day.

Next week, each school day will feature a theme in celebration of Catholic Schools Week. On Monday, students are invited to dress as a superhero or first responder as we celebrate our community. Capes are optional. The remaining themes are listed later in the newsletter. Thank you to our Student Council for their leadership and creativity in planning these activities.

We also celebrated an impressive Science Fair this past week. Our middle school students demonstrated curiosity, dedication, and critical thinking as they planned experiments, gathered materials, conducted research, and presented their findings. Congratulations to all participants on a successful event. Special recognition goes to our “Best in Class” winners: Lucas M. in sixth grade; Evan D., Isaac N., and Kamden A. in seventh grade; and Jaxon C., Quincy M., and Tommy G. in eighth grade. First-place ribbon winners in seventh and eighth grade will advance to the regional science fair. I extend sincere thanks to Ms. McPartlin for her leadership and organization throughout the process.

Thank you for your continued support of St. John Brebeuf. I am grateful for our families, our staff, and our students, and I look forward to the bright future we continue to build together. Have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr. Adam Taylor

Principal

**Important Dates to remember:**

**January 24th** - Daddy/Daughter Dance (Rescheduled for March 21, 2026)

**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)

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## 2026 Open House



**ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL**

Sunday, January 25, 2026

**Open House**

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

8301 N. Harlem Ave.  
Niles, IL 60714

Contact Us :  
847-966-3266  
office@sjbschool.org

[www.sjbschool.org](http://www.sjbschool.org)

The poster features a large blue circular logo with a cross and the text "ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL" around the top and "EST. 1955" at the bottom. There are three yellow-bordered photographs: one of students at a table, one of students at a desk, and one of a group of students sitting at a table.

# Uncle Pete's MINISTRY

## White Sock Drive

### Share the Warmth:

Please donate new white socks  
for those in need this winter

**January 22-25th**

Please bring donations to the school lobby



St. John Brebeuf School  
Catholic Schools Week  
"United in Faith & Community"  
January 25th-January 31st

**Sunday, January 25th**-Family Mass 10:00 am  
Open House 11:00-1:00  
Theme: "Celebrate Your Parish"

**Wednesday, January 28th**-Theme: "Celebrate Your Nation"  
Students should dress in red, white, and/or blue clothes.

**Monday, January 26th** - Theme: "Celebrate Your Community"  
Students may dress as a superhero or first responder.

**Thursday, January 29th**- Theme: "Celebrate Your Vocation"  
Dress as your future self (or high school/college you'd like to attend.)

**Tuesday, January 27th** - Theme: "Celebrate Your Students"  
Students may dress down in their favorite color.  
Morning Assembly

**Friday, January 30th**- Theme: "Celebrate Faculty, Staff, Volunteers, Student Mentors"  
Wear your teacher's favorite color.  
Each class will make "thank you" cards.

♦ Catholic School appropriate clothing applies to all days



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## **Daddy/Daughter Dance**



Rescheduled for March 21, 2026

RSVP by January 22

cash or checks payable to SJB P/SA

Any questions please contact  
Shamiram: 847-507-2129  
Marie: 847-456-4704



SCAN QR CODE TO RSVP:



## Portillo's Bite Club



**Eat Portillo's. Support a Cause. Receive 20% of the proceeds!**

Present this flyer in-restaurant or use the online code for online/app orders, and 20% of the proceeds will be donated to:

### St. John Brebeuf PSA

At the Portillo's located at: When:

8832 W.Dempster January 28, 2026

Niles, IL 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**ONLINE CODE: PORTILLOS20**



Learn more about Portillo's Fundraisers at [portillos.com/good](http://portillos.com/good).

For online/app orders to qualify for the fundraiser, orders must be placed for pickup only, from the participating restaurant, on the fundraiser date and during the listed fundraiser hours. Gift card purchases, delivery orders, and orders placed on the third party websites are excluded from the fundraiser. Online ordering subject to availability. \$200 minimum fundraising sales required for the organization to receive donation. Cannot be combined with other offer codes.



**WE'RE HIRING! APPLY AT [PORTILLOS.COM/CAREERS](http://PORTILLOS.COM/CAREERS)**

## *Class of 2026 Lou Malnati's Pizza Coupon Fundraiser*



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.

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**Athletics**



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# **SJB JR JAGUARS**

## **BASKETBALL**

**KIDS IN GRADES 1-3,  
COME AND JOIN US!**

**FEBRUARY 2**

**FEBRUARY 9**

**FEBRUARY 23**

**MARCH 2**

**4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**

**SJB GYM**

**MORE INFO :**

RACHEL MARTIN

847.917.4784

RACHELIMARTIN@YAHOO.COM

**REGISTER HERE!**

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The SJB Jr. Jaguar Basketball Clinic is an instructional program designed to introduce our 1st – 3rd grade athletes to the basic skills of basketball in a structured, organized, and fun environment. The focus will be on teaching proper passing, shooting, ball handling, rebounding, and defensive fundamentals, and on emphasizing teamwork and sportsmanship. All sessions will be conveniently held in the SJB gymnasium. Lowered baskets will be utilized to accommodate our Jr. Jaguars.

**REGISTER** 

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## ***School Safety Patrol***



### **Purple**

Emma A  
Christian C  
Alexa N

Thank you for keeping us safe at arrival and dismissal

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## ***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](mailto: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.

- Head to Your School's Lunch Page**  
Click here: [www.kiddoscatering.com/jb](http://www.kiddoscatering.com/jb)  
Tip: Bookmark this on your computer or save to your phone's home screen.
- 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.
- Let Us Email You**  
Be sure to allow emails from Kiddos, we only send what matters: reminders, lunch service notices, and invites.
- Place Your Lunch Order**  
For the easiest ordering view, click on the **Student Calendar** tab located on the top left of the order form.
- Export Your Order to Your Device Calendar**  
Go to **How To...** 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:** 773-360-8081



## 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 paths.

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 entree preferences.

773-360-8081  
support@kiddoscatering.com  
[www.kiddoscatering.com](http://www.kiddoscatering.com)  
[kiddoscatering.com](http://kiddoscatering.com)

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**

Panda's chefs wok-cook every meal in small batches using fresh-cut veggies and real ingredients, starting with fresh-baked toronto bread. Premium meats, cheeses, crisp veggies, and house-made sauces are prepared fresh, while cookies are baked in shop daily for that irresistible taste.

**Lou Malnati's**

Every Lou Malnati's pizza is hand-made from scratch with the finest 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 meal from scratch, starting with fresh-baked toronto 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 Baking Company offers scratch-made sandwiches, freshly-made soups, 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 prep's 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.

## Inside Kiddos Lunches

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



**EPIC**

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 Petes**

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

**Jet**

Jet's Detroit-style pizza starts with fresh dough hand-made 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 yummier. Everyone happier.

**KIDDOS**



Every day easier. Every lunch yummier. Everyone happier.

**KIDDOS**

Kind regards,

Kiddos Lunch Team

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

## ***School Uniforms***



We are partnering with Schoolbelles for our school and PE uniforms. The items can be ordered online or in person by visiting the Schoolbelles 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.

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# 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](http://treering.com/validate)
2. Enter your school's passcode:  
**1014084732531224**



 **Treering Yearbooks**

**Order Now**

## Parish News



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

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### *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](http://sjbrebeuf.org), download the registration form, fill it out, and send it to Fr. Sebastian - [szebrowski@sjbrebeuf.org](mailto:szebrowski@sjbrebeuf.org)

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## ***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***

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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

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## ***Holy Name Men's Club***

# **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***

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## Youth Ministry



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](http://www.sjbrebeuf.org)



## St. John Brebeuf “my Parish” app

Catholic Life Every Day  
— with the St. John Brebeuf App —



Messages  
Easily connect all week

Calendar  
Events, Locations, RSVP

Readings  
Daily Readings from USCCB

Prayers  
Set Reminders, Send Requests

Bulletin  
Convenient mobile access

And Much More!

**Download our app today!**  
Available for Apple and Android devices.

 Text **APP** to phone number **55321**, or visit **myparishapp.com** to download



## ***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](http://www.sjbschool.org)

