



St. John Brebeuf School

Weekly Newsletter

April 17, 2026

A Letter from Mr Taylor

Dear SJB Families,

I have to begin with a simple word that says so much: bravo. Watching our spring musical, Moana Jr., was a true joy. The students were confident, expressive, and full of life on that stage. Their hard work showed in every scene, every line, every note. I could not be prouder. A heartfelt congratulations and thank you go to Mrs Fitzgerald for her leadership and vision in directing such a beautiful performance. I also want to recognise Ms Giannelli and Ms. Batorowicz for the time, care, and patience they gave to guiding our students through rehearsals and the show itself. To our cast and crew, take a bow. You gave us something special.

As we move through April, the calendar is full and meaningful. This Thursday, our 8th-grade students will attend their Confirmation rehearsal at 5:30 p.m. in the church.

On Friday, we will gather for one of the most anticipated events of the year, our annual Talent Show at 1:00 p.m. in the PMC. I am looking forward to seeing our students shine in new and creative ways.

Next Saturday at 11:00 a.m., our 8th graders will continue their faith journey as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is a powerful and important milestone, and we keep them in our prayers as they prepare.

Looking ahead, our 2nd graders will have their First Holy Communion rehearsal on Tuesday, April 28th, at 5:00 p.m. in the church. This is a sacred moment in their lives, and it is always moving to witness their excitement and reverence as they prepare to receive the Lord.

On Wednesday, April 29th, our 8th grade will travel to Springfield for a day of learning and exploration. They will walk through history as they visit Lincoln's home, the Old State Capitol, Lincoln's tomb, and the Abraham Lincoln Museum. It is one of those experiences that tends to stick with students long after the day is over.

You may have already heard the buzz. Our next fundraiser is just around the corner. We are partnering with Boosterthon for our Fun Run on May 4th. This is not your average fundraiser. It is full of energy, laughter, and a lot of movement as students run, jump, dance, skip, and twirl their way around the course. The registration portal is now open, and every student who signs up earns a prize. As donations grow, so do the rewards. Our goal is \$30,000, which will go directly toward improving our school through updated textbooks, Chromebooks, and classroom resources. Please take a moment to share your child's fundraising page with family and friends. Your support makes a real difference.

A quick but important reminder: registration for the upcoming school year is now open. If you have not yet re-registered, please do so through PowerSchool as soon as possible. If you run into any issues, our front office is ready to help. We are already planning, and your timely registration helps us ensure we are fully prepared.

If you know a family considering a Catholic education, now is a wonderful time to invite them in. We are currently offering a \$2,000 parish scholarship for new, full-time students. In addition, the Archdiocese Growth Scholarship is available, primarily for students entering grades 1–8 from public schools, with some availability for PK and Kindergarten, depending on family circumstances. Applications are completed through FACTS.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, your partnership, and the trust you place in us each day.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,
Mr. Adam Taylor
Principal

Important Dates to remember:

April 23rd - Confirmation Rehearsal @ 5:30 pm

April 24th - Talent Show @ 1:00 pm

April 25th - 8th-grade Confirmation @ 11:00 am in the Church

April 29th - 8th-grade field trip to Springfield

May 1st - Fun Fair

May 4th - Boosterthon Fundraiser

May 5th - 2nd Grade's First Reconciliation @ 5:30 in the Church

May 6th - P/SA Meeting @ 6:30 in Room 2

May 8th - 8th Grade Ribbon Mass during the 8:30 mass in the Church

May 9th - 2nd Grade's First Holy Communion @ 11:00 am in the Church

May 11th - Athletic Board Meeting @ 6:30 pm in Room 2

May 15th - May Crowning @ 1:00 pm in the Church

May 17th - 10:00 am Family Mass

May 18th - 8th Grade's Fun Field Trip

May 20th - Awards Day @ 1:30 pm in the Church

May 22nd - 8th Grade's Retreat and Dance

May 25th - No School - Memorial Day

May 28th - 8th Grade's Last Day of School

May 29th - 8th Grade Graduation @ 6:00 pm in the Church

A promotional banner for St. John Brebeuf School. The background is a dark blue space with golden stars and a glowing cross on the left. A large blue banner at the top reads "NOW ENROLLING" in gold. Below it is the school's circular logo, which features a cross and the text "ST JOHN BRBEUF SCHOOL" and "EST. 1955". The school name "St. John Brebeuf School" is written in large white letters, with "Preschool - Eighth Grade" on a yellow banner below. Contact information is provided in a white box: "Email: office@sjbschool.org", "Phone: (847) 966-3266", and "www.sjbschool.org". A quote in white text says, "All are welcome to explore the school, meet the staff, and see what makes us great!". The banner includes several photos: a classroom scene, a boy and girl with baskets, and a close-up of a smiling boy.

NOW ENROLLING



St. John Brebeuf School

Preschool - Eighth Grade

Tours and Shadow Days available

Email: office@sjbschool.org
Phone: (847) 966-3266
www.sjbschool.org

All are welcome to explore the school, meet the staff, and see what makes us great!



NEW TUITION OPPORTUNITY! FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES 1–8

A new opportunity is opening doors for families seeking a **strong, faith-filled education.**

 Through the **Growth Scholarship** offered by the **Archdiocese of Chicago**, eligible students entering grades 1–8 from public schools may receive valuable tuition assistance to join our school community. 

- **NEEDS-BASED SCHOLARSHIP:** Welcomes new families.
- **ACCESSIBLE CATHOLIC EDUCATION:** Expanded income eligibility compared to traditional programs.
- **MAKE A CHANGE:** Now is the time to explore a faith-filled environment. 

Explore what our school has to offer—where academic excellence, faith, and a sense of belonging come together.

REACH OUT TODAY TO LEARN MORE!

Phone: (847) 966-3266 Website: www.sjbschool.org

Please share the news! The Archdiocese is offering tuition assistance to public school families looking to enrol in Catholic schools. All are welcome.

Boosterthon Fun Run

Our Fundraiser
IS COMING SOON!

mybooster.com

St John Brebeuf School Families!

We're thrilled for this year's spring fundraiser — St. John Brebeuf Boosterthon! Our goal is to raise \$30,000 for school improvements to benefit our students at St John Brebeuf School.

Why are we excited?

- ✓ Easy-to-use fundraising platform
- ✓ Character-building program
- ✓ Fitness celebration event for every student!

Families will gather donations through MyBooster.com by simply sharing your student's page with friends and family. Every share makes a difference!

Students will also enjoy 'Star Quest 5,' an exciting character-building adventure where they'll learn important values through space-themed figures and activities.

Key dates to remember:

Sign Up Online at mybooster.com

04/10/2026

Kickoff in school

04/24/2026

Event Day

05/04/2026



Stay tuned for more details and follow us on social media for updates!

The school's Boosterthon website will be active on April 10, 2026

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 very limited number of pizza coupons are still available for purchase 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.

Athletics

JR JAGUARS

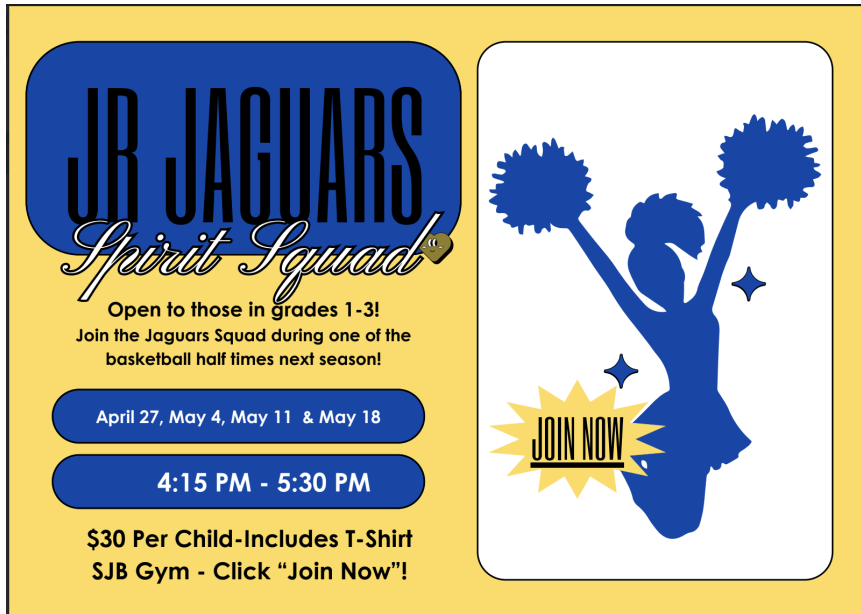
Spirit Squad

Open to those in grades 1-3!
Join the Jaguars Squad during one of the
basketball half times next season!

April 27, May 4, May 11 & May 18

4:15 PM - 5:30 PM

\$30 Per Child-Includes T-Shirt
SJB Gym - Click "Join Now"!



[Click here to register](#)

School Safety Patrol



Navy

Eva A
Molly H
Ace O
Charlie S

Thank you for keeping us safe at arrival and dismissal

Kiddos Lunch Program



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

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.

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

St. John Brebeuf



BINGO!

Sunday, May 17, 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

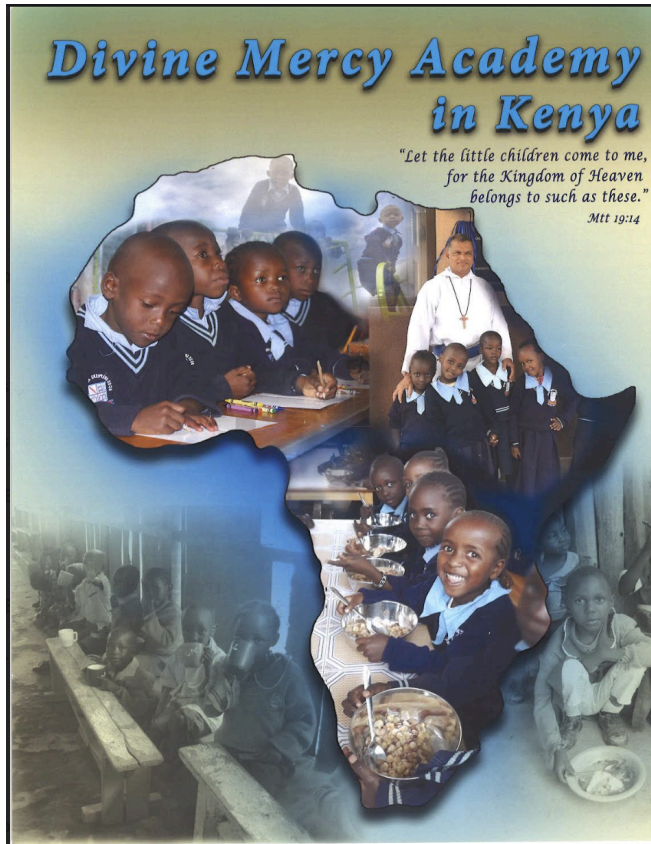
Additional Chance to Win
PULL TABS AVAILABLE!!!!

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

Bingo License #B-04157
Pull Tab License #P-02154

Divine Mercy Academy in Kenya



Dear Friends of the Poor,

In 2008, the Missionaries of the Poor opened a food kitchen for starving children in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya. Over time, the missionaries came up with the idea of an educational program to give children a chance to get out of the surrounding poverty and live with dignity.

When in 2012 volunteers from Chicago came to the mission for the first time and saw the enormity of the needs, they decided to organize help. Thanks to the support they received from the people of good will, volunteers have started to help the missionaries financially with various construction projects. Within five years, an orphanage, a new school, a kitchen with a dining room, toilets, a common room and a small medical clinic were built.

Today, 120 children ages 4 to 7 study at Divine Mercy Academy. The children come from families living in dire poverty and many of them coming from single parent households. Students receive free education, uniforms, shoes, backpacks and school supplies. The school serves two hot meals, which are often the only food the children will receive for the day.

At school, children learn their native language and English. They learn about the culture of their country and about God during religion lessons. Children have time to play and rest. Surrounded by the love and tender care of their teachers, they feel safe and loved.

The School of Divine Mercy functions thanks to the generosity of many people. You too can become an instrument of God's love and give hope to the poor children from the slums of Nairobi! Please join us in supporting Divine Mercy Academy.

The total schooling cost

- Tuition --- \$30
- Books and Supplies --\$20
- School Uniform --- \$20
- Shoes and Backpack - \$10
- Food Program--- \$60
- Total ---\$140

Checks should be payable to the Missionaries of the Poor with memo: Kenya School Project

Checks can be mailed to:
Missionaries of the Poor
P.O. Box 34095
Chicago IL, 60634

For more information, please contact: Antia 773-936-2235 or Daiva 708-899-0293



The Missionaries of the Poor express their sincere gratitude for your support and remember you in their daily prayers.

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



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



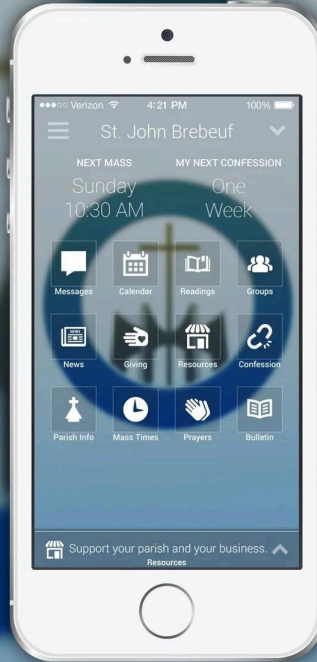
Bulletin

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



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App Store



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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

