

St. Joseph Catholic School Newsletter

August 11, 2026

Growing in faith and knowledge to serve God and community.

St. Joseph Catholic School Mission

Welcome to the new school year!

First Day of School Our first day of the 2026–2027 school year is Thursday, August 20th! We are excited to welcome our students back and look forward to a wonderful year filled with faith, learning, and growth.

Please make sure your child(ren) arrives at school wearing their school uniforms and ready for a great first day. We can't wait to see everyone on August 20th and begin another amazing year together at St. Joseph Catholic School!

Opening Mass Our Opening School Mass will be held on Friday, August 21, 2026. This special celebration marks the beginning of a new school year and is an opportunity for our school community to come together in faith and gratitude.

During Mass, Father Aneesh will bless our students, and faculty. Following Mass he will give a special blessing to our school as we begin the year ahead.

Students will attend Mass with their classroom teachers. We warmly invite all family members to join us in celebrating the start of the school year and to show their support for our school community and their child(ren). We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you.

Newsletter Newsletters are posted each Tuesday to our school website. Be sure to take a few minutes to read the newsletters as there is a lot of important information in them. Also, on occasion, we have handouts to distribute, so please check your child's book bag daily.

Handbook If you have any questions about school policies, please check our school handbook. The handbook is posted to our website <https://www.stjosephellinwood.com/school>. It is there for you anytime you might have questions.

Educonnect Please be sure to check your child's grades regularly. If you are a new family an email will be sent to you with information that will give you access to Educonnect, our Student Information System. This is a great way to talk to your child(ren) about their grades and what they are learning in class.

Calling in Please remember to call the school if your child will be absent, has a change in plans, or is sick.

You may also send an email, but please be sure to include all teachers and staff members who need to be notified so everyone is aware of the change.

Lunches Please give us at least one day's notice when you would like to eat lunch with your child(ren). Please keep this in mind and plan ahead in order to be assured a seat in the lunchroom! Adult lunches are \$5.

Kindergarten Parents All Kansas elementary schools are required to partner with families to better understand incoming kindergarten students' development using the Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ) Online through the Kindergarten Readiness Initiative and community access. On Tuesday, September 3 you will receive a letter asking you to log on with your child and do a couple short tests. It should only take about 10 minutes. It is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT that you do this, as it is part of our State Accreditation. If you have questions, or trouble logging on, please let me know.

Mass Students will attend mass on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We would love to have parents, grandparents, and friends join us for our Children's Masses at 8:15am.

Scrip A reminder to SJCS families who have committed to purchasing \$300 of scrip (certificates/gift cards/RaiseRight) monthly. If you have not yet purchased EFF, Wal-Mart, Amazon, or EPPI scrip, please find your way into the school or church office to purchase scrip. Please continue to purchase scrip before you shop!

Asbestos Each year we are required by law to give you information about asbestos in our school. Please check our website for the letter of information under the Files heading.

Pictures School pictures are coming up on Thursday, August 27! We're excited to have Portraits by Shane back again this year.

Picture packets will be sent home on Thursday, August 20 and should be returned with payment by Tuesday, August 25.

Students do not need to wear their school uniforms for picture day, but they should dress nicely. Collared shirts, dresses, blouses, sweaters, dress pants, or neat jeans are all great choices.

We are fortunate to have Portraits by Shane taking our school pictures, so please consider ordering your child's photos. There will not be picture retakes, so come ready to smile!

Volunteers Please help us out with selling scrip before and after the Saturday and Sunday Masses.

Jamie Komarek is not currently on the schedule, but she seems to be having to fill in for those who do not show up. If you are scheduled to sell scrip, please make sure you are there or find someone to take your place.

If you have not signed up yet, please contact Jamie Komarek at the school or parish office. She will gladly add your name to the schedule.

Thank you for helping us make sure Scrip sales are covered each weekend!

Weekend Mass Weekend Mass times are at 5:00pm Saturday and 9:00 am Sunday. Mass servers for Saturday, August 15 are Wade Carroll and Sara Jahay. Sunday, August 16 are Brody Brack and Mason Panning. If you cannot fulfill your obligation, please find another person to switch with.

May God bless us with a successful school year!

Laurie Kolling

Principal