



To bring God's love to all people.

## SPJ News

December 17, 2020

SS Philip and James School

532 High Street NE

Canal Fulton, OH 44614

Pastor: Fr. Kevin McCaffrey [kmccaffrey@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:kmccaffrey@youngstowndiocese.org)

Principal: Mrs. Montgomery [lmontgomery@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:lmontgomery@youngstowndiocese.org)

Secretary: Mrs. Floom [sspandjsecretary@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:sspandjsecretary@youngstowndiocese.org)

### A Message from Mrs. Montgomery

One of my favorite SS Philip and James traditions is sharing in the celebration of giving with the baby gift collection and community Christmas program. Through the years the names have changed... Birthright Mass, Adopt a Family... and the organizations have evolved, but the message of giving has remained the same. The students are so proud to give their "best" gifts. The generosity of our SPJ families and the kindness of our students always bring tears to my eyes. Along with the Birthright Prayer Service, I am amazed each year as Father Kevin approaches the students with his Pre-Christmas Break homily question, "What gift would you bring to baby Jesus?" The students' responses always fill my heart and make me smile. (prayer, peace, love, a puppy, a baby brother, an Xbox Series X) Just as the three kings brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh, our students offer what is most important to them. The kings' gifts were valuable and were standard items to honor a king or deity in the ancient world. The gold suggested Jesus as royalty. In the frankincense, they saw His divinity. (This incense swirling smoke was believed to ascend directly to heaven.) The myrrh represented His humanity because myrrh is an embalming oil and suggests death and burial. These were the best gifts Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar could offer. As we end 2020, these three gifts I would like to share with you: a smile, a kind word, a prayer of strength/encouragement. These are my best and are offered from the heart. Thank you for your choice and support for SS Philip and James School. Your presence is my present! And for that I am once again thankful!! *(Due to Covid restrictions, some of the above traditions have been slightly changed for this year.*





**More from Mrs. Montgomery**  
 (Let me give you a “shout out”!)  
 WE DID IT!! Together we made it through 4 months of school (81 days to be exact, thank you first grade for keeping track). Because of your diligent efforts to keep our community safe and Covid free we remained in school and have maintained

in-person learning for our students and staff. Please stay vigilant over the Christmas break. Email me with any updates of Covid contacts, concerns regarding quarantine or questions about the health of our school. With the help of you and your families we plan to return “in school” on January 4. Stay safe!!

lmontgomery@youngstowndiocese.org



## **Archery & Basketball Postponed**

SPJ Archery & Basketball has been postponed until January 4. Please look for information from your coaches when we return from Christmas Break. Thank you for your support with this decision.

## **AMAZON SMILE**

If you are getting a notification that SS Philip & James is not set up, **WE ARE NOW!** Just click on the choose new charity and click SS Philip & James Canal Fulton again. We have completed the required steps, so please use Amazon Smile for all of your Amazon purchases. It does not cost anything and you are donating to your school! Thank you! If you do not know how Amazon Smile works, look in the newsletter for more information or click here

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-0861033>



## **Golden Apple Award Nominations Needed** **Honor a Fabulous SPJ Teacher!!**

*Through the generosity and kindness of the Donahue Family Foundation, the Golden Apple Award program is again seeking nominations to honor outstanding individuals who devote their lives to teaching in Catholic schools. This award is bestowed annually on four elementary teachers, two high school teachers, and one principal currently working at one of our schools.*



*Candidates must be a practicing Catholic, full-time teacher or principal and have completed a minimum of three full years teaching or being a principal in the elementary or secondary school at which he/she is currently serving.*

*Nominations are currently being accepted at the individual schools. The letter of nomination should explain why the nominator feels the individual deserves the Golden Apple Award and include specific examples of the individual's unique qualities and teaching ability. Nominations are accepted from a parent, and elementary student with his/her parent, a high school student, or a fellow teacher. Please see your local school for the nomination form. Completed nominations should be submitted to the school principal no later than February 9<sup>th</sup>. **Please use the attached cover letter when submitting your nomination.***

## **Snow Days** (The best days ever!!)

This year for information on school closing for snow days you will be informed through Message Made Easy. Families will receive a text, email, and phone call alerting them of the change in schedule. You can also follow the school closing reports online. SS Philip and James follow the closing of Northwest Local School. In case of a snow day call off, your child does not need to report to virtual classes.



Assignments will be turned in on the next in-school day. If snow days occur during a remote learning period, classes are canceled for that day and will resume when the inclement weather restrictions are lifted.

Try out this snow day indicator. (Yep, that is really a thing!)

<https://www.snowdaycalculator.com/calculator.php>



## Important Changes to the School Calendar

Attached to this week's newsletter is the Updated SPJ Calendar 2020-2021.

**On Thursday, January 14** students will attend school from home. This is a Practice Digital Day! Much like a "fire drill" or "tornado drill" January 14 will allow for students and teachers to practice learning and teaching through a virtual connection. Teachers are currently planning on an accelerated schedule so that students can "link up" and "join in" for all subjects. Look for a schedule from your homeroom teacher to help you navigate through the day. Attendance will be taken and students are responsible for all assignments given that day. Participation is required!! This is a "real" school day. Remember this is a drill, only a drill!! We will return to in-school learning on Tuesday, January 19.

Also included on the updated calendar are the added Teacher Work Days arranged with the help of the Diocese of Youngstown. There will be no school for students on these days.

**Friday- January 8**

Friday- March 19

Friday- May 21



Updated 11/19/20  
SS. Philip & James  
School  
2020-2021

Month	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
August 2020							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					
September 2020							
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	29	30					
October 2020							
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	29	30					
November 2020							
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	29	30					
December 2020							
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January 2021							
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February 2021							
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March 2021							
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April 2021							
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May 2021							
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June 2021							
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	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30					

August 13-14 Teacher Day- No School for Students  
 16 Open House - No School for Students  
 17 Teacher Day - No School for Students  
 18 First Student Day  
 September 4 Teacher Day - No School for Students  
 7 Labor Day  
 12 Teacher Day - No School for Students  
 23 End of 9 weeks (46 days)  
 November 15-17 Thanksgiving Break  
 30 No School - Conference Release Day  
 December 21 Teacher Day - No School  
 22-31 Christmas Break  
 January 1 Christmas Break  
 7 End of 9 weeks (42 days)  
 8 Teacher Work (Added)  
 14 Remote Learning Drill (added)  
 15 Teacher Day - No School for Students  
 18 MLK Day - No School  
 February 10 Conference Day  
 12 Conference Release Day- No School  
 15 Presidents Day - No School  
 March 12 Teacher Day  
 18 No School for Students  
 19 End of 9 weeks (46 days)  
 19 Teacher Work Day (added)  
 No school for students  
 April 2-9 Spring Break  
 May 20 End of 9 weeks (44 days)  
 21 Teacher Work Day (added)  
 No School for Students  
 21 Last Day of Preschool  
 28 Last Student Day  
 31 Memorial Day  
 June 1 Teacher Day  
 No School for Students  
 Calamity Day Make-Up Schedule:  
 1st Day - June 1, 2021 - consecutive weekdays as needed

Merry  
Christmas  
from SPJ!



## Miracles from Bethlehem Street!! And Miracles within SPJ.

Here it is the link to our Christmas Play!!

Thank you, Mrs. Mackey, Mrs. Flory, Mrs. Dolecki, Mrs. Reese and Mrs. Bonnot.

We appreciate your efforts in keeping this wonderful SPJ tradition alive.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/18-iVqRNn6mVHIUhNMiZCuqjvVB\\_ChCFv/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/18-iVqRNn6mVHIUhNMiZCuqjvVB_ChCFv/view?usp=sharing)



## Cookies and Cocoa Day!

HO HO HO! Get ready for Cookies and Cocoa! The Student Council is excited to host a day of decorating cookies and drinking hot chocolate! On December 18th, every student and staff member, from Preschool to 8th grade, can decorate a Christmas cookie and drink hot chocolate. A Student Council member will be visiting each classroom with food and drinks. This day will also be a free out of uniform day with Christmas accessories! It is time to get in the Christmas spirit and enjoy the festivities!



## MARKET DAY IS BACK AT SPJ!

See the flyer attached!!

For those of you who were missing Market Day, IT IS BACK! For those of you who have not purchased from Market Day, it is a site where you can order food and it ships directly to your door! YAY! The best part....when you order from Market Day SPJ receives 10% from your order! There are new specials every month and they are adding new products every day! Make sure you use our organization **SS PHILIP & JAMES - CANAL FULTON - OH** when you purchase. Email me or contact me with questions. (Ashley Piper 330-715-3773 or [ampiper10@gmail.com](mailto:ampiper10@gmail.com))





## Ladies and Gentlemen, Children of All Ages

SPJ would proudly like to introduce to you Annabelle Piper as guest speaker for morning and afternoon announcements this week. Annabelle with the help of students in grade 8 recorded morning videos, took charge of the rosary, and made special announcements throughout the week. Thank you Piper Family for supporting the SS Philip and James Silent Auction and providing this exciting activity for Annabelle.

## Special Bus Run

SPJ students using Northwest bus transportation will use a SPECIAL BUS RUN from January 4-January 13. This may change the times of pick up and drop off. Please review the adjusted schedule sent out from NW Bus Garage at the beginning of the year.



### **Student Illness**

Parents and Guardians,

“No goofing around”, with flu season upon us, here is a refresher of what to do if your child is sick. Thank you for helping keep SPJ healthy!!

The school is aware that there are many reasons a child may become ill. Regardless of the illness, a parent should keep the child home until the illness’s symptoms disappear. If a child has a fever, he or she must be fever-free without the use of fever reducing medication for 24 hours. A parent or guardian is required to call the student off from school each day he or she is ill, and a note describing the reason for the absence from school must be sent. A doctor’s clearance may be required for return to school.

*(Taken from the SPJ Covid-19 Supplement to the Family Handbook 2020-2021)*

### **Upcoming Dates**

December 19-January 3- Christmas Break  
January 7- End of Second Quarter  
January 8- No School- Teacher Work Day  
January 13-Report Cards Go Home (Quarter 2)  
January 14- Digital Day (Learn from Home)  
January 15- No School-Teacher Inservice  
January 18- No School- MLK Day  
February - Conference Day  
February 11-Interims for Quarter 3  
February 12- No School  
February 15- No School  
February 17-Ash Wednesday  
March 12-No School- Teacher Inservice  
March 18- End of Third Quarter  
March 19- No School-Teacher Work Day  
March 25- Report Cards Go Home (Quarter 3)  
April 2- No School- Good Friday  
April 5-April 9- Easter Break

