



Dear Families,

March 2nd starts Lent for this year. Lent is a time that represents the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert. It's a time for us to reflect as we prepare for the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday.

We are looking forward to our Sophomore retreat, Shadow Days for interested 7th and 8th graders, softball and soccer games, Mardi Gras, St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day, as well as our long-standing tradition of HerStory.

As a reminder, there will be no school the week of March 14th for Spring Break. Please continue to be vigilant about social distancing, wearing masks when appropriate, and remembering what we do outside of school impacts our entire school community. Thank you for your cooperation and diligence during this time.

Also in March, we celebrate WOMEN! Women's History Month will center on our founding and supporting orders: Sisters of Christian Charity and the Religious of the Sacred Heart. We will also hear from our students, faculty members and staff about the women that have inspired them.

Thank you for entrusting us to provide your student with the support she needs to reach her highest potential.

Your partner in education,  
Ms. Colleen Schrantz, Principal

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**Black History Month**



Thank you to our Black Student Union for making Black History Month so special this year. We appreciate their hard work, dedication, and creativity!

- Black History Month kicked off with a Mass
- *This Day in Black History* during Daily Announcements
- Melanin Friday - donations going to Black organization
- Door Decorating Contest
- Bracelet and anklet bead making during lunch
- Soul Food Thursday
- BSU hosted the Black History Month Assembly
- BHM bulletin board celebrating our alumnae
- Talk Table - roundtable discussion about racial identity
- Participated in the 44th Annual African American Heritage Prayer Service at St. Rite Shrine Chapel

Visit our [website](#) to learn more about Student Life at the Jo!

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## The Revenger's Tragedy

We were excited to share that the first cast and crew reading of Revenger's Tragedy was in February. Technical rehearsals will begin around Easter, and the play will open on April 27th running through May 7th. Dates, times, tickets will be announced soon!

## Happy Chinese New Year!

February 1st marked the entering of the "Year of the Tiger" in the Chinese New Year. Our students, faculty, and staff wore red to help celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year!



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## Sports Update

Our basketball team finished the regular season with a 12-10 record. This was the best regular-season record the Cougars basketball team has had since the 2016/2017 season! With some struggles early on, the team stuck together. They went on a 6 game winning streak at the midpoint of the season to improve their record.

We will celebrate the basketball team at the end-of-season banquet scheduled for March 24 from 6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m. in the Jo Cafeteria.

We have both soccer and softball tryouts in March. We are looking forward to kicking off each season. We are excited to jump start our softball program which has not played a full season in 3 years. In addition to softball, we are excited to see how the soccer team

performs this spring. We are hoping to build off of last year's exciting season!

Visit our [website](#) for more details about our athletic programs!

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## Freshman Retreat

Our Freshman Retreat was held at the Wicker Park Lutheran Church Social Hall in February. Josephinum Academy prides itself in following the Five Goals of Sacred Heart Education and the Freshman retreat specifically focused on Goal IV, "The building of community as a Christian value." In light of that being the focal point, the retreat was called "2-Gether 4 God."

The day started with a prayer service with seven of our students leading it in the school chapel. Once we arrived at the Hall, the Freshmen were met with a fun activity that really let them prove how much they knew each other. Amazingly they did really well! Soon after, competitive juices got flowing with toilet paper races and pool noodle competitions. When things settled down, time was spent reflecting on thought-provoking questions that were posted all over the hall. The students were given a lot of time to answer these questions on the posters with a provided marker. Their responses led to a big group discussion and a short film that included lots of laughs and some tears. After lunch, Sister Carol Bredencamp, Jane Steinfels, and our own Laura Forbes led a panel discussion on what it means to live in a community. Great stories were shared and a great segue to the next part of the day which involved a visual activity that showed how connected as a community the girls are and can be tons of colored yarn. The day ended with some hilarious skits and a final prayer.

Tons of thank you's go out to our teachers Ms. Forbes, Ms. Favia, and Ms. Cheng. and our invited speakers, Sister Carol and Ms. Steinfels for making this a successful retreat which has not been done in person in a few years.

Follow our [Campus Ministry on Instagram](#) to learn more about what our students are doing!



 Liked by **ktfehr** and **25 others**

**thejocampusministry** So exciting to get to do class retreats again and what an awesome group to start them off! Our 9th graders spent the day reflecting and learning about Goal 4 and building community.

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## Illinois Road Scholar Visits Josephinum



Ms. Knapczyk welcomed Mr. Williams III to speak about Black history, social movements, and how Americans and our students have work to do to bring about equity in her Americans Studies course. Our Jo students were super engaged, singing with him, had a 45 minute Q & A, and are planning a follow-up Zoom in a few weeks. Mr. Williams told Ms. Knapczyk, "the students here impressed him more than some college classes with their questions!"

Williams has taught Political Science at Wright College, Chicago State University, and currently is the Chairman of the Social Sciences Department at Kennedy-King College.

Williams is a current Illinois Humanities Road Scholar. He considers his most important work his role as a mentor to young people.

Mr. Williams III has a play titled [1619](#) which will be in production this spring.

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## Admissions Update

It has been wonderful greeting future Josephinum Cougars for 7th & 8th grade Shadow Days over the past couple of months! So far, we've met unique and intelligent young

women excited to be a part of the Jo community, and it's a special opportunity for us to welcome them with Jo hospitality. If you know a 7th or 8th grader who would like to attend a Shadow Day, please sign-up via this [link](#).

March dates have been added to the [calendar](#) for the 24th & 25th.  
Spaces are limited and reservations are required.

Questions? Please reach out to [Kathryn Bartholomew](#), our Head of Admissions.

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## 2nd Quarter Goal Awards



Congratulations to our 2nd Quarter Goal Award Winners:

- Goal 1 - Frida Reynolds
- Goal 2 - Savannah Gamboa
- Goal 3 - Gabrielle Nash
- Goal 4 - Natalie Venegas
- Goal 5 - Leslie Padilla
- Co-Worker - Ms. Norrington - Joseph

Learn more about our [Goals and Criteria](#) as a Sacred Heart School!

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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### March

- 10 - Sophomore Retreat
- 14 - 18 Spring Break - No School
- 23 - HerStory performance
- 24 - Shadow Day for 7th and 8th graders
- 24 - Basketball Banquet

### April

- 11 & 12 - Senior Retreat
- 15 - Good Friday - No School
- 18 - Easter Monday - No School
- 27 - *The Revenger's Tragedy* opening
- 27 - Spring Luncheon
- 28 - Junior Retreat

### May

- 2 - 4 - CPC Soccer Tournament
- 5 - Stats AP Test
- 9 - 11 - CPC Soccer Tournament
- 9 - 13 - Senior Week
- 10 - Comp AP Test
- 11 - Biology AP Test
- 11 - Spanish AP Test
- 14 - Senior Prom
- 16 - 20 - Go, Stay, Graduate!
- 20 - Baccalaureate Mass
- 21 - Graduation
- 30 - Memorial Day - No School

### June

- 1 - Last day of school

## RESOURCES FOR YOU

Explore our online resources including information on [Schoology](#).





[josephinum.org](http://josephinum.org)

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