

THE BIG T

John Paul II
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Let yourselves be taken
over by the light of Christ,
and spread that light
wherever you are.
— Saint John Paul II



WINTER
2023



ADMINISTRATION

John McCarthy
President

Heather Rembold
Principal

Andrea Williamson
Assistant Principal

Robert Collar
Dean of Students

Louise Sanders
Athletic Director

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jennifer Weniger, *Chair*

Josh Horton

Ross Kuykendall

Frank Oldham

Diane Reilly

Tom Skiba

Tracee Spencer

Monsignor Ronald Cellini

John McCarthy

A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

JOHN MCCARTHY

John Paul II Catholic School is celebrating its 10th anniversary year. It seems like only yesterday that 57 students entered the doors of the Okatee Baptist Church as the current school building was in the final stage of completion. Fast forward ten years later and over 330 students are now enrolled, occupying not only the original school building, but the athletic center finished in 2016 and six modular classrooms added in 2021 and 2022. With the smallest grade being the senior class at 37 students, we are projecting a total enrollment of over 400 students by the start of next school year.

Applications for 2022-23 are currently far exceeding the record-breaking totals of this past year, and we expect waiting lists to develop in several grades. This growth, particularly in the last two years, has made us one of the fastest growing private schools in South Carolina and one of the fastest growing Catholic schools in the nation.

From my perspective, as an educator of 38 years, this has been nothing short of amazing. But why?

I am often asked the question "What accounts for this phenomenal growth spurt?" There are many complex answers to this very simple question. The academic program, with 22 AP courses, is stellar. The sports program has continued to grow in size and success. The visual and performing arts are now at levels rivaling schools much larger in size. A dedicated admissions coordinator and increased marketing have allowed us to better tell our story. Over \$200,000 in scholarship aid from the Daughters of Charity, the St. Anthony Education Fund, and twelve Promise Scholarships have helped

increase the diversity of our student population. The disruption of the pandemic and the growth of the Lowcountry have increased the size of the base of families looking for better choices.

While all of these are contributors to our growth, I believe the most important reason boils down to these three words: faith, family, and joy.

Our students are in the safety of a faith-based environment that allows them the opportunity to seek a fulfilling personal relationship with Jesus Christ. They are amongst a family of faculty, staff,

and friends who help to form relationships based on kindness and understanding. All of this leads to students who are generally happy, and this joy is palpable in our school.

With growth comes challenge. We simply have outgrown our little school. A projected enrollment of 500+ by August 2025 will necessitate the construction of the Innovation Center to serve as the primary high school academic building.

This state-of-the-art, STEAM-focused facility will rival any high school around. The current building will serve as the middle school, thus creating two schools on one campus. No doubt John Paul II Catholic School will emerge from this period of growth stronger than ever, with a future built on the contributions of so many and poised to become the school Where Faith and Innovation Meet. We look forward to welcoming future Golden Warriors and a growing list of generous supporters to be part of this amazing story. In the words of our patron Saint John Paul II:

"Rise, let us be on our way! Let us go forth full of trust in Christ. He will accompany us as we journey toward the goal that He alone knows."



HIGHLIGHTS



BEST OF!!!

We are proud to announce that John Paul II Catholic School has been voted the “BEST” high school, middle school, and private school in the Lowcountry!!

The dream of so long ago, by so many, has been realized. Thank you to our families for their faith, our teachers for their hard work, the administration for its dedication to Catholic education, donors for their support, and, above all, thanks be to God.

CHECK US OUT

Beaufort Lifestyle



Scan QR Code to see read article.

Leadership Model Change at John Paul II Catholic School

On October 25, 2022 the Diocese of Charleston announced that two of its schools, Bishop England High School in Charleston and John Paul II Catholic School would be moving to a president-principal model. Considered the most common governance model for Catholic high schools across the nation, this new leadership format takes the varied and numerous responsibilities for managing a private, Catholic school and spreads them over two leadership positions. A key outcome of going to this model is that it will allow JP II the capacity to enter into a capital campaign and construction project that will likely span the next three years. Once the campaign and project is concluded, and the school has reached its goal of 500 students, the new model will remain in effect due to the complexity of running a private school of this size. The president is essentially the CEO of the school, responsible for overall governance, advancement, and business operations, while the principal is the Chief Academic Officer, running the day-to-day operations of the school and its academic and extracurricular programs.

As of October 25, John McCarthy assumed the position of president of John Paul II Catholic School and Heather Rembold becomes the school's 5th principal. Mr. McCarthy has over 23 years of leadership experience, with 8 of those years as a public school district superintendent and 15 years of experience leading high schools, 9 of those years being in Catholic education. Mrs. Rembold has been in the position of assistant principal for 10 years since the inception of the school. Collectively they have over 60 years of experience in the field of education.



HIGHLIGHTS

DECA REGION RESULTS

The JPPII DECA members competed in the Region DECA competition at West Ashley High School in Charleston. The JPPII students brought home three first place finishes, one second place finish, one third place finish, and several top 10 finishes.

DECA moderator and JPPII math teacher, Tracy Sklarin, believes the extensive areas available through DECA bring a sense of interest that lead to student success. "The problem-solving skills learned through DECA set our students up for real-world applications. They get to meet not only judges who are professionals in the arena, but they get to interact with like-minded students from other schools." The DECA mission is to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

"This program fits in well with the mission of JPPII, particularly in the areas of leadership and innovation," noted JPPII President John McCarthy. "Each year DECA sponsors competitions open to participating high schools and colleges. Although our program is still in its relative infancy compared to other schools, we fared extremely well at the regional competition this week."

The Golden Warriors are looking forward to the State Competition in February.

Region Results:

- **Bodie Daniel** (senior) first in Marketing Communications Series
- **Paige Weniger** (senior) first in Restaurant and Food Service Management Series
- **Julia Delgado** (senior) first in Food Marketing Series
- **Trice McClure** (sophomore) second in Food Marketing Series
- **Lauren Weniger** (junior) third in Food Marketing Series (JPPII sweep in this category)
- **Kathleen Hammett** (junior) top four in Food Marketing Series
- **Aadi Patel** (sophomore) top 10 for Entrepreneurship Series
- **Isabella Perez** (sophomore) top 10 for Restaurant and Food Service Management Series



(photo left to right) Lourdes Low, Sara Swanson, Lauren Weniger, Aadi Patel, Bodie Daniel, Kathleen Hammett, Paige Weniger, Julia Delgado, Trice McClure, Emma Sauls, and Isabella Perez

Thanks Michael Family!

Thanks to the Michael family, owners of 4M Metals in Bluffton, for the refreshing and always delicious Kona Ice. 4M Metals is celebrating its 16th anniversary in business and, as Chad, Tricia, Taylor '21, and sophomore Camryn Michael have done since the inception of JPPII, they decided to celebrate with us!!! The Michael family's endless support has meant the world to our school family.



HIGHLIGHTS

Prado Receives National Hispanic Award

JPII junior, Nathaniel Prado, has received the National Hispanic Recognition Award.

According to the College Board website, the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) was initiated in 1983 to identify “outstanding Hispanic high school students and to share information about these academically well-prepared students with subscribing colleges and universities.”

To be eligible, students must be at least one-quarter Hispanic. Each year the NHRP identifies approximately 7,000 of the highest-scoring students from a nationwide total of 250,000 high school juniors who took the PSAT/NMSQT and designated themselves as Hispanic, as well as approximately 200 of the top-scoring students from Puerto Rico.

Congratulations, Nathan!



Shaw Achieves Eagle Scout Status

JPII junior David Shaw has completed his Eagle Scout project. David, who has been a part of scouting since he was five years old, is a member of Troop 200. For his Eagle Scout project, he created a walkway from the back of the parking lot at JPII to the circle around the pond.

“Scouting has been a major part of my life since before I can remember,” said David. “Both my mom and my brother were involved in scouting before I was born. I was always taken to my brother’s weekly meetings and did the activities with him, so I decided to join the pack that met at the same time. I joined scouting as a Bobcat.”

David decided to do his project at the school because he wanted to see the completion of his hard work. “The specifics of my project just fell into place,” he said. “After Hayden Jennings ‘21 and Jack Brock ‘23 finished their projects, there was an evident problem. There was no convenient way to get to their finished projects. That’s where my project came into play.” He pitched the idea of a pathway to Mr. McCarthy who gave the green light to the project, benefiting all visitors, students, and teachers.



Rembold Gets Naval Academy Letter of Assurance

JPII senior, Sam Rembold, has received a letter of assurance to attend the prestigious United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.



Partnership for School Safety

JPII is partnering with Jasper County Sheriff’s Department (JCSD), Jasper County Fire & EMS, along with other state and local agencies to improve our school safety plan. The K-9 Department from JCSD conducted a demonstration drill on how they detect various substances. As part of the JPII safety plan, the K-9 unit will periodically visit the campus to ensure we remain a drug-free school.

HIGHLIGHTS

HOMECOMING 2022

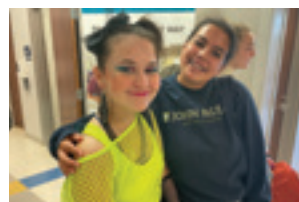
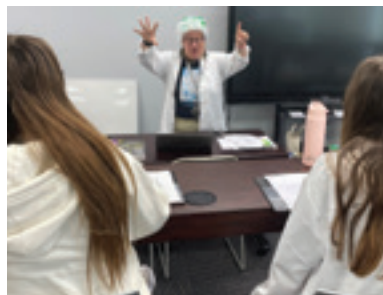
The theme for Homecoming Spirit Week was “Back to the Future” with dress-down days of: Jocks and Skaters (Biff and Marty), Doc Brown Day (mad scientist), and Student Staff Switch-Up (students dress up as their teachers, teachers wear student uniforms). When the rest of the week was interrupted by weather created by Hurricane Ian, the

game, festivities, and dance were held two weeks later.

Although Homecoming Spirit Week was cut short, the theme days were fun, creative, festive, and, yes, even a bit crazy!

Dollar Wars were held in benefit of St Jude’s Children Research Hospital.

*Homecoming King and Queen
Kohl Woodham and Paige Weniger*



CURIOUS ABOUT SCIENCE

Principles of Biomedical Science Students Get a Clue!

The students in the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Principles of Biomedical Science class, taught by JPII science teachers, Mrs. Andi Shaw and Mrs. Alice Wood, opened the school year investigating a possible crime scene.

“When they entered the lab,” according to Mrs. Wood, “they discovered the body of a college student who had been found dead a few hours earlier. It was great to see their reactions and conversations when they first walked in!” The students were tasked with documenting the crime scene as a first step to solving the mystery of the student’s death.

“In addition to documenting the crime scene, students evaluated evidence including fingerprints and hair samples found near the body, as in this instance, and DNA from blood samples of the victim and potential suspects,” explained Mrs. Wood. Some JPII students submitted to lie detector tests, while other students studied heart and respiration data to evaluate these results.

The Principles of Biomedical Science class investigates a variety of career opportunities in the medical arena. Early lessons focus on medical investigations as students play the roles of forensic scientists.



6th Graders Take a Trip to the Maritime Center

The 6th grade class took a field trip to the Maritime Center to learn the importance of oysters in the water ecosystem and how restocking the shells in the water is good for the environment. “They also discovered the importance of reusing and recycling for our environment and what can and can’t be recycled,” according to Mrs. Sonia Merrick. “The students bagged oyster shells so they could be tossed back in the river for more oysters to grow on.”

The trip was part of an interdisciplinary collaboration within the middle school. In science class the students learned about organisms and microorganisms and in religion class they incorporated the project to realize the importance of recycling so items don’t end up in a landfill.



THEOLOGY REVELATION

Principle of Double Effect

The Principle of Double Effect states that certain actions that have both good and bad effects (results) can be morally permissible if certain conditions are met and that the good effect cannot be obtained without allowing or tolerating the bad to happen as well.

And that is what the JPPII theology morality class, taught by Deacon Brent Heathcott, recently debated and discussed. “The Principal of Double Effect helps students understand that their actions have good and bad effects and sometimes both can occur,” he explained. “If that is the case, when is it permissible to do the act knowing bad



could happen? They are basically learning about the consequences of actions.”

As you might have imagined the JPPII students enjoyed the lively discussion, according to Deacon Heathcott. “They loved the exercise! They debated a few scenarios I presented in class and then used certain criteria we discussed to decide if the actions were morally permissible even though good and bad things happened.”

JPPII is educating scholars with a soul...who love an animated debate!!



Building Trust Like Abraham and Sarah

Students in Mrs. Sonia Merrick’s 6th grade theology class worked together creating structures with their partners — all while NOT being able to speak to each other during the build! According to Mrs. Merrick, the concept of the assignment was to enforce the concept of trust in God like Abraham and Sarah did.

Lessons of Trust from Abraham and Sarah: Trust Without Knowing the Future, Know it Must Be God’s Plan, Not Your Own, Give it All to God, God Keeps His Promises, Take God at His Word, God Redeems Despite Your Downfalls, God Looks for Our Faith



READING LIKE WARRIORS

Middle Schoolers Keep Reading

Summer reading book reports are not what they used to be! Mrs. Sonia Merrick, JPPII middle school language arts teacher, had her middle school students participate in a Socratic seminar for their summer reading assignment. A few months later, she challenged her students to a 30-day reading challenge.

The Socratic seminar is a formal discussion, based on a text, in which the leader asks open-ended questions. Within the context of the discussion, students listen closely to the comments of others, thinking critically for themselves, and articulate their own thoughts and their responses to the thoughts of others. The students’ theme was “How is Your Character a Warrior?”

In November, Mrs. Merrick had her students take part in a 30-day November Reading Challenge which culminated in a tasty ice cream party. One of the main activities of the challenge for these JPPII Warriors was also presenting how their protagonist was a warrior!



JPII SHIELD Robotics Tournament

The JPII SHIELD Robotics VEX IQ teams hosted a tournament in the JPII gym on Saturday, October 22.

Each of the three JPII teams of 6th–8th graders competed in ten matches along with 16 other teams from SC and NC. After 95 qualifying matches, team 61317M finished in 8th place with 61317X finishing just behind them in 9th place, and 61317S came in 17th.

“The top 10 teams then advanced to the final five matches of the day,” said Mrs. Rooney. “Team 61317M started the finals scoring one of the highest scores of the day, 56 points! They remained in 1st place through the next three matches, until in the very last match, their opponent scored the day’s top score of 72 points. Even though they did not win the Teamwork Championship, they did earn the Innovate Award!”

The Innovate Award recognizes a team with an effective and well-documented design process. This award is evaluated by the judges based on the team’s engineering notebook, interview, ability to explain their robot with effective communication skills, professionalism, and student-centered ethos.

JPII SHIELD Robotics team 61317M has been invited to both the SC VEX IQ State Championship in Greenville AND the 2023 U.S. Open Robotics Championship in Council Bluffs, Iowa. “This is an amazing accomplishment for our very impressive Girl Power team. With just a few more tournaments left in the season, I hope to see our other teams qualify as well.”



(photo left to right) Aubrey Porada, Aanya Patel, Marie Sophie Alvarez, and Mitchell Ramos



Design & Modeling

The JPII 6th Grade Design & Modeling students worked in teams to design a supportive, custom-sized ankle foot orthosis (AFO). “The class began their exploration by defining the needs of a person with spastic hemiplegia, a muscular disorder associated with cerebral palsy,” said Mrs. Rooney, PLTW teacher and robotics coach. “Teams built and tested a prototype while documenting the steps of the design process.”



They Are Officially Ducky!!

A few middle school students and high school students in Mrs. Cadra Rooney’s tech class received their debugging rubber ducks. “When programmers get stuck,” according to Mrs. Rooney, “they talk to the duck! Students received their ducks along with an adoption certificate when they completed their programming debugging activity during class.”

HOUSES

COMMUNITY SERVICE IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR HOUSE ACTIVITIES

Over **5,000** community service hours | Over **2,000 lbs** for Mercy Mission

275 items for Toys for Tots | **4 families** adopted for Christmas

Over **\$2,000** has been raised for different local organizations

The JPPII House system grants us opportunities to follow the traditions of our Catholic faith through the intentional commitment of our core values of service, high expectations, innovation, excellence, leadership, and discipleship. One of the main goals of the House system is to instill a sense of giving to the larger community with the hope our students will carry these philanthropic qualities throughout their lives.

The House system also allows us to create smaller groups within our school community, promotes school spirit, and healthy competition. When students begin at JPPII, they are assigned to one of our four houses: Kolbe, Savio, Sebastian, and Lisieux. Since the House system is a family system, siblings are placed in the same House together.

JPPII instituted the House system in 2015 to help students acclimate quickly to their new school and feel an immediate sense of belonging. Studies have shown that schools with House systems have happier students and build more school spirit than they did before a House system was implemented.

Some of the House's school and community service activities this past fall included a food drive, Homecoming 2022 events, Toys for Tots donations, an Advent collection for families in need for Christmas, OneBlood drive, and the blessing of the pets.



SPIRITUAL LIFE

COMMUNITY SERVICE

JPII Day of Service

The annual JPII Day of Service has been held for the past three years on a date close to our patron saint's Feast Day, October 22. The day started with Mass in the athletic center followed by the entire school community going forth to serve others at various locations throughout the Lowcountry.

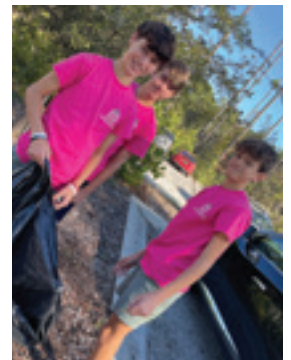
Some of the services provided by JPII:

- St. Peter's Catholic Church and School – cleaned out two large storage units, assisted PE teacher with fun activities
- Port Royal Maritime Center – cleared brush, clean-up of nature trail, collected over 14 bags of trash
- Jasper County – litter picked up along E. Hazzard Road
- St. Gregory the Great – distributed mulch, spruced up landscape, relocated garden pavers, cleaned out attic
- Mercy Mission – stocked and organized shelves, displayed donated items
- Sister's house in Hardeeville – cleaned outside, landscaped yard
- JPII campus – middle schoolers worked at the beautification and maintenance of entire campus, set up athletic center for robotics tournament, and created greeting cards for an assisted-living facility

A special thank you to Mr. Kevin Pastore, the Campus Ministry Team, and

Mrs. Andrea Williamson for their efforts in planning and coordinating all the activities including projects, t-shirts, lunches, and transportation. Also, a special thank you to Mr. Michael Brock for joining us in coordinating the JPII campus projects.

And, a big thank you to our extracurricular sponsors for making this all possible: 4M Metals, Karrh Land & Timber LLC, SERG Group, Jolley Law Group, Weniger Plastic Surgery, New River Transmission & Auto Care Center, Keller Williams Realty, Luray Peanut Company, Choate Construction, Farm Bureau Insurance, The Henderson Family, Burr and Forman LLP, and Complete Compliance Erosion.



Toys For Tots Campaign

In collaboration with WSAV, 4M Metals, and the United States Marine Corps, JPII held a Toys for Tots Campaign that began on October 31 and culminated on December 12 with donations and a few live broadcasts at the athletic center.



JPII seniors Cooper Montgomery, Anthony Hill, and Austin Floyd sponsored a fall food harvest collection for Mercy Mission. The Mercy Mission has been seeing an unprecedented number of families, over 50 per day. Thank you to all who donated food items to our fall harvest for the Mercy Mission. JPII donated over a 1,000 food items weighing in at almost 2,000 lbs!

SPIRITUAL LIFE

COMMUNITY SERVICE

RETREATS



6th Grade Retreat

The theme for this inaugural retreat was **“Community, Purpose, and Welcome.”** The morning was filled with games, team-building activities, an opportunity to get to know their new classmates and the Acts29 Peer Ministry Team, and of course, some good food!



7th Grade Retreat

The theme for this retreat was **“Trust the Process”** using Jeremiah 29:11 as our scriptural focus, *“For I know well the plans I have in mind for you; plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope.”* This retreat was centered on stress management, adapting to change, and remaining true to yourself.



8th Grade Retreat

The theme for this retreat was **“It’s All Yours!”**, centered around becoming your own person and the importance of taking ownership of your own faith journey in that process. The retreat is based on Psalm 139:14, *“I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works.”*

Friday Adoration at JP II

JP II continues to offer Eucharistic Adoration every Friday morning from 8-8:20am in the Media Center. It is a wonderful way for our student body to offer praise and worship to God within the confines of the walls of our school. Whether students stop by for 1 minute or 10 minutes, God is glorified, and their hearts are lightened and at the same time, filled.

“I had a vision during Adoration a few weeks ago that the Media Center tables were full of students and even more lined the outside of the room,” said Deacon Brett Heathcott, JP II theology teacher. “A room bursting at the seams with students taking a few minutes to praise God, to thank God, to offer prayers for others and those in need.”

Senior Retreat

The Class of 2023 went to Wild Blue Ropes for a day of high ropes challenges, team building, and just some time to get away and be together. The Scriptural focus for our Senior Retreat each year is *Called, Justified, and Glorified* based on Romans 8:28-30.



WELCOME TO JPPII

JPPII is happy to announce the addition of two new faculty members.



Mrs. Mimi Jones will be working in the Marian Center. She has a BA in English as well as an M.Ed. in Special Education from the College of Charleston and is our intervention teacher.

“Having gone to Catholic schools all my life and having previously taught at one, I know the quality of the education and the welcoming environment a Catholic school provides,” said Mrs. Jones. “I am excited to be part of JPPII and its wonderful students, faculty, and staff.”



Mr. Brackin Lambert is teaching Multimedia Storytelling & Integrated Media. He is the new sports information director and will be coaching JV baseball and eSports. He earned a B.A. from USCB and an M.A. in Sport and Exercise Science Cumberland (TN) University. Mr. Lambert brings a strong background to the JPPII athletic department from his experience in collegiate athletics with a new aspect to athletics on social media and beyond.



JPPII Alumni

We invite you to stay connected with your alma mater. Have you moved, changed jobs, pursued higher education, married, had a baby, or fulfilled a life goal or milestone recently? Update your profile information to share your personal or professional accomplishments with the JPPII community by emailing Admin.Asst@johnpaul2school.org

Our Newest Golden Warriors

Congratulations to Coach Stephen Gaylets and his wife Natalie on the birth of their first child, **Susan Wren Gaylets**. Susie was born on August 26 weighing 6lbs 5oz and was 19 in. long.



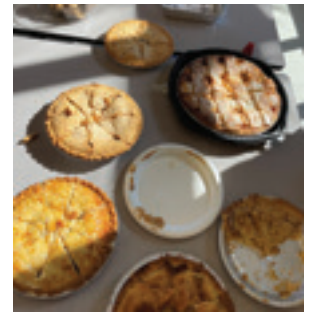
Proud parents, JPPII social studies teacher Kim McNab and her husband Matt, are happy to announce the arrival of **Maren Riley McNab** on November 1 at 1:51pm. Maren was 6lb 15ozs and 20¼ in. long.



The Kevin Thomas family is elated to welcome **Henry “Hank” Lenox Thomas** to their precious family. He was 7lbs 6oz and 19 in. long.



Celebrating FRIENDSGIVING AT JP II

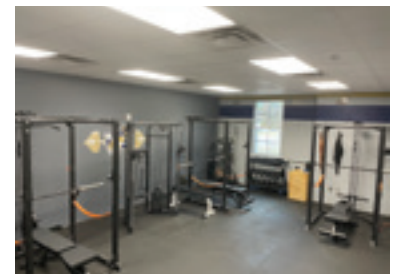
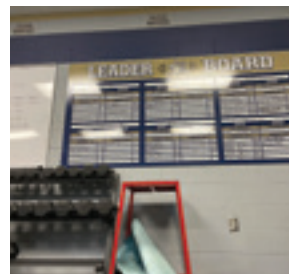


Weight Room Improvements

The JP II Golden Warrior weight room got a much-needed facelift over the Christmas break. The athletic department designed and improved the current room with top-of-the-line workout equipment. The design includes new powerlifting racks, cable machine, leg machines, bars, dumbbells and plates, and a fresh coat of paint along with a new leader board.

“The improvements have completely changed our old weight room to a place where JP II students can call home,” according to Stephen Gaylets, JP II assistant athletic director and head baseball coach. “The walls are covered with built-in motivation from the sharp designs of All-Print Graphics. The design is for all our students, student-athletes and students alike, to feel a sense of motivation and excitement.”

Many thanks to the JP II Booster Club, the Yackley family, and the Merrick family for their generous donations to the new weight room. Special thanks for the hard work of Louise Sanders, JP II athletic director, Coach Gaylets, Richard Jennings, JP II facilities manager, and parents Greg Sanders and Rich Yackley.



ATHLETICS

Athletic Signing!

We are pleased to announce that JPPII senior, Lourdes Low, has signed a letter of intent to ride for the Oklahoma State University Cowgirl equestrian team!

Congrats, Lourdes, we are so proud of you!



Everyone Needs a “Victory Monday” T-Shirt

If any of our teams win during the weekend, students get to wear “Victory Monday” t-shirts the following Monday. Call the front office (843-645-3838) if you want to join us in this new JPPII tradition.

Cash is preferred but checks can be made out to JPPII Boosters.

Shirts are \$15.



FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

Tennis

“The most talented team John Paul II has fielded in its history concluded its season with a 11-5 record. Led by co-captains seniors, Samantha Reilly and Paige Weniger, the Warrior netters made the State playoffs the second year in a row before losing to Hilton Head Prep in the semifinals. Their only losses were to State Championship teams.

– Head Coach Ed Neal

All-Region Team: Anson and Cypress Daniel, Trice McClure, and Samantha Reilly



(left to right) Front Row – Joya Iskandar, Gracie Henderson, Alivia Ogden, Cypress Daniel, Brie Suiter, Ann Elise Harrell, Back Row – Coach Ed Neal, Anson Daniel, Chloe Maillet, Samantha Reilly, Alexa Eaddy, Trice McClure, Paige Weniger, and Coach Carol Humpherys

ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

Cross Country

Varsity Cross Country

Cross country had an extremely successful season. We had a younger crew of both boys and girls varsity runners this year who battled it out with private and public school teams in the area. Our boys team was Regional winners, and our ever-strong girls team received Region runner-up. "Our team saw consistent personal records (PRs) and showed true teamwork during their races. Our team consisted of great sportsmanship and leadership this season, which was noticed through the running community. – Coach Jaime Roberts

All-Region Winners: Sebastian Frickel (freshman) and Brady Mahoney (junior)

Middle School Cross Country

The middle school cross country team had a successful season. The boys' team consisted of Jonathan Yanachik, Leo Iskandar, Ryan Jenkins, and Brayden Frickel who are new to the team and worked hard to accomplish some great PRs. Brayden Frickel placed 5th overall at the middle school championships, giving him an all-region title. On the girl's side, Emma Karrh, Samantha Cordero, Hollis Melnick, Abby Brock, and Ayla Reynolds worked hard to get several personal records as well. Emma and Samantha both participated in the middle school championships, while Hollis, Abby, and Ayla helped the high school team get runner-up for high school championships. We hope to see them all next year for another great season. – Coach Jaime Roberts



(left to right) Front Row – Ayla Reynolds, Abigail Brock, Brayden Frickel, Jonathan Yanachik, Ryan Jenkins, James Hook, Blake Hubik, Jonah Mast, Matthew Yanachik, Tim McGuire, Gracie Henderson, Emma Karrh, Samantha Cordero, Jude Witkowski, Back Row – Lauren Weniger, Brady Mahoney, Rose Witkowski, Sebastian Frickel, Jacob Vortisch, Aadi Patel, Kelon Reynolds, Anderson Dewig, Coach John Williamson, Zac Henderson, Emmett Callanan, Leo Iskandar, Alec Yanachik, Nathaniel Prado, Ben Villalobos, Nick Rauch, Jase Reynolds, Coach Michael Brock, and Coach Jaime Roberts

FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

Varsity Football

The varsity football team had a very competitive 2022 season, making the playoffs for the second year in a row, while competing in the AAA classification for the first time. The JPII offense averaged more points per game than any other JPII football team (29.4) in our short football history. Offense was led by junior, Christian Tilton, who rushed for 1,750 yards while throwing for 904 yards and accounting for 31 of the teams' touchdowns this year.

The defense was led by senior, Sam Rembold, and sophomore, Sebastian Slusne, who finished tied for the team lead in tackles.

Christian Tilton and Sebastian Slusne were selected by other AAA coaches for the **SCISA Class 3A All-Star Team** which is comprised of players from all 9 AAA teams.



(kneeling, left to right) Sam Rembold, Finn Mahoney, Austin O'Quinn, Kohl Woodham, Jackson Ogden, Hamrick Hurst, Jack Brock, Bodie Daniel, Tony Hill, (standing left to right) Coach Rich Yackley, Coach Michael Carbone, Coach George Crosby, Daniel Seaglund, Jack Hannagan, Connor Brown, Markus Beaulieu, Alex Troutman, DJ Lewis, Javier Jimenez, Landon Skipper, Ephrain Jimenez, William Rooney, Gavin Byrne, Christian Tilton, Daniel Snyder, Dante Aiken, Aiden Winslow, Lukas Yackley, Bowen Hill, Brandyn Horton, Alex Mercer, Jackson Sanders, James Keefer, Caleb Snyder, Sebastian Slusne, Andrew Boyden, Cullen Amagliani, Bryant Jolley, Coach Chris Myers, and Coach Stephen Gaylets

ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

Middle School Football

The middle school football team finished the season with six wins and only one loss. I am so proud of these young men as they worked hard all season and sacrificed for the betterment of the team. Jackson Reilley led the team with 20 touchdowns and Alan Wolf was second in touchdowns with 15. Deuce Kerschbaum, Sean Phalen, Ryan Brown,

Freddy Weniger, and Russ Spencer solidified the offensive line throughout the season. Our defense was led by Sean Phalen, Deuce Kerschbaum, and Jackson Reilley as they consistently created turnovers, as well as holding opponents out of the end zone. Aden Haskins and Jackson Reilley led the team in interceptions. – Coach Asa Haskins



(left to right) Front Row – William Clarke, Sam Marcinkoski, William Patrick, Tommy Rembold, Nicklaus Feltner, Michael Benner, Matthew Termini, Leiland Fripp, Zachary Moulton, Patrick Merrick, Aden Haskins, A'Rion Thomas, Zachary Mulieri, Luca Madhere, Edwin Merrick, Back Row – Coach Haskins, Coach Fripp, Russell Spencer, Cole Trott, Jackson Reilley, William Debrovner, Alan Wolf, Walker Patrick, Sean Phalen, Deuce Kerschbaum, Josh Rivera, Ryan Brown, Freddie Weniger, Ryan Arnold, Nathan Lyle, Coach Marcinkoski, and Coach Thomas

FOOTBALL IN THE NEWS

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FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

Varsity Volleyball

The Warriors ended their season with the best record in JPII history (24-9-1) and stats that will be in the record books for years to come. The team brought home the “Gold” from the Colleton County Volleyball Tournament and wrapped up the season at the State Tournament in Myrtle Beach. We also say goodbye to three of our seniors, Emily O’Sullivan, Emma Sauls, and Sara Swanson. As we are sad to see the end of our season, we look forward with great anticipation to all that’s to come with this very young team. – Head Coach Louise Sanders



(left to right) Front Row – Lili Termini, Cayce Graves, Sadie Moulton, Savannah Trott, Back Row – Lili Lutheran, Emma Sauls, Karoline Rustad, Bela Crespo, Emily O’Sullivan, Camryn Michael, Coach Sanders, Sara Swanson, and JoJo Hill

JV Volleyball

The JV volleyball team finished a fantastic season with a 17-3 overall record. Newly coached by Ashlynn Hill, the team was also led by captains Caylin Gecy and Miranda Moulton. The season was a success due to the great team effort and spirit brought by each of the 14 players on the roster. Defense in the back row was held down by Isabella Perez, Tevi Mullen, Madison Burke, Abigail Clarke, and liberos Rachael Brenneman and Caylin Gecy. Setters Miranda Moulton and Jayden Sylvester ran an impressive offense to their hitters Elle Borgan, Emma McKamey, Evelyn Melnick, Lauren Majorkiewicz, Alex Crocker, and Alainna Hill. Congratulations on an exemplary season! – Head Coach Louise Sanders



(left to right) Front Row – Jayden Sylvester, Lauren Majorkiewicz, Rachael Brenneman, Caylin Gecy, Tevi Mullen, Abigail Clarke, Back Row – Coach Ashlynn Hill, Madison Burke, Alainna Hill, Evelyn Melnick, Elle Borgan, Alex Crocker, Isabella Perez, Emma McKamey, and Miranda Moulton

October’s Dig Pink total came in at \$2,925!!

Congratulations to the JPII volleyball team and all those who helped make this annual fundraiser a success.

ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

Middle School Volleyball

The middle school volleyball team finished their season 15-2. We carried a large team with a focus on developing players new to the sport to set a strong foundation for years to come. We had seven players who were new to the sport, and it was great to see them jump right in fearlessly. 8th grader, Ava Stabak, led the team with 62 aces, followed by 8th grader, Audrey Litchfield, with 53 aces. The team outscored opponents overall by 168 points. Over the season, including tournament play, we scored 1,061 points. The team also finished 2nd at the Hilton Head Christian Academy Middle School Tournament.

– Coach Bri Sapienza



(left to right) Front Row – Calleigh Geregthy, Kendall Roppelt, Clare Jolley, Lauren Urquizu, Cia Douglass, Emily Boulware, Annalise Litchfield, Madison Murphy, Back Row – Gabriella Heathcott, Ava Stabak, Camila Zimbron, Elliana Heathcott, Saida Willis, Finley Borgan, Audrey Litchfield, and Coach Bri Sapienza, *Not Pictured – Ansley Reilley*

Sailing

JPII sailors competed in three regattas this season. Our high point was placing second in the LoCo Championship where we sailed against Hilton Head Prep, Christian Academy, Heritage, Cross Schools, and homeschooled students. Although this season's JPII sailors are a young team racing in a very competitive division, they placed in the top ten in the two North Points regattas in October. In December, the sailors traveled to Charleston for the North Points #4 regatta. With over 30 boats and 16 schools participating, the largest regatta of the year, our JPII sailors placed 10th overall in the varsity division. The team will reunite to sail in the SCISA championship and another regatta in the spring. – Head Coach Mark Newman



(left to right) Front Row – Chris Del Gazio, Ayden Kollstedt, Sara Sullivan, Ethan Benedetto, and Roman Bodziony Back Row – Griffin Spencer, Daniel Nester, Michael Fitzgibbons, and Brad Campbell
Not Pictured – Matei Porcelli

FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

Swimming

The JPPI swim team finished the season with a bang at the SCISA State Championships! The team, consisting of Aubrey Porada 8th grade, Riley McGoldrick 9th grade, Penelope Winslow 7th grade, and Kendall Porada, (St. Gregory the Great) 6th grade, placed 3rd in the 3A division. Each swimmer played a major role in our success, scoring points individually and swimming the fastest times of the season for the two relays. Defending champ Aubrey Porada - 1st in the 500 free (5:32.00), 2nd in the 200 IM (2:21.93). Riley McGoldrick - 2nd in the 100 Fly (1:06.58), 3rd in the 200 free (2:11.09). Nel Winslow - 6th in the 100 free (1:06.70), 8th in the 100 backstroke (1:16.21). Kendall Porada - 4th in the 500 free (6:10.72), 11th in the 200 free (2:25.89). The girls finished 3rd in the 400 free relay (4:16.18) and 4th in the 200 free relay. These girls represented JPPI well and all should be very proud of their accomplishments! Coach: Head Coach Kathleen Porada



(left to right) Beau Ryan, Aubrey Porada, Penelope Winslow, Kendall Porada, and Riley McGoldrick,

Cheerleading



(left to right) Front Row – Maura Clarke, Marcela Carbajal, Emma Sauls, Brooke Hubik, Millie Coombes, Back Row – Monica Jimenez, Delilah Waite-Kerns, Olivia Klepesky, Ru Bennett, Anson Daniel, Cypress Daniel, Paige Weniger



(left to right) Front Row – Shae Chandler, Zara Schweyer, Bailey Walker, Madison Lehman, Second Row – Murphy Miller, Anna Williamson, Emily Bastida, Roxana Trejo, Back Row –Coach Tracy Sklarin

SCHOLARSHIP

Promise Scholarship Program

Keeping JP II affordable for all families of the Lowcountry has been both a challenge and a commitment for us. Due to our relatively small size and the expansive program we offer, the per-student cost of a JP II education is over \$16,000 per year. At full cost, a JP II education would be out of the realm of possibility for many if it were not for the generous donors to our Warrior Fund and the support of our parishes and the Diocese of Charleston. Over \$600,000 in tuition assistance and scholarship is provided annually to ensure the school remains affordable to all. While we believe every family should pay a minimum amount toward their child's education, sometimes this minimum is still too much. Therefore, JP II has created the Promise Scholarship, a full-tuition scholarship for students of high financial need who show tremendous promise.

As of August 2022, the school offered 12 students the opportunity of a lifetime through the Promise Scholarship Program. This has been made possible through the generosity of several donors. The way it works is simple. A donor "promises" to support

a student with a gift of 50% of full tuition plus 50% of bus transportation if needed. The school then matches the donation from its tuition assistance fund. The commitment of the donor is for the student's entire JP II career. As the school grows in size, and the cost of education increases, the need for more Promise Scholarships becomes even more critical. If you would like to make a difference in the life of a child by providing a Promise Scholarship to John Paul II Catholic School, please contact Brian Quinty in the Advancement Office at brian.quinty@johnpaul2school.org or 843-645-3838.



FUNDRAISERS

DENIM & DIAMONDS GALA

Save the Date | March 18, 2023



You are invited to celebrate with us

AT OUR

10th Anniversary Gala

THEME
Denim and Diamonds | The Number "10"

EVENT DATE
March 18 at 6:00pm

LOCATION
Athletic Center at John Paul II Catholic School

ACTIVITIES
Dinner, Dancing and Donating to the Capital Campaign (no auction)

COST
\$110 per person / \$1,110 for a table of 8

SPONSORSHIP
Event (1) - \$10,000 | Entertainment (1) - \$5,000
Alumni Table (1) - \$1,000 (Invite a teacher or two to your table)

*The evening will likely begin with a champagne welcome followed by a cocktail hour and seated dinner. After dinner, we will have an introduction of the **Where Faith and Innovation Meet** capital campaign that will include brief testimonials from alumni, a video, and a campaign pledge request. Dancing to follow.*

College Fair

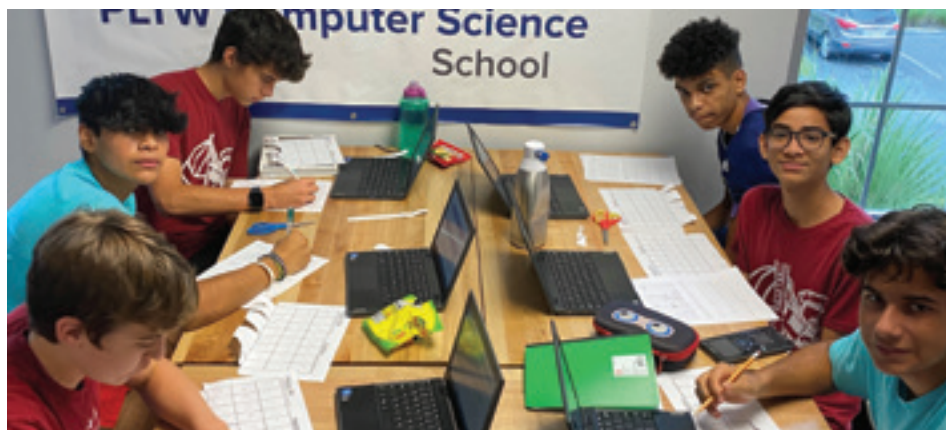
In August, the college counseling office held the first-ever JPII College Fair welcoming more than 20 colleges and universities as well as two military colleges. Students and families from JPII and around the Lowcountry stopped in to speak to the various representatives and learn about their institutions.

Attending colleges and universities: Charleston Southern University, Coastal Carolina University, College of Charleston, Full Sail University, Georgetown University, Georgia Southern University, High Point University, Lander University, Mount St. Mary's University, Pennsylvania State University, Providence College, Savannah College of Art & Design, Technical College of the Lowcountry, Temple University, United States Coast Guard Academy, United States Naval Academy, University of Mississippi, University of Notre Dame, University of South Carolina-Aiken, University of South Carolina-Upstate, University of Tennessee, USCB, Winthrop University and Wofford College

Throughout the fall, JPII students took advantage of the opportunity to engage with college representatives who visited our school in-person and some who checked in virtually. Those colleges included: Villanova University, The Catholic University of America, Georgia Southern University, Louisiana State University, University of Miami, College of the Holy Cross, and Winthrop University.

College Acceptances as of Jan. 13, 2023

Appalachian State University, Auburn University, Ave Maria University, Belmont Abbey College, Charleston Southern University, Citadel Military College of South Carolina, Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, College of Charleston, **Drexel University**, Florida Atlantic University, **Franciscan University of Steubenville**, George Mason University, Georgia Southern University, High Point University, **Marshall University**, **Mercer University**, **North Carolina Central University**, **Nova Southeastern University**, **Oklahoma State University - Main Campus**, **Old Dominion University**, **Pennsylvania State University - Main Campus**, **Roanoke College**, **Rollins College**, Savannah College of Art & Design, Seton Hall University, The Catholic University of America, The University of Tennessee - Knoxville, **United States Naval Academy**, University of Alabama in Huntsville, **University of Delaware**, **University of Notre Dame**, University of South Carolina - Beaufort, University of South Carolina - Columbia, Valdosta State University, **Virginia Military Institute**, **West Virginia University**, **Western Carolina University**, Wingate University, and Xavier University (**Bold Represents New Acceptances for JPII*)



RED RIBBON WEEK at JPII

In celebration of RED RIBBON WEEK, JPII held a dress down day on Tuesday, October 25. Students donated \$5 and dressed in jeans and a red shirt. Monies collected were given to the New Life Center in Ridgeland, a local organization that deals with the issues of substance use by adolescents and adults. RED RIBBON WEEK, which is celebrated annually October 23-31, is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention awareness program.

Walking Out of the Darkness - Nov 6

On November 6, the counseling office participated in the Out of the Darkness Walk. The Bluffton/Hilton Head Walk took place at the Bluffton Oyster Factory Park.

HEAVEN'S TREASURE THRIFT STORE

Opened in Fall 2022

Heaven's Treasure, a thrift store benefiting John Paul II Catholic School and St. Gregory the Great Catholic School, opened for business in early fall. The long-awaited venture will benefit both communities by providing much needed scholarships for students seeking a Catholic education.

"This is a dream come true," said JPPII Director of Development Brian Quinty. "We had this vision years ago and now it has come to fruition thanks to our generous community."

The store is located at 4371 Bluffton Parkway, Ste 102. "We ask that you save any high-quality furnishings,

household goods, and clothing to donate to this great opportunity for our Catholic community," said Mr. Quinty.

"In the meantime, we are looking for any shelving for storage, as well as anyone interested in volunteering."

Why support this worthy cause? Every JPPII student will benefit from the thrift store so everyone should get behind this endeavor. Please consider donating those treasures you no longer need or volunteering if you have the time. Please email

manager@heavens-treasure.org, or leave a message at 843.707.7373, if you are able to fill any of these needs.



Notre Dame Club Gives Generous Gift

Once again, the Notre Dame Club of Hilton Head has generously given a donation to the scholarship program at JPPII. This year the donation was made in honor of the late Richard Fagon who taught theology at JPPII and was dedicated to Catholic education.

Bob Clemens, president of the Notre Dame Club, along with Karen Slaggert, presented a \$5,000 check during the recent JPPII College Fair to Principal John McCarthy. "One of our core missions is to support Catholic education," said Mr. Clemens, "and we gave \$20,000 this year to JPPII, St. Gregory, St. Francis, and St. Peter's." Karen Slaggert and her husband, Paul, are Club board members responsible for student support and charities to assist students who might otherwise not be able to afford a Catholic education in the Lowcountry.

Our heartfelt gratitude to the Notre Dame Club for its generosity and continued support!



The Simplest Ways to Support JPII

Warrior Fund

Please make checks payable to John Paul II Catholic School and mail to 4211 N Okatie Hwy, Ridgeland, SC 29936

For online giving please click on the "Donate Now" button on the school website under Support JPII.

Stock Securities

Bequests and Planned Giving

Gifts in Kind

Retirement Plan Assets

Real Estate

Corporate Matching Program

Life Insurance Policies

FUND TO BENEFIT THE EXTRACURRICULAR EXPERIENCE

THANK YOU
TO OUR
\$5,000
SPONSORS



Henderson
Family



THANK YOU
TO OUR
\$2,500
SPONSORS



BURR FORMAN LLP
results matter



KARRH LAND &
TIMBER, LLC

If you have questions or would like to learn more about the many ways you can support JPII, please contact Brian Quinty in the Advancement Office at 843-645-3838.

HABERSHAM FALL FESTIVAL

The Habersham Fall Festival was a great success for admissions. With over 10,000 visitors at the festival on the first Saturday alone, the JPII admissions table received a lot of interested folks stopping by to say hi, playing lawn games, and wanting to know more about our wonderful school. Many thanks to our students and parents who came out to help. Chester McClure was a huge hit as well!!!



Campus Tours

The admissions office, led by Anne McClure, has been extremely busy. Obviously, the numbers tell the story, but the behind-the-scenes activities are vast and varied. Our partner Catholic schools, St. Peter's, St. Gregory the Great, and St. Francis, had students come for campus tours and spending time with our student ambassadors. The groups also attended Mass and enjoyed a pizza lunch. Three different dates for visits were also scheduled for prospective students from non-feeder schools to come for a tour. President John McCarthy and Mrs. McClure held a Coffee & Conversation session with parents while the students went on a guided tour with our ambassadors.



JPII Community & Parish Visits

While we are always glad to welcome visitors on our beautiful campus, JPII also went out to our parishes and into community neighborhoods to tell our story. In October we visited St. Gregory the Great and Holy Family, and in November St. Peter's and St. Francis. Some of the neighborhood outings included: The Lodge at Palmetto Bluff, Bluffton Farmer's Market, Oldfield, and Cypress Ridge.

JPII PROFILE



EDUCATING
Students in
6TH-12TH
Grades

One of the
FASTEST growing
private schools in SC
Future **cutting-edge**
STEAM Innovation
Center Planned

22

AP Courses,
AP Capstone
Diploma Program

8

Pre-AP Courses

15

Project Lead the
Way Courses

Over

\$600k

in Tuition Assistance
and Scholarships



Weekly Mass,
Class Retreats
&
Service Projects

20

Varsity Sports fielding
35 Athletic Teams

14

Visual & Performing
Arts Courses

13

Student Clubs
& Organizations

2023-24 ENROLLMENT APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW

All faiths welcome!

FUTURE CAMPUS

WHERE FAITH AND INNOVATION MEET

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR FUTURE



FUTURE CAMPUS

Because of unprecedented growth, John Paul II Catholic School is about to embark on a major capital campaign and construction project.

The *Where Faith and Innovation Meet* Campaign will reimagine the current campus to incorporate a new 42,000 square foot Innovation Center that will provide our high school students with a forward-thinking teaching and learning environment to rival any educational facility in our region, while increasing enrollment to over 500 students.

A black box theater for the performing arts will anchor one end of the new building and will serve the entire school population. Besides the performing arts, this multipurpose space will support a wide variety of school activities such as robotics, esports, wrestling, cheerleading, dance, class and House meeting space, etc. An open space commons, similar to a college student center replete with a collaboration cafe, will anchor the other end.

The building's first floor will be designed to facilitate interdisciplinary, project-based STEAM teaching. Improvements to parking, traffic flow, and campus security are also planned. Depending on the success of the campaign, the master plan calls for the expansion of playing fields, including a synthetic

turf multisport field, lighting for all fields, tennis courts, restrooms and concessions, and an addition to the athletic center for storage, locker rooms, and a fitness center. Future plans call for the construction of a chapel large enough to hold our entire school population and to serve as the cornerstone of our Catholic identity.

As John Paul II Catholic School celebrates its 10th anniversary in the 2022-23 school year, we look forward to the physical growth of our campus to match our enrollment growth. What seemed impossible only a few years ago, the dream has now become a reality for all those who believed in the possibility. In the coming months expect to hear more about how you can help us build this dream together.





JOHN PAUL II
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
4211 N Okatie Hwy
Ridgeland, SC 29936

www.johnpaul2school.org