

# THE MIGHT

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  
2024



## **ADMINISTRATION**

**John McCarthy**  
*President*

**Heather Rembold**  
*Principal*

**Robert Collar**  
*Assistant Principal*

**Louise Sanders**  
*Athletic Director*

## **ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Jennifer Weniger, *Chair*

Nicole Debrovner

Josh Horton

Ross Kuykendall

Frank Oldham

Diane Reilly

Tom Skiba

Tracee Spencer

Monsignor Ronald Cellini

John McCarthy

# A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

## JOHN MCCARTHY

As I complete my 5th year leading John Paul II Catholic School, I am humbled and amazed both at how fast the time has flown by and by how fast our school has grown. It seemed like only yesterday that I was addressing about 200 students in the gym following Mass and listening to thunderous applause after announcing they could wear their “JPII Hoodies” to school. One small but meaningful gesture ignited a momentum that has not ceased. Next year JPII will enroll over 400 students, and if we reach 418, we will have doubled enrollment in that time span. The significance of this growth cannot be underestimated. It is a Catholic school success story.

We now have become the academic magnet for students of all ability levels seeking a rigorous curriculum in a safe, faith-based school environment. The recognitions keep coming. The College Board has ranked us as a Platinum Level Honor Roll School for our A.P. Program and college readiness. Only 6% of high schools across the U.S. and Canada can boast of this highest recognition. On top of that, Project Lead the Way has recognized both our middle school and high school engineering, computer science, and biomedical science programs worthy of being a school of distinction. Only 1% of schools across the U.S. can claim this. These are just two of the many reasons why students enrolled in private and public schools across the Lowcountry and beyond are transferring to JPII in record numbers each year, and why the list of colleges and universities our students are being accepted to continues to grow in number and prestige. JPII has been discovered!

While we may have become elite, we are not

elitist. JPII enrolls students of all academic abilities and family income levels. Through the generosity of donations to our Warrior Fund and vast amount of need-based scholarships, we are able to reach more students than ever before. Our minority population is almost 25%, while close to 20% of our student body has an identified learning disability that is serviced by three special educators in the Marian Center for Learning. Four counselors provide academic, social, and emotional support to students giving us the best counselor-to-student ratio of any

school around by far. Students are being challenged and supported, leading to success.

Providing this education at a cost less than some of our competitors is not easy. Without an alumni base, we must rely on the support of our community to raise the funds to make this all possible. Tuition can only take us so far. The Warrior Fund, made up of annual giving, business sponsorships, and the annual golf tournament, helps to

support our generous tuition assistance fund and the exceptional co-curricular and extra-curricular program we offer. Our goal this year is \$200,000 and we hope to reach that target on March 21 during our 1st JPII Day of Giving. We challenge everyone reading this to support the Warrior Fund in whatever amount you are able to. Likewise, the Where Faith and Innovation Capital Campaign is in full swing as we move closer to breaking ground on the new Innovation Center. As of the end of February, we will have raised just under \$6,000,000. Our goal is to break the \$10,000,000 mark to start construction. If you are fortunate to be able to lead us in this campaign, you will

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# ACCOLADES

## JPII Receives 2023 AP® School Honor Roll Platinum Award

We are thrilled to announce that JPII has been named by College Board as an Advanced Placement® Program (AP®) School Honor Roll platinum designee. The AP® School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more students into AP® courses and support them on the path to college success.

“Platinum is the highest recognition level a school can achieve,” said JPII President John McCarthy. “It demonstrates our students are well prepared for rigorous college-level work at the top universities across this country.” Schools earn this recognition annually by developing an AP® program that reflects a commitment to increasing college-going culture, providing opportunities for students to earn college credit, and maximizing college readiness. Only 6% of schools are recognized with the Platinum Award.

“At JPII, we have worked diligently and with purpose to grow our AP® availability,” said Principal Heather Rembold. “Our teachers, counselors, administrators, students, and parents should all celebrate this exciting achievement.”



## BEST High School and Middle School in the Lowcountry...AGAIN!

John Paul II Catholic School is proud to announce that we have ONCE AGAIN been voted BEST high school and BEST middle school in the Lowcountry! This designation would not have been possible without our outstanding students, dedicated faculty and staff, supportive parents, and wonderful community.



Thank you for your confidence, encouragement, and the grace to continue to live out our core SHIELD values of Service, High Expectations, Innovation, Excellence, Leadership, and Discipleship.

## Rooney Named Youth of the Month

JPII senior, William Rooney, was selected as the October Youth of the Month by The Exchange Club of Beaufort.

As the Youth of the Month, William was invited to apply for a \$500 scholarship; a winner will be chosen in the spring. “The winner will proceed to the state level to vie for a chance at the \$1500 scholarship,” said Angel Flewelling, secretary of The Exchange Club of Beaufort.

The Exchange Club, America’s Service Club, is a group of men and women working together to make our communities better places to live through programs of service in Americanism, Community Service, Youth Activities, and its national project, the Prevention of Child Abuse.



## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT JOHN MCCARTHY *(continued)*

be investing in a school that will make a difference in the education of tens of thousands of children in the Lowcountry for many years to come. You will find more information in this magazine about these worthy

projects and how you can help. “The future starts today, not tomorrow.” (St. John Paul II). Prayerfully consider how you might support the future today and the amazing story of John Paul II Catholic School.

## WALKING IN BIOMES HEAVEN IN THE LOWCOUNTRY

The AP Environmental Science classes visited the Port Royal Sound Foundation Maritime Center for a nature walk to witness the different biomes we have in the Lowcountry and how those biomes can change within just a few footsteps.

The walk was also another opportunity for JPII students to take information out of their textbooks, see it in real life, and learn more about the amazing area we live in, explained AP Environmental science teacher Andi Shaw. “We started in a salt marsh forest and ended in a salt marsh,” she said. “Students learned and touched some of the plants and wildlife that live in this harsh salt environment and how they have adapted to these conditions.”

A highlight of the trip was to walk onto the mud flats and look for crabs, animal tracks, and plants. Students sampled pickleweed and learned that our salt marshes are the stopping ground for many migratory birds because of the rich mud flats. Many birds stop here to feast on crabs and worms before continuing their migration.

“Students also learned about the invasive plant that the Maritime Center is currently battling,” continued Ms. Shaw. “The Chinese Yarrow grows very quickly and will regrow from stumps that were cut down.”



### *what is that?*

**“A biome is an area classified according to the species that live in that location. Temperature range, soil type, and the amount of light and water are unique to a particular place and form the niches for specific species allowing scientists to define the biome.”**

— National Geographic Society



## 6TH GRADE HAS BEEN BUSY!

### Brainstorming Strategies in History Class

Usually writing on your desk at school is frowned upon but one JPII teacher is insisting her students do just that!

Middle school social studies teacher, Ms. Sonia Merrick, has been encouraging her students to use a graphic organizer as a brainstorming aid in writing and remembering. “My middle schoolers are developing writers, so I like to employ any fun and interactive pre-writing tool I can find,” she said.

The ultimate purpose of a graphic organizer is to prepare students for writing through brainstorming that can assist in their thinking development. “The students really seem to enjoy using their desks as whiteboards as opposed to paper,” said Ms. Merrick. “It makes them more engaged with the process.”

A graphic organizer is a visual display or chart that shows the relationship between ideas, facts, and information. “There are many different types of graphic organizers the kids can use,” explained Ms. Merrick, who gives her students various ideas and lets them choose the one that speaks to them. “One example might be using the circle web where the main concept is in the middle and details are expanded upon around the outside of it. It can also be used as a mind map to brainstorm ideas and outcomes.”



### A Visit to the Coastal Discovery Museum

The 6th graders also took a field trip to the Coastal Discovery Museum on Hilton Head Island. The class had been studying horseshoe crabs and were able to see firsthand the local marine and brackish water arthropods. “This field trip was an ideal experience,” commented Ms. Merrick, “because the students have been learning about horseshoe crabs, their geological locations (very common in the Lowcountry), and how to protect them.”

According to Ms. Merrick, horseshoe crabs are not true crabs or crustaceans. “They are actually chelicerates, most closely related to spiders, ticks, and scorpions and live mainly in and around shallow coastal waters on sandy or muddy bottoms.” The horseshoe crab, which dates back approximately 250 million years ago, is generally found in the intertidal zone at spring high tides but their population is declining due to coastal habitat destruction and overharvesting.



### Mitchelville Beach Clean Up

With a servant’s heart at the forefront of all we do at JPII, our 6th graders hopped on a bus and traveled to Mitchelville Beach on Hilton Head Island outfitted with gloves and trash bags. The students and a few faculty members scoured a mile or so of beach and picked up random plastic bags and trash that were found littering the area.

“The kids also found horseshoe crab shells, and other various shells on the beach,” commented Ms. Merrick. “We finished up the morning with a little friendly competition to see who collected the most trash. The winners were Eddie Merrick and Ryan Fox. We returned to the school feeling satisfied that we did a little something to serve our community.”



## Exploding Experiment Equals Exceptional Education

The 8th grade physical science class and the sophomores in Pre-AP and standard chemistry classes were treated to a special kind of lesson when experiments exploded right before their eyes and ears.

Mr. Micah Heinz, a JPII science teacher who was recently called to duty in the US Army, made a definite impact on his students when he took them outside for class. “We were reacting sodium metal with water,” he explained. “This is a fast, violent reaction that produces hydrogen gas, which is flammable and explosive. We are studying the periodic table and reactivity in 8th grade and in 10th grade we are looking at calorimetry and heat transfer. This experiment fit well into both arenas.”

Leaning into the educational nature of the questions posed in class, “I think that science should be fun when appropriate, and what is more fun than an explosion?” said Mr. Heinz, enthusiastically. “There were a couple of explosions that were bigger than expected that produced some reactions of surprise. I think everyone was just excited to get out of the classroom and blow things up!”



## History of Rice Cultivation in the Lowcountry

The 8th-grade SC/US History students at JPII had the privilege of listening to and gaining insights from Rollen Chalmers, a local expert on rice cultivation in South Carolina. The class had been learning about the state’s origins as an English colony and the significant role that rice played, particularly in the Lowcountry, long before cotton rose to prominence as the primary cash crop.

Mr. Chalmers spoke about the origins of rice in SC, how it became a major cash crop, and how its production has changed

and modernized throughout the years. Unfortunately, the rice crop died off after a time of being less than profitable and the crop was almost completely gone until the 1980s when it started to be revitalized.

“Students came prepared with

questions and engaged in a very meaningful conversation with our presenter,” noted Kim McNab, JPII social studies teacher. “It is through learning about farmers and growing small, local businesses like Rollen’s Raw Grains that heirloom crops like

Carolina Gold rice have been saved and are thriving. We all enjoyed hearing about his experiences and generations-long education. We even got to hull our own rice and look at a few samples of his products! We are so grateful Rollen could come and share his talents with us.”



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Fr. Rafa Brings Israel into the Classroom

As our students are watching the news and seeing the horrific events surrounding the Israel-Hamas war, Pre-AP World History teacher, Debi Kidd, invited our chaplain, Fr. Rafael Ghattas, into her classroom in November to discuss his experiences in, and knowledge of, Israel.

“For several weeks, my classes have been studying Bible history, geography, stories, and the history of Israel up to present day,” explained Mrs. Kidd. “The war broke out as we were learning about modern Israeli history. I’d already planned to ask Father to come but, with this event, his visit took on more importance. He lived in Egypt and has visited Israel so his perspective on the country and region is so valuable.” Thanks, Fr. Rafa, for always being there for our students and the rest of the Lowcountry community!



## New TO JPII



### **Victor Ney, Band Director**

Victor Ney comes to JPII with over three decades of experience in the music industry. Most recently, he served as bandmaster of the Parris Island Marine Band from 2020 – 2023. A percussionist, he has been conducting and/or playing in Marine bands for close to a quarter century across the United States. He began his career as the director of music in the Woodland (OK) School District. He is a 1998 graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Music Education. Mr. Ney is also a member of the Beaufort County School Board.



### **Lucas Schatzle, Physical Science & Chemistry**

Lucas Schatzle will be teaching physical science and chemistry at JPII and comes to us most recently from Carolina Charter School in Charleston where he taught middle school science and pre-algebra. Prior to that he was a science teacher at Bridges Preparatory School in Beaufort. He graduated from Purdue University and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. Mr. Schatzle served in the U.S. Navy and had a career in law enforcement before entering the education field.



### **Jill Heathcott, JPII Director of Finance**

Jill Heathcott, a graduate of Eastern Illinois University with a degree in accounting, is a licensed CPA with 25 years in the accounting and finance field. She is a parishioner at St. Gregory the Great and a parent of three current JPII students and a 2022 graduate. “Catholic education is very important to me and my family. All five of my children have attended Catholic schools from elementary through high school. I was happy the opportunity arose so that I could work in the school where my children attend.”

# HIGHLIGHTS

## McClure Named to Hilton Head-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce Junior Leadership Program



Congratulations to JPII junior Trice McClure who has been selected as a member of the Class of 2024 Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce Junior Leadership.

According to the organization's website, class participants learn valuable life skills through service projects, interactive learning seminars, and workshops led by local leaders. The program runs through the 2023-2024 school year and is open to high school

juniors in Beaufort County. Qualifications include a minimum GPA of 2.5 or equivalent, a detailed application, and three personal references.

## JPII 2023 Homecoming

This year's Homecoming events and festivities were awesome! The Inaugural Homecoming Pep Rally and Bonfire was held on campus during Spirit Week and included: food trucks, games, a bonfire, and a few small firepits for roasting marshmallows and s'mores.

Congratulations to...

- Members of the Class of 2024, JPII faculty and staff, and parents, who helped make this HOCO the BEST EVER!!!
- MS and varsity football teams for each bringing home a "W" against Hilton Head Prep
- 2023 Homecoming Court – seniors Christian Tilton, Bela Crespo, Nick Klepesky, Camryn Webster, Chris Orta, and Lauren Weniger
- King and Queen - William Rooney and Brady Mahoney

## 50th Jubilee

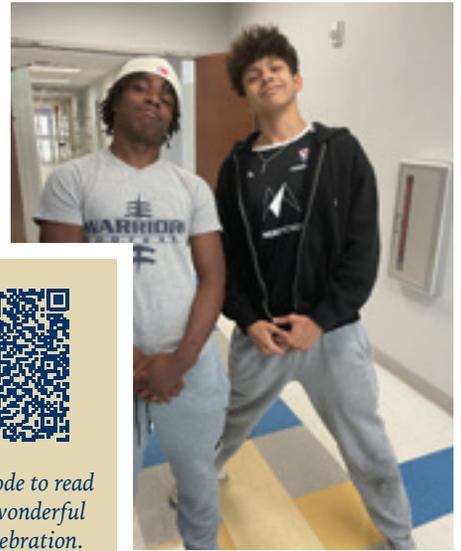
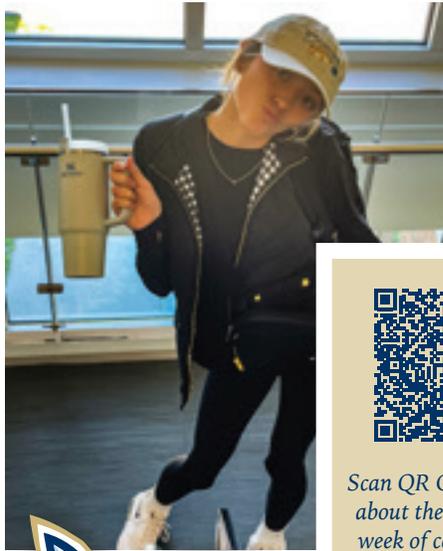
Much love to Sister Mary Beth who celebrated her 50th jubilee in religious life.

*"Thank you, consecrated women! Following the example of the greatest of women, the mother of Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Word, you open yourselves with obedience and fidelity to the gift of God's love." – Saint John Paul II*



# HIGHLIGHTS

## United in Faith and Community CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



Scan QR Code to read about the wonderful week of celebration.



# SERVICE

## JPII Day of Service

*“We must reflect the light of Christ through lives of prayer and joyful service to others.” – Saint John Paul II*

Each October, the Feast Day of Saint John Paul II is celebrated at JPII to commemorate the life and papacy of our patron saint. We began the day with Mass celebrated by our chaplain, Fr. Rafa, whose homily focused on the importance of saying YES to God. Using the example of Joan D’Arc and John Paul II, he explained how the lives of both saints began to change when they said YES, not in dramatic ways but in small incremental ways until they eventually changed the course of history. He challenged students to begin to make small, incremental changes in their own lives to see the results that would eventually happen.

Following Mass, students broke into service groups, some going off campus and others staying on campus to beautify the school and/or participate in crafty projects. It was a great day of reflection, giving back, and enjoying community.

The Day of Service officially launched the Year of Service where students will participate in service projects organized through theology classes.

## Savio House Kicks Off Service Project with “GOLD OUT”

Savio House started their annual service project for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital during a September football game. JPII students and our community participated in a GOLD OUT fundraiser to support children and their families battling childhood cancer. September is national childhood cancer awareness month.

House members collected donations during halftime and raised \$600 of much-needed funds for St. Jude. To continue their service project, a portion of the funds purchased white baseball caps decorated by Savio families with fun themes and inspirational messages. Savio’s leadership team delivered the decorated hats to MUSC for children undergoing chemotherapy treatment.



**LISIEUX  
BLOOD  
DRIVE**

**65** DONORS collected **65** units  
OF BLOOD, SAVED UP TO **185** LIVES

Next JPII  
blood drive is  
**Monday,  
April 15.**

# CLUBS/ACTIVITIES



## Model UN Attends Distinguished Speaker Series

The JPII Model UN Club recently had the opportunity to hear the German Ambassador to the UK address the ongoing crisis of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The lecture, “A Turning Point in History: How Russia’s Invasion



*Scan for details*

of Ukraine is Impacting Europe,” was made possible through the Distinguished Speaker Series of the World Affairs Council of Hilton Head. The guest speaker was German Ambassador Peter Ammon, who has also held diplomatic ministries to the USA and France.



## DECA Region Competition

The JPII DECA students continued to shine at the region competition in November. With 15 students making the trip to Mt. Pleasant to compete in the role-play portion of the competition, 12 qualified to compete in the State competition with two 2nd place finishes and two 3rd place finishes.

We are extremely proud of all our competitors:

### Accounting Applications:

Megan Fox (freshman) qualified for State

### Apparel & Accessories Marketing:

Collin Anfinson (senior) qualified for State

### Automotive Services Marketing:

Ross Putnam (senior) qualified for State, Michael Fitzgibbons (sophomore) qualified for 2nd Place

### Business Finance:

Isabella Perez (junior) qualified for State

### Entrepreneurship:

Aanya Patel (freshman) qualified for State

### Food Marketing:

Leo Iskandar (freshman) qualified for State

### Human Resources Management:

Blake Hubik (sophomore) qualified for State

### Marketing Communication:

Kathleen Hammett (senior) 3rd Place

### Restaurant and Food Service Management:

Lauren Weniger (senior) qualified for State

### Retail Merchandising:

Maddy Burke (sophomore) qualified for 3rd Place

### Sports and Entertainment:

Ben Villalobos (senior) qualified for State, Elle Borgan (junior) qualified for 2nd Place



# FINE ARTS

## St. Catherine Art Expo Winner

Congratulations to JP11 7th grader Parker Melvin who was awarded the top award for her artwork submission at the first St. Catherine Art Expo. Works by 42 diocesan students from across the state were entered in the art expo sponsored by the Diocese of Charleston. Winners were announced after the Bishop's Mass on January 30 as part of the Catholic Schools Week celebration. There were 42 submissions from grades K-8 with about half in Parker's category.

"Parker is a wonderful young artist," exclaimed JP11 art teacher, Joellen Jacobs. "She created an original composition through the subtle use of color and inspirational addition of details. Her work was well thought out and really exemplifies the diocesan theme of 'United in Faith and Community.' Her piece is truly captivating!"



## Christmas Lessons & Carols

JP11 Christmas Lessons & Carols, performed by the JP11 Choir under the talented command of choir director, Emily Brown, was a wonderful community event. The spirit and love of the Advent season was abundant and beautiful.

"The evening was a beautiful reminder of the reason we celebrate the season of Christmas," said President John McCarthy. "Our choir has come so far in such a short period of time, and it will not be long now before students are choosing JP11 not just for the faith-based environment, or excellent academic program, or athletics, but for being one of the best performing arts schools in the Lowcountry. Thank you, Ms. Brown, and the entire choir for putting on such an emotionally moving performance."



## JPII PARENT SEMINARS

The JPII Parent Seminar Series is intended as a place where parents can come find their village, learn how to help and guide their children, and maybe just take a break and have a cup of coffee, while learning about some interesting topics with other parents! JPII is honored and humbled to continue to host topics, speakers, and classes that everyone can enjoy. As the popular African proverb states: 'It takes a village to raise a child' and here at JPII, we are just that, a village of support and guidance for every one of our children.

Be on the lookout for future topics and dates in our Parent Seminar Series! All parents, regardless of whether they are JPII parents or not, are welcome.



### “12 Components of Executive Function Skills for Student Success at Home, School, and Life!”

The first JPII Parent Seminar was hosted by Lauren Gehm, case manager at the JPII Marian Center for Learning. Ms. Gehm shared her extensive knowledge, experience, and humor to assist parents in the all-important job of raising teenagers today.

Information covered included:

- Understand how sleep, nutrition, hydration, and screen time directly affect the brain's ability to learn and function properly.
- Gain techniques in how to assist in rewiring the brain to make positive connections to strengthen working memory, emotional control, and focus.
- Discover skills to help your teen manage stress and become more flexible with change.
- Learn how to nourish the brain with the skills it craves: organization, planning, time management, and defining goals.

### NCAA Eligibility and Recruitment

Collegiate athletics can be both an exciting and difficult process for student-athletes and their families. Athletes are best supported working together with parents/guardians, coaches, and college counselors to ensure the best outcome.

In the second JPII Parent Seminar series, athletics and guidance welcomed USCB Director of Athletic Compliance Shawn Becker, Coach Cory Cottrell (USCB Men's and Women's Golf), and Coach Ron Fudala (USCB Men's Basketball). The panel also included Cara Buckland, the JPII director of counseling and student support services, as well as members of the JPII Athletic Department.

### A Generation in Crisis: When Teens Struggle So Do Parents

Our teens are struggling, and support is vital! Reminding parents that they are not alone and that, yes, there are tools to help in the journey of raising teenagers was the topic of another JPII Parent Seminar.

Madelyn Bowman, LISW CP, a social emotional counselor in the JPII counseling office, hosted the gathering of parents in late January who came together to learn how to work through conflict, meet teens' needs, encourage them to share their feelings, and discuss mental health tools.



*Scan for details*

# ADMISSIONS

## Community Engagement

Multiple times a year the admissions office heads out into our community to meet prospective families, make new friends, and tell others about our wonderful school. During the fall, we were able to attend St. Peter's Fall Bazaar, St. Francis Parish Picnic, the Habersham Harvest Festival, and St. Gregory the Great Trunk or Treat.



## Catholic Feeder Schools Visit

It is always a great day when our Catholic feeder schools — St. Peter's, St. Gregory the Great, and St. Francis — visit and tour campus, attend Mass, and enjoy a pizza lunch...and this year they were all able to attend on the same day! The JPII student ambassadors answered lots of questions and gave the younger students all the insider information on how JPII runs. They also introduced them to other students, faculty members, and the unofficial mascots in science class.



## Riverview Charter Visits

Students from Riverview Charter School in Beaufort visited and took tours of our campus, had lots of inquiries about life at JPII, enjoyed time with students and faculty, and some awesome pizza.



## OPEN HOUSE

The annual JPII Open House was held in November and was a huge success with many prospective students and parents visiting our campus.

The event started with lots of behind-the-scenes help from our student ambassadors, faculty, staff, administrators, coaches, and parents. Admissions Coordinator Anne McClure organized the numerous activities that went into the accomplishments of the day.

Thanks to those who were able to make all our guests feel welcome. A special shout out to our student ambassadors who are well prepared for all questions and brought a personal touch to each encounter: **Elle Borgan, Finley Borgan, Grace Buckland, Maddy Burke, Alyssa deBethizy, Keira Doran, Caylin Gecy, Kathleen Hammett, Sofie Hannagan, Blake Hubik, Brooke Hubik, Leo Iskandar, Miranda Moulton, Griffin Spencer, Lily Termini, and Alan Wolf**

## RETREATS

### Class of 2024 Retreat

In September, the Class of 2024 went to Wild Blue Ropes in Charleston 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.

The retreat consisted of team building activities paired with the opportunity for seniors to challenge themselves on the high ropes course which provides a great model for life in general, and more specifically, for traversing the possibilities and challenges of our faith journey. “We need to know ourselves, where we’re strong and where we’re not,” according to JPII Campus Minister Kevin Pastore, “and we need to recognize that we’re not alone on the journey, rather we’re created to accompany one another along the WAY, to be the presence of Christ for others and to allow them to be that same presence for us when needed...sometimes all it takes is a gentle encouragement to make a difference!”



**6th Grade Retreat** – In August, the members of the JPII Acts29 Peer Ministry team accompanied the 6th grade students on their annual class retreat held at school. The team planned the morning around the theme: “Community, Purpose, and Welcome” using Romans 15:7, “Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God” as the scriptural focus. The students enjoyed food, games, creating friendship bracelets, working together on Lego sets, and spending some time with our seniors who shared encountering Jesus Christ at JPII.

**7th Grade Retreat** – In November, the 7th grade class took a short ride to St. Peter’s in Beaufort for their annual class retreat, joining the Acts29 Peer Ministry team for a day centered around the theme of “UNITY!” Acts29 chose Psalm 133:1: “How good and how pleasant it is, when God’s people live together in UNITY!” as the scripture verse for planning this retreat. In addition to some great food and plenty of time for fun and games, the 7th grade students participated in three sessions led by the Peer Ministry team exploring knowing yourself and what you offer, what we offer when we accompany one another, and unite our unique giftedness, ultimately leading to discovering where God is along the way.

**8th Grade Retreat** – The theme for our 8th grade class 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 Acts29 Peer Ministry team gathered with the Class of 2028 in December at St. Andrew’s Chapel in Bluffton, focusing this retreat on Jeremiah 29:12-13: “When you call me, and come and pray to me, I will listen to you. When you look for me, you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart...”

***“Those who live a retreat in an authentic way experience the attraction and fascination of God and return renewed and transfigured in their daily lives, their ministry, and their relationships.”***

**- POPE FRANCIS**

## A Servant's Heart

*“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility, value others above yourselves.” – Philippians 2:3*

A group of seniors under the guidance of JPPI Campus Minister Kevin Pastore, volunteered to help SGG switch out the Breaking Bread hymnals in preparation of the new liturgical calendar prior to the first week of Advent. Thanks to the following JPPI seniors: Brad Campbell, Matt Carbone, Renzo Cedeno, Delilah Gomez, Reynaldo Hernandez, Javie Jimenez, James Keefer, Nick Klepesky, TrinityGrace Maxwell, Shelby Pinski, Nathaniel Prado, Jose Rayo, Kelon Reynolds, Ben Villalobos, Camryn Webster, Rose Witkowski, and Maison Zeroll.



## National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)

In November, some JPPI students and chaperones attended the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis, IN, for a powerful and unique three-day experience of prayer, community, evangelization, catechesis, service, and empowerment along with St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church. NCYC is the premiere Catholic youth event that gathers people from across America for a life-changing encounter with Christ.

The students included: Abby Brock, Jeremiah Evans, Jackson Reilley, Tommy Rembold, Kelon Reynolds, Jase Reynolds, Ayla Reynolds, Jude Witkowski, and Alan Wolf



## JPPI Annual Veterans Day Mass, Celebration, and Remembrance

On the morning of November 10, the JPPI community came together to celebrate Mass and Veterans Day. Mass was concelebrated by our own chaplain, Fr. Rafa, and Commander Fr. Charles Johnson, the Marine chaplain on Parris Island.

A few students, children of our brave and courageous veterans, took part in the Missing Man Table, which is meant to remind us of those fallen, missing, or imprisoned service members.

Senior Brandyn Horton, who is considering a career in the military after graduation, presented the wreath at the end of the celebration. A military wreath symbolizes victory, bravery, and peace and embodies remembrance.



# SENIOR CAPSTONE

Each year the seniors at John Paul II Catholic School complete a Senior Capstone Project that weaves together the SHIELD values that have been infused in all aspects of their JPII experience. During the Senior Capstone course, seniors are asked to identify a topic they are passion about that is then translated into a service project connected to our Catholic social justice teachings.

## JPII WISH — Be A Part of Making A Wish Come True

In September, JPII senior Brad Campbell embarked on a heartwarming journey for his AP Senior Capstone Project, partnering with the South Carolina Make-A-Wish Foundation to grant a wish for a critically ill child. After months of organizing and participating in fundraisers, the culmination of Brad's efforts came to fruition when he presented a check on behalf of a young cancer patient and her family.

After a Wednesday Mass, Brad introduced the Suddeth family from Bluffton as well as the Make-A-Wish representative, Erika Spracher. "It is my pleasure to present this \$8,500 check to Make-A-Wish from the JPII community," said Brad. "We are so glad that Lily is here and doing so well."

Three years ago, at the age of one, Lily was diagnosed with B-ALL, a form of leukemia. Just recently, Lily, along with her parents, Allison and Jason, and her three siblings, went on an unforgettable family vacation to St. John, a US Virgin Islands in the Caribbean. "It was Lily's first plane ride," commented mom, Allison. "She got to snorkel which was awesome."

Jason, Lily's father, expressed his gratitude and enthusiasm to the JPII student body, faculty, staff, and visitors. He spoke of their decision to wait until Lily turned four before taking this remarkable trip, emphasizing how it would be a memory she would carry with her throughout her life. "There is not much I remember when I was young, but I promise you she will remember this trip! We are so grateful for your support and kindness." The collective support of the JPII community not only contributed to this incredible family vacation but would ensure that her first plane ride and snorkeling adventure would be remembered forever.

According to Kelly Strasser, JPII English Department chairperson and AP teacher, Brad's AP Senior Capstone Project exemplifies the extraordinary impact JPII strives to instill in our students. During the Senior Capstone course, seniors are asked to identify a topic they are passion about that is then translated into a service project connected to our Catholic social justice teachings. "His dedication not only brought joy to a young cancer patient but also weaved together our SHIELD values that have been infused in all aspects of their JPII experience," said Ms. Strasser.



# SENIOR CAPSTONE

## A Father's Place

William Rooney has selected A Father's Place as his senior capstone project. A Father's Place is an organization committed to involving and empowering fathers in providing positive support for their children through programs that help them find steady jobs, learn how to be good parents, and feel optimistic about their family's future. So far, William has collected 55 suits along with over 30 dress shirts, pants, shoes, belts, and ties.



## The Outside Foundation

Camryn Webster has selected The Outside Foundation, an organization that concentrates on getting kids outside with fun activities and volunteer events, as her Senior Capstone project. "I chose this organization because I'm passionate about our environment and the many ways humans negatively impact it," she said.

## Fighting Drunk Driving

JPII senior Nick Klepesky's Senior Capstone project continues his family's mission to end drunk driving after the devastating death of his 19-year-old sister Madison in December 2021. While still navigating through their heartache, the Klepeskys turned to activism to ensure a world where no other family would hear such shattering and senseless news.



## Senior Capstone Project Topics:

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Ethics & AI                                   | Suicide                        |
| Athletes & Mental Health                      | Make-A-Wish Foundation         |
| Mental Health                                 | Food Insecurity                |
| World Hunger                                  | Childhood Cancer               |
| LGBTQ   | Low Income & Children          |
| Media & Mental Health                         | Poverty in the US              |
| Bias & Discrimination Against Law Enforcement | Music                          |
| African American Youth Affected by Racism     | Learning Disabilities          |
| Performance Enhancing Drugs in Sports         | Medical Field                  |
| Mental Health & Military Veterans             | Music Ministry                 |
| Environmental Pollution                       | Gun Violence, Ban, & Suicide   |
| Domestic Violence                             | Image of Man                   |
| Human Trafficking                             | Disease Prevention             |
| Abortion                                      | Animal Abuse                   |
| Obesity                                       | Online Scams & Internet Safety |

## JPII RECEIVES GENEROUS GIFT FROM NOTRE DAME CLUB

Once again, the Notre Dame Club of Hilton Head has generously given a donation to the scholarship program at JPII. The \$7,500 gift is the largest donation the club has bestowed on our school.

“I am so grateful to the Notre Dame Club of Hilton Head for their unwavering support of Catholic education,” said JPII President John McCarthy, appreciatively. “We are so blessed to have one of the most active and philanthropic clubs in the nation right here in the Lowcountry. On behalf of our students, thank you for making a difference in your community, one child at a time.”

Interested in making an impact in the lives of JPII students? Visit our website to learn various ways to give.

*Photo: (left to right) President John McCarthy, JPII student Dominic Aiken, and Notre Dame Club member Mark Cunnee*



### Warrior Day of Giving

On March 21, join us in making a difference at John Paul II Catholic School. JPII students experience the benefits that annual gifts from parents, alumni, and community members provide. “Warrior Day of Giving” unites our community toward a set of common goals: building academic programs, expanding extracurricular activities, mission trips, and class retreats. Be assured, your generous support impacts our JPII Golden Warriors experience. Please donate on March 21!

### Golf Classic

Get ready to tee off! Join us on May 7, 2024, for our highly anticipated Golf Classic at the picturesque Old Tabby Links at Spring Island. When we hit the links here back in 2022 the tournament was a SELL OUT! Don't miss out this year to play on one of the best courses in the Lowcountry. It's not just about the golf; it's also a fantastic opportunity to connect with other JPII parents and build lasting relationships.



### GOLF CLASSIC REGISTRATION



Scan the QR code above to register.

## Campaign Leadership Donor Appreciation Dinner

The *Where Faith and Innovation Meet Campaign* has officially launched, and JP II wanted to thank the Campaign Leadership Committee for their dedication to Catholic education, commitment to seeing the success of the campaign, and, of course, for their financial gifts.

More than 70 donors and their guests enjoyed dinner at Berkeley Hall to celebrate the early accomplishments of the campaign. “With this gathering, we kept our promise in celebrating our past, present, and future,” said JP II President John McCarthy. “I also had the pleasure of announcing that \$4.2 million has been raised toward our goal of \$15,000,000! We were fortunate to have some alumni speak remotely along with four current students in-person who impressed the guests with their poise and experiences at JP II.”



**Since the dinner, our generous donors have raised just under \$6 million**

The *Where Faith and Innovation Meet Campaign* mailing has gone out with the hopes that all those in our community will prayerfully consider a donation. If you have any questions, please contact JP II Director of Development Brian Quinty at 843-645-3838.

The future of John Paul II Catholic School is incredibly bright and will only be brighter with your support! Together, as one community of believers, we will make this happen.

## Campus Improvements

We are thrilled to share recent enhancements to our athletic program including a brand-new soccer field, complete with bleachers for our spectators. We are grateful for the continued support of our parents and donors, without whom these improvements would not have been possible:

- McDermott Family – \$25,000 donation went to new soccer goals, team benches, and upgrade field clock
- Anonymous Donor – \$20,000 toward palm trees surrounding baseball field
- Mullen Family – \$5,000 donation purchased a much-needed softball pitching machine
- Booster Club – acquisition of JP II-logoed tables and a TV in the concession area

If you haven't yet joined the JP II Boosters, look for booster news regarding board membership and next year's membership dues, along with the exciting perks that await our supporters.



# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

HELP US CREATE...THE SCHOOL

WHERE *Faith* AND  
*Innovation* MEET



THE CAMPAIGN FOR  
JOHN PAUL II  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PLEASE JOIN US IN CREATING THE SCHOOL

WHERE *Faith* AND *Innovation* MEET

DONATE TODAY >>>>



To become a campaign leadership donor, please contact John McCarthy, President, at [john.mccarthy@johnpaul2school.org](mailto:john.mccarthy@johnpaul2school.org) or Brian Quinty, Advancement Director, at [brian.quinty@johnpaul2school.org](mailto:brian.quinty@johnpaul2school.org)

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

## MAKING A LASTING DIFFERENCE IN EDUCATION IN THE LOWCOUNTRY

### NAMING AND RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

Innovation Center	1	\$ 5,000,000	
Black Box Theater	1	\$ 2,500,000	
Commons	1	\$ 1,000,000	Dr. Helen Ryan
Science and Art Wing	1	\$ 1,000,000	Dr. Helen Ryan
The Grand Stair	1	\$ 500,000	Mr. & Mrs. Paul McEvoy
Collaboration Café	1	\$ 500,000	
Student Work Gallery	1	\$ 500,000	
Science Classroom	3	\$ 500,000	Mr. & Mrs. Martin Gleason The Freissle Family (1 Remain)
Makerspace	1	\$ 500,000	
Art Studio	1	\$ 500,000	
Classrooms	8	\$ 250,000	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Schmaltz (7 Remain)
Collaboration Studios	5	\$ 100,000	Dr. & Mrs. Frederick Weniger Mr. & Mrs. Heath Hill Mr. & Mrs. Ed Mitchell (2 Remain)
Conference Room	1	\$ 100,000	Mr. & Mrs. George Buckland
Offices/Teacher Workroom	4	\$ 100,000	Drs. Eduardo & Cora Arellano Mr. Doug Tozur Mr. & Mrs. David Swanson Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gareau

*Thank you...*

*golden warriors*

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR PLEDGE OF \$25,000 - \$99,999

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Black  
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Brown  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Burke  
Monsignor Ronald Cellini  
Chatham Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. John Cooney  
Mr. & Mrs. John Debrovner  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Douglass  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Eidt  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Grassi  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Hubik  
Mr. & Mrs. John Jolley  
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Kuykendall  
Mr. & Mrs. Will Mayhall  
Mr. & Mrs. John McCarthy  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph McDermott  
Mr. & Mrs. Pat McInerney  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Montemurro  
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh O'Kane  
Mr. & Mrs. L.R. Petracca  
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Sanders  
Mr. & Mrs. Andi Shaw  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Sherman  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Siebold  
Mr. Thomas Skiba & Dr. Teresa Skiba  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Termini  
Mr. & Mrs. Al Urbano  
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Waldron  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael White

### THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR JPII BOOSTERS

**Weniger Plastic Surgery**  
**Tidewater Trailers**  
**ACH Custom Homes**  
**Jolley Law Group**  
**Valerie Keating Realtor**

**Buckland Family**  
**Serg Restaurant Group**  
**Luray Peanut Company**  
**Gecy Family**  
**Karrh Land & Timber, LLC**

## PHASE I JUNE 2023 – AUGUST 2024



**SAFE & SECURE** We built an attractive front entrance with a guardhouse manned 12 hours per day.



*“Let us remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence.” — SAINT JOHN PAUL II*

**ATHLETIC FIELDS TO SUPPORT OUR GROWTH** We built a new soccer field to make way for a parking lot and in the process improved the quality of our athletic facilities.

## PHASE II THE INNOVATION CENTER



An expansive light-filled space, the Commons will provide a place to gather and work collaboratively. It will feature group spaces, a grand stair, and a 2nd floor café similar to a college campus.

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



The Makerspace will provide high-tech equipment for students to design solutions to solve real-world problems.



A large art studio for students to develop their creativity and imagination. When combined with the Makerspace and small group studio, we will offer students over 3,000 square feet of state-of-the-art design space.



## THE INNOVATION CENTER PHASE II

Three science labs will provide well equipped space for our traditional courses as well as Project Lead the Way pathways.



A large multipurpose Blackbox theater will provide a space for all students to develop their presentation skills and allow our growing performing arts program to emerge as the best in the Lowcountry.



## ATHLETIC NEWS

### JPII Wrestlers in Tournament Action

**Hammond Holiday Hustle Dual Tournament** – finished with a 3-2 record against SCISA foes.

**Northwood Academy Tournament** – earned a runner-up finish as a team in the 13-team event. The team scored 179 points, finishing 13 points behind the champion, North Central High School. “Our team came out ready to wrestle from the whistle and had one of their best performances of the year,” said JPII head wrestling coach, Greg Lonz. “Several wrestlers came from behind to score last second takedowns, reversals, and pins. The wrestlers did a great job all day of being on the attack and always looking to score!”

**Raptor Rumble Dual Tournament** – lost their first match to the host team and eventual champion then responded to the defeat by rattling off 4 wins in a row in the consolation championship to finish in 3rd place out of 10 teams.

**2023 Lowcountry Wrestling Invitational Tournament** – tournament consisted of teams from May River, Battery Creek, Bridges Prep, Bluffton, Beaufort, Colleton Prep, Hilton Head, and JPII. The JV tournament was held on Friday night while both the varsity and middle school teams competed in the individual tournament the next day. The varsity team finished 5th overall out of 9 teams. Six wrestlers finished in the top 4 of their weight classes.

**SCISA State Team Dual Tournament** – The Golden Warrior wrestling team made history finishing as State Runner-Up at the SCISA State Team Dual Tournament. The squad earned their 1st ever appearance in the state finals and fought hard, but ultimately fell to Cardinal Newman by a score 67 to 10.



### MS Boys Basketball Wins Tournament

Congratulations to the JPII middle school boys basketball team who won the SFCS Knights of Columbus TIP-OFF Classic. “We beat Holy Trinity 48-19, then defeated Cross Schools 58-27 to advance to the Championship game,” said Coach John Fripp. “We then defeated Coastal Homeschool out of Georgia 33-29 to win the Championship. All the kids played very well.”



### Nat’l College Signing Day

JPII is proud to announce that three of our student-athletes have signed letters of intent to play at the collegiate level. Congratulations, Golden Warriors!!



- **TrinityGrace Maxwell** is headed to the soccer field at Carolina University.
- **Ross Putnam** will take the baseball field at Brevard College.
- **Shelby Pinski** has signed with Lees-McRae College to play softball.

## ATHLETIC NEWS

### Volleyball Takes Care

#### Annual Dig Pink Initiative

The 2023 Dig Pink fundraiser was a huge success bringing in \$4,016.45, the team's largest fundraiser to date. The volleyball teams at JPII have been participating for years in the October initiative to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer research. Thanks to all those who participated and gave to this most worthy cause.



#### Food Collection for the St. Francis Center

The JPII volleyball teams collected non-perishable food items for the St. Francis Center on St. Helena Island. The food pantry was extremely low and the Golden Warriors answered the call and helped fill the shelves with canned goods, peanut butter, cereal, pasta, and other items. St. Francis Center is



located at 85 Mattis Drive, Saint Helena Island, SC. If you would like to send a donation in the form of a check, the mailing address is: PO Box 682, Saint Helena Island, SC 29920

## FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

### Cross Country

The JPII cross country teams have enjoyed an exceptional season with remarkable growth and improvement. Their focus in goal setting, dedication, and hard work resulted in an impressive 85 total personal records. The boys team reached their goal by capturing the State title, a collective testament to their excellence. The girls team secured the runner-up position at the State Championships, showcasing another outstanding performance. This season has been a magnificent example of teamwork, determination, and achievement, making the JPII cross country program one of pride and inspiration.

**Boys – State Winners** – Region Champs

**Girls – State Runners-Up** – Region Champs

**Team Members:** Dominic Aiken, Roman Bodziony, Abigail Brock, James Bulatao, Sebastian Frickel, Brayden Frickel, Logan Griener, Grace Henderson, Zachary Henderson, Keannen Hill, James Hook, Blake Hubik, Brady Mahoney, Kathryn McClure, Timothy Mc Jonathan Yanachik, Guire, Hollis Melnick, Nathan Miller, Shelby Pinski, Jackson Probst, Ayla Reynolds, Griffin Spencer, Moses Witkowski, Jude Witkowski, Rose Witkowski, Alec Yanachik, and Matthew Yanachik



# ATHLETICS

## FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

### Varsity Football

The Golden Warriors completed their 2023 football season after a first-round playoff game against Florence Christian. The hard-fought game ended in defeat 30-21 in one of their best performances of the season. The football program ended their season with a 2-10 record with victories against Thomas Heyward and Hilton Head Prep. While this was a season of ups and downs with injuries and young players, the team saw the largest number of participants since the beginning of the football program at JPII. The football team will continue building on the concept of doing the “little things” right to achieve the larger goals they desire. Head Coach Milligan is already looking forward to off-season workouts in the weightroom to get bigger, faster, and stronger.

**2nd Team All Region** – Christian Tilton, Sebastian Slusne, Lukas Yackley, and Ephrain Jimenez

**Team Members:** Dante Aiken, Cullen Amagliani, Andrew Boyden, Kameron Braboy, Connor Brown, Ryan Brown, Will Bryan, Gavin Byrne, Renzo Cedeno, William Debrovner, Jonathan Dominguez, Nicklaus Feltner, Thomas Gehm, Andrew Gilmour, Jack Hannagan, Brandyn Horton, Ephrain Jimenez, Javier Jimenez, Bryant Jolley, James Keefer, Arthur Kerschbaum, Brennan McDermott, Alexander Mercer, Aiden Michaud, Spencer Murphy, Sean Phalen, Matei Porcelli, Jackson Reilley, Kelon Reynolds, William Rooney, Jude Ryan, Jackson Sanders, Michael Schroeder, Daniel Snyder, Sebastian Slusne, Jayden Sowell, Christian Tilton, George Townes, Benjamin Villalobos, Liam Wise, Luke Wise, Alan Wolf, and Lukas Yackley

### MS Football

The MS football program took great steps moving forward with more student-athletes on the team than ever before with several playing football for the first time. The young team developed both mentally and physically, looking toward great things to come. The team finished with a 4-4 record but the growth they made outweighs any record.

**Team Members:** Walker Benson, Isaac Borgan, William Clarke, Capers Crosby, James del Mazo, Adam D’Orazio, Brody Farris, Leiland Fripp, Ryan Fox, Rials Gault, Dylan Gehm, Jackson Hall, Jackson James, Samuel Marcinkoski, Edwin Merrick, Patrick Merrick, Blake Michaud, Harrison Millard, Jackson Millard, Zachary Moulton, Lucas Mulieri, Zachary Mulieri, William Patrick, Russell Spencer, Matthew Termini, and Robert Thiesen



## FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

### Girls Tennis

The seventh season of the JPII girls tennis team was a success with a record 15 players. The team went on to win 8 out of 11 matches this fall. All the players were able to step in throughout the season in singles and doubles in the jamboree, varsity matches, and/or scrimmages. All fifteen players achieved at least one individual win. The team enjoyed several outings off court throughout the season including dinner and pool time as the season started and again at the halfway point. The team held its first “Pink Night” during an October home match for breast cancer awareness with both JPII and opponents wearing pink. The team’s last match was in the first round of the state playoffs in Florence.

**All-Region Players** – Cypress Daniel, Anson Daniel, and Chloe Maillet

**Team Members:** Cypress Daniel, Anson Daniel, Chloe Maillet, Alivia Ogden, Ann Elise Harrell, Lainey Low, Lauren Weniger, Joya Iskandar, Becca Anderson, Alex Hahn, Roxy Remigio, Leighton Wenzel, Kelsey Anfinson, Gigi Butler, and Pearse Butler



### Girls Golf

Congratulations on a successful inaugural season to all the girls golf players, coaches, and parents!

JPII competed in four matches this year and was well represented by Sofie Hannagan, Sydney Folscroft, Megan Fox, and Keira Doran.

The JPII Warriors showed at the State tournament with Sofie Hannagan and Sydney Folscroft being the first girls to compete at the State level in golf for JPII.

Thanks to all of the parents for their support this season as well as Louis Sanders, JPII athletic director, for getting JPII involved for the first time in high school girls’ golf. The season was a success considering four matches were played and at least three schools were represented at each match.

**Team Members:** Keira Doran, Sydney Folscroft, Megan Fox, and Sofie Hannagan



## FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

### Varsity Volleyball

The varsity volleyball team wrapped up their amazing season at the SCISA State Tournament advancing to the 4th round for the first time in program history. Their winning path began early in the season which eventually led to a dominating with a 20-3 regular season record. The season, marked with milestones from the beginning by their pre-season tournament win defeating region foe Hilton Head Christian, was made possible with a total team commitment. The offense put up insane hitting numbers by Bela Crespo, Lily Termini, Savannah Trott, Camryn Michael, Emma McKamey, Elle Borgan, Alainna Hill, and Haley Blackton. The defense was rock solid led by Lili Lutheran, Sadie Moulton, Caylin Gecy and Karoline Rustad, and our amazing setting duo of Cayce Graves and JoJo Hill.

**1st Team All-Region** – Cayce Graves, Lili Lutheran, Emma McKamey

**2nd Team All-Region** – Camryn Michael, Bela Crespo

**Coach of the Year** – Coach Louise Sanders

**Team Members:** Haley Blackston, Elle Borgan, Isabela Crespo, Caylin Gecy, Cayce Graves, Alainna Hill, Johanna Hill, Lilianna Lutheran, Emma McKamey, Camryn Michael, Sadie Moulton, Karoline Rustad, Lillian Termini, and Savannah Trott



### JV Volleyball

The JV volleyball team had an incredibly successful season with a record of 23 wins and 1 loss. The team was comprised of several seasoned players and a handful of new, young players. With a roster of 16, the team faced a lot of challenges with trying to get playing time for all 16 and each stepped up to the challenge. The team goal was that each player improve their skills while notching some wins which were met and exceeded. Behind the strong leadership of our sophomores, the team had freshmen stand-outs in Alex Crocker, Sammy Beadon and Lauren Majorkiewicz who contributed consistently to the winning season. The team is looking forward to seeing the growth in our JPII volleyball program as all these girls continue in the years ahead.

**Team Members:** Samantha Beadon, Finley Borgan, Rachael Breneman, Madisyn Chase Brienza, Madison Burke, Alexandra Crocker, Blakely Gecy, Elliana Heathcott, Gabriella Heathcott, Lauren Majorkiewicz, Evelyn Melnick, Miranda Moulton, Tevis Mullen, Ava Stabak, Caroline Ware, and Saida Willis



# ATHLETICS

## FALL SPORTS WRAP UP

### MS Volleyball

The MS volleyball team worked hard all season building sound fundamental skills while achieving a 14 -9 record. It was a slow climb, but it all came together by the end of the season. There were small successes along the way. Our hard-fought victory over St. Francis at home in three sets and individuals reaching team goals were reasons to celebrate. The team also represented themselves well in the Diocesan Tournament, finishing third in the gold bracket. The pinnacle of our season was bringing home the first-place trophy at the Hilton Head Christian Academy Tournament.

**Team Members:** Emily Boulware, Grace Buckland, Cia Douglass, Destiny Godsun, Seanna Hill, Annalise Litchfield, Eileen O’Sullivan, Alivia Ogden, Bianca Ramirez, Ainsley Reilley, Brayden Rickenbach, Stella Shipman, Azalea Slusne, and Lauren Urquizu



### Swimming

The JPII Golden Warriors swim team, with both returning and first-time swimmers, had an amazing 2023 season and celebrated that success at the SCISA State Championships. The girls team is ranked #4 and the boys team is ranked #8 in SCISA 3A Division. The season began with many new faces with various athletic abilities.

All the swimmers contributed to a successful season and have established a great team tradition this year as we continue to grow. JPII is so proud of all the swimmers and families who have made this season happen!

Sophomore Riley McGoldrick currently holds the #2 position for the SCISA All-States and had two first-place finishes in the 200 Freestyle and 100 Butterfly. Senior Ross Putnam finished in the top 10 in 50 Freestyle for the 3A Division in the State.

**Team Members:** Everett Belmonte, Brinson Brosman, Anson Daniel, Cypress Daniel, Leonardo Iskandar, Riley McGoldrick, Beau Ryan, Delilah Waite-Kerns, and Penelope Winslow



# GIVING TOGETHER ON GIVING THURSDAY

## Warrior Day of Giving

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“Warrior Day of Giving” unites our community toward a set of common goals: Building academic programs, expanding extracurricular activities, mission trips, and class retreats to name a few. Be assured, your generous support impacts our JP II Golden Warriors experience. Please donate on March 21!

# MARCH 21, 2024



## GOLF CLASSIC



Get ready to tee off! Join us on May 7, 2024, for our highly anticipated Golf Classic at the picturesque Old Tabby Links at Spring Island. When we hit the links here back in 2022 the tournament was a SELL OUT! Don't miss out this year to play on one of the best courses in the Lowcountry. It's not just about the golf; it's also a fantastic opportunity to connect with other JP II parents and build lasting relationships.



Scan the QR code above to read more.



JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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[www.johnpaul2school.org](http://www.johnpaul2school.org)

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