

VOLUME V ISSUE XXXIX

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Introducing New Hires Joining the JPII Team

Each year, due mostly to growth and a little bit of transition, our faculty and staff changes and grows. As school leaders, Mrs. Rembold and I believe the most important job we do is in hiring and supervising the teachers who will transform the lives of our students. Once again, we are confident we have "hit it out of the park" in attracting highly qualified, passionate, faith-filled, and high character teachers to the JPII Family. I would like to introduce most of them to you at this time. We still have a few more positions open.

Mr. Stephen Gaylets is not a new teacher but will find himself in a new role. He was just appointed to the newly created position of Middle School Dean of Students. Just as our school infrastructure has grown, so does our human infrastructure need to grow. With over 160 students in middle school next year, the time has come to have a dedicated administrator for grades 6 - 8. Mr. Gaylets needs no introduction, and we are thrilled he has decided to take on this role.

Mr. Daniel Godsun Sr. will join our faculty as a middle school P.E. and high school social studies teacher. Mr. Godsun is the founder and president of WIN Academy for Success. He has been a teacher and coach at Hilton Head Prep and was a behavior management specialist for the Beaufort County Schools. He spent several years as a program director at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Lowcountry. Mr. Godsun has a B.A. in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management from CUNY - Baruch College. He is the father of JPII students Destiny (r.7th) and Daniel (r.10th).

Mr. Daniel Kenny also needs no introduction as he moves on from St. Gregory the Great Catholic School to teach middle school social studies at JPII. Mr. Kenny will continue in his role as JV boys basketball coach and will also coach the inaugural year of boys lacrosse. Mr. Kenny holds a B.A. in Political Science and an M.A. in Communications from the New York Institute of Technology. Prior to SGGCS, he spent four years as the Director of Communications and Athletics at St. Mark's Catholic School and Church in Wilmington, NC. Mr. Kenny played basketball and lacrosse at Mount St. Mary's University, before moving on to NYT where he captained the basketball team. He was named the Teacher of the Month for the Lowcountry by 103.1 FM. He is the son of JPII "super sub" Mr. Ed Kenny.

Mrs. Lorrie Reynolds Solomon will be joining us from Holy Trinity Christian Classical School where she's been teaching 5th and 6th grade for the past 9 years. She is slated to teach middle school math at JPII. Her experience also includes 5 years at Patrick Henry Academy as an intermediate math and science teacher as well as 7 years as middle school math and science teacher at Lexington Four School district (SC) where she was named Teacher of the Year. She holds a B.A. in Elementary Education from Clemson University. She is the mother of incoming 11th grade transfer Algernon Solomons.

Mrs. Stephanie Rose Foley will become our first teacher of American Sign Language. This will be a part-time hybrid position. Mrs. Foley holds a B.S. in Deaf/Hard of Hearing Education from Bowling Green State University and a M.A. in Education from American College. She has worked as a special educator at Boggy Creek Elementary (FL), at Lake County Public Schools (FL) as a teacher of the deaf/hard of hearing, as an upper school English teacher at Montverde Academy (FL), and as an English-as-a-second language and ASL teacher at Hilton Head Prep. She has also worked at the iBrain International Institute of the Brain in Manhattan, NY.

Mr. Joseph Rivera is coming to JPII from New Orleans to serve as our senior theology teacher and campus minister. His experience includes teaching senior and junior theology at St. Patick Catholic High School in Biloxi (MS) where he was also the choir director and sound technician. Prior to that, he served as the campus minister and choir director at St. Stanislaus in Bay St. Louis (MS) and as youth minister at St. Rita in Hanrahan (LA). Mr. Rivera was educated at St. Joseph Seminary College (LA) and Notre Dame Seminary (LA) while considering the priesthood. Through discernment, Mr. Rivera has chosen lay ministry, and we are thrilled to welcome him to JPII. His achievements include the Ironman Triathlon and running the Baton Rouge Marathon. He was Teacher of the Month at St. Patrick's. While in high school, Mr. Rivera participated in theater and campus ministry as well as played football.

Ms. Kathryn Constantine is a first-year English teacher and will split her schedule between English I in the high school and middle school English. She is a 2023 graduate of Marquette University with a B.A. in English and Educational Studies. Her experience includes working in the Marquette Literacy Program, a daycare teacher, private nanny, and camp counselor in her hometown of Lake Forest (IL). She played on her high school volleyball team as well as club and will be joining our JPII volleyball program as a coach. Her recognitions include achieving the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Ms. Jeanie Wilks is relocating from Florida to the Lowcountry to be closer to family. She is currently an English, humanities/world religions, and theater teacher at Bishop Kenny High School in Jacksonville (FL) where she also directs the school theater performances. In addition to Bishop Kenny, Ms. Wilkes taught music, reading, ESOL K-12, English, theater, served as school ESOL liaison (K-5), and was an English department chair (9-12) and theater director in public schools for 15 years. She holds a B.A. Degree in Education from the University of St. Thomas in Houston. At JPII she will teach high school English including AP Literature.

Mrs. Sarah Fellona will join our middle school team as a religion/social studies teacher. She holds a B.A. in French from Davidson College and a Juris Doctor Degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law – Columbia. An attorney by trade, Mrs. Fellona has said "teaching is my dream job, and I am passionate about Catholic education." As the spouse of now retired officer in the U.S. Air Force, she has travelled extensively throughout the U.S. and Europe while continuing her education. She has studied at Spring Hill Jesuit College -Mobile, Alabama, Catholic Distance University – Charles Town, West Virginia where she earned an M.A. in Theology, and Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) - Rome, Italy. She is currently in an ICF Aligned Catholic Life and Strengths Coach Training program at the Professional Christian Coaching Institute. A native of Hilton Head, Mrs. Fellona will be "returning home" from Abilene, Texas, to be closer to family. Her daughter Julianna will be an incoming 9th grader at JPII next year.

Ms. Jordan Deaton will join our physical education team as a first-year teacher. Since earning her B.A. in Criminal Justice with a minor in Art from Greensboro (NC) College, Ms. Deaton has spent three years as a paralegal, recently relocating to a law firm in Beaufort. While in college, Ms. Deaton played softball where she was team captain, and was on the swim and cheer teams. She has been the head coach of the Carolina Elite Deaton 16u travel softball team for the past three years and will be joining the JPII softball coaching staff next year. As a three-sport athlete in high school, and the daughter of high school coaches, expect to see Ms. Deaton in additional coaching positions at JPII next year.

Mrs. Nicole Schatzle will be coming from Riverview Charter School to JPII as a middle school science teacher. She has taught middle school science and math at both Riverview and Bridges Prep. While at Bridges, she was their Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Schatzle holds a B.A. in Health and Wellness from Kaplan University and an M.ED in Elementary Education from Grand Canyon University. She coached volleyball and basketball at Bridges. The wife of JPII high school chemistry teacher, Mr. Lucas Schatzle, she will have two children enrolled next year, Savannah (r.11th) and incoming 7th grader Madeline.

Next Week is Exam Week

Students who are exempt from a class exam do not need to attend school during that block. If transportation dictates that a child must be in school, she/he will report to her/his regularly scheduled classroom during that period. All middle school students will be attending their regularly scheduled class period for the three remaining school days next week. Students are to be in regular school uniform all three days. Any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Rembold.

2023/2024 2nd Semester Exam Schedule

Tuesday, Ma 8:25-9:45am 9:50-11:05am 11:10-12:25am 12:30pm	Block A Block B	
Wednesday, 8:25-9:45am 9:50-11:05am 11:10-12:25am 12:30pm	Block E Block F	
Thursday, May 30		

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8:25-9:45am	Block D
9:50-11:05am	Block H
11:15am	Dismissal



JPII Receives an Amazing Challenge Gift from Paul and MC McEvoy

We recently celebrated our capital campaign success with a luncheon with Bishop Jacques Fabre for our major donors. At the luncheon, Paul McEvoy stood up and offered a matching gift of up to \$500,000 to kickstart the final phase of the *Where Faith and Innovation Meet* Capital Campaign. With the end goal clearly in sight, now is the time to finish the job and get the Innovation Center out of the ground, but it will not be easy. Paul and MC McEvoy have already donated \$500,000, and if we can match their challenge, their gift will hit \$1,000,000. This from a family that has no affiliation with JPII other than they believe in our mission and are philanthropic donors to Catholic schools and colleges across the country. When combined with Helen Ryan, Marty and Lenore Gleason, and the Freissle Family, more than \$4,000,000 will have been raised by just four families. Now is the time for all families who support high-quality Catholic education to step up.

Consider helping us reach not only the \$500,000 "McEvoy Match", but the \$8,500,000 cash total needed to begin construction. <u>The matching gift is only available up to June 1</u>, so consider making a pledge today. We are now accepting pledges of up to three years, with the goal of 50% now, and the remainder spread out over 2025 and 2026. We appreciate everyone who has answered the call so far and look forward to the many more who will either increase their gift or make their initial pledge to get us over the top. Please contact Brian Quinty at <u>brian.quinty@johnpaul2school.org</u>, or call him at (843) 645-3838 ext.149. If you prefer to make a onetime donation online, please go to <u>www.johnpaul2school.org/support-jpii/where-faith-innovation-meet</u>



I plead with you--never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid.

Saint John Paul II

Vote for JPII as the Best School in the Lowcountry

For two years in a row, JPII has secured the ranking as the Best middle school and high school, but somehow were beat out for BEST private school last year as we finished 2nd. How did that happen? We were just outvoted, it's that simple. So, it's time to start gearing up for the BEST campaign yet. **Voting begins on Monday, June 3 and lasts until Friday, June 21.** Each person can vote daily. Every student, staff member, parent, grandparent, relative, friend, and neighbor must pay attention and VOTE each and every day. The school will send regular reminders for you to vote, however it's up to every JPII family to spread the news far and wide to <u>vote daily</u>.

As we begin to celebrate the Memorial Day weekend, let us reflect on the true meaning of this holiday. While many of us will be enjoying time at the beach, on the water, and with family and friends, we should always take a moment to say a prayer for those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and the families and loved ones left behind. May we pray for peace so that someday this ultimate sacrifice will rest in history forever.

"As we pray for those who lost their lives in conflict throughout our history, we recognize the ongoing war and violence that continues to plague humanity in many places, many forms. Today, we pray for peace, which those we honor today fought valiantly to achieve. In Your name we pray. Amen."

In His Purpose,

John E McCarthy President