



Saint James  
Catholic School



# ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



*Faith* • *Excellence* • *Community*



## *Message from the Principal*

Dear Friends of SJS,

With a tradition of over 150 years, Saint James School has educated countless young people through a Catholic education that equips them to make a difference in our community. With our eyes fixed on this mission of partnering with parents to form joyful disciples, SJS continues to reach new heights of excellence. We are happy to share just a few of these accomplishments in the pages of this Annual Report.

We are grateful for the commitment of so many in our community, shown through the gifts of your time, talent, and most importantly, prayers. Thank you for your support so that we can continue to guide our students to develop their God-given talents, contribute positively to our culture, and ultimately to enjoy eternal happiness in heaven.

Gratefully in Christ,

*Sister Mary Grace Watson, O.P.*

**Sister Mary Grace Watson, O.P., Principal**



K-8 Grades:  
**320**

Pre-K:  
**84**



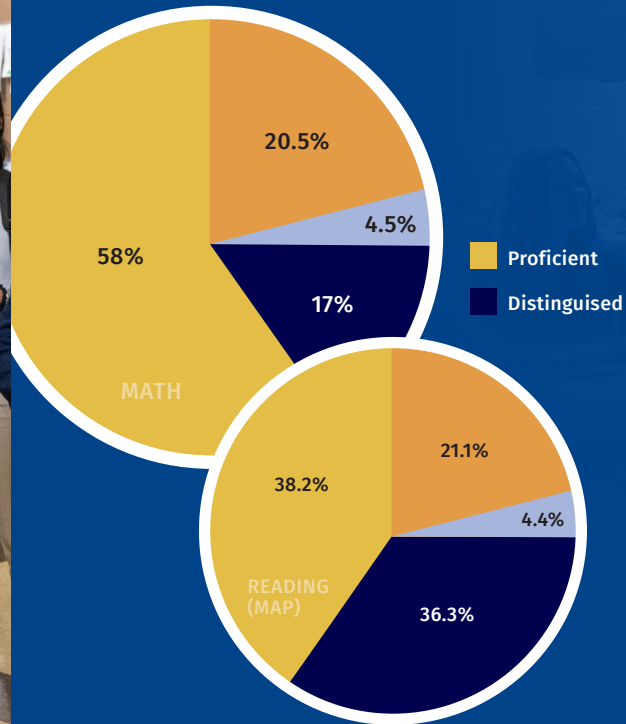
**28** Graduating 8th Graders

**11:1** Teacher to Student Ratio

ENROLLMENT ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL







**75%**  
Proficient &  
Distinguished in Math

**74.5%**  
Proficient &  
Distinguished in Reading  
(at or above grade level)

\*Based on the analysis and linking studies developed by NWEA and the most recent MAP scores reported for SJS.

### MAP/TESTING SCORES

SJS currently administers the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment three times throughout the school year to assess achievement and growth in Reading, Mathematics, and Language usage. The MAP assessment is a computerized adaptive test developed by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA).



# Faith

Saint James Catholic School provides formation for the whole child in the intellectual and moral virtues so that each student may contribute to the community as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Students and teachers attend Mass each week, celebrating the liturgical seasons and saints of the Church throughout the school year.



### **LIVING WAX MUSEUM**

In celebration of the Solemnity of All Saints, SJS presented a Living Wax Museum. Seventh graders dressed as a designated saint and shared brief stories about the saint's life with parents and visitors who attended. A total of 30 saints were represented.



### **PASSION PLAY**

For more than 20 years, SJS eighth grade students have presented a production of the Passion of Christ during Holy Week at Saint James Catholic Church.

### **MAY CROWNING**

Through May Crowning, our students learn to connect with their faith, reflect on virtues, and engage in a communal expression of their beliefs, helping them develop a strong foundation in their religious journey.



### **MIDDLE SCHOOL HOUSE SYSTEM**

The SJS House System, new this year, nurtures growth in maturity, leadership, community and faith. Each sixth grade student is inducted into one of six houses and remains a part of that house during their middle school years. Houses meet once a month, compete in friendly competitions and team-building activities and complete a community service project.





AUTHOR SHANNON ANDERSON VISITS SJS.

# Excellence

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



**SIXTH GRADER ARIANNE BROWN** received the *Amy Alicna Scholarship*, a fund established by Brian and Lindsey Alicna in 2019 to help provide a Catholic education to those who may not otherwise have the opportunity. Brian and his sister Amy were SJS students when Amy passed away in 1986 as a sixth grader.



**SIXTH GRADER ANNABETH CLARKSON** received the *Angela Kirchner Memorial Scholarship*, a fund established by SJS fifth grade teacher Patty Kirchner and her husband Paul to honor the memory of their daughter Angela. This scholarship is made possible through a partnership with the Central Kentucky Community Foundation.

## AWARD RECIPIENTS



SJS presented the inaugural *Sister Michael Marie Friedman Memorial Award* to **EIGHTH GRADE STUDENT KATE JARBOE**. The new award, named in honor of the late former SJS principal Sister Michael Marie Friedman, will be given annually to an SJS eighth grade student during the graduation ceremony.



SJS presented the *Amy Alicna Award* to **SIXTH GRADE STUDENT MCKENNA MENOLD**. For more than three decades, this award has recognized students for exemplifying the following attributes: academics, cooperation, courtesy, self control, work and study habits and spiritual development.



# Community

## GRANDPARENTS DAY CELEBRATION

SJS hosted its Grandparents Day event for the first time since 2019, drawing nearly 150 attendees. The event recognizes SJS grandparents for their involvement and commitment to the school.







## VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

SJS received a Purple Star Award during the school's annual Veterans Day Celebration, becoming the first private school in the state to be recognized. The Kentucky Purple Star Award Program is a state-sponsored recognition for an individual schools' dedication and support of military-connected youth.

April is the month of the military child. SJS celebrates with Purple Up Day to honor our military connected students.

## BLACK AND WHITE KNIGHT AUCTION AND GALA

Saint James Catholic School's Black & White Knight Gala is an annual event that raises funds to enhance Saint James' ability to provide the finest Catholic education to its students. Now in its tenth year, the event raised \$120,000 in 2023.



*Black & White Knight*



# Advancement



## KY GIVES DAY

# \$69,650

Numerous SJS families, grandparents, alumni and friends, as well as Saint James parishioners, contributed to our KY Gives Day campaign. SJS raised \$69,650 to implement new security measures, making our school an even safer place for all.



## GIVE270

# \$52,765

Give 270 raised \$52,765 for SJS through a Bourbon Strong + Kentucky Strong bourbon raffle featuring 50 bourbon prizes. The raffle was made possible through donations from John and Leigh Ann Lewis, owners of John O's Liquors in Elizabethtown.





ST. JAMES  
Knights



# Accomplishments



SJS middle school girls take **1st place** at the Jack Mitchell race at Hodgenville Elementary School.

SJS students raised more than \$2,700 to help the Hardin Co. Sheriff's Office purchase **36 body cameras**.

The SJS 3rd Grade girls basketball team tied for **1st place** in the Hardin County League.



Hardin County Spelling Bee: Zayde Thompson, **1st place** (Grades 3-5), Maggie Holstead, **2nd place** (Grades K-2).

**First private school in KY to be named a Purple Star School.**

Fifth graders started a **school recycling program**.



Academic Teams 6th Grade Showcase receive **1st place overall**.

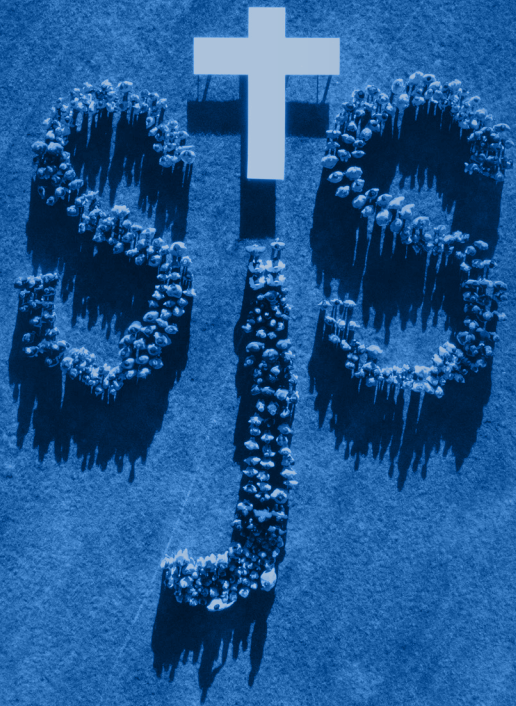
SJS took **first place** in the Ft. Knox Holiday Card Contest.

The SJS Quick Recall team won **first place overall**.

Jackson Luttrell and Alexandra Lyon won **2nd and 3rd place** in the Archdiocesan Vocation Essay Contest.

The SJS 6th and 7th grade boys basketball teams won **their championship games** in February.





**SJS** Saint James  
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   [sjschoolonline.org](https://www.sjschoolonline.org)