



# ST. JAMES

Elementary School

## Virtue of the Month

### Zeal

Being driven by an intense love for God.

Zeal for Your house consumes me.  
Psalm 69

## Important Dates

### May

2nd: Walk for Virtues

9th: Casual for Christ

26th: NO SCHOOL

30th: Spring Sing @ SJ

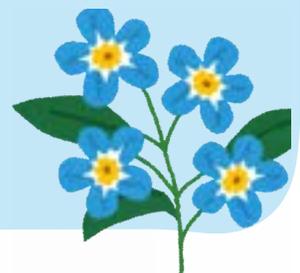
## May Mass Schedule

May 7th: May Crowning (5TH)

May 14th: Mass in Rorke Hall (1ST)

May 21st: First Communion (2ND)

May 28th: Promotion Mass (5TH)



## Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Regis Catholic Schools is dedicated to educating students of all faiths in a Catholic, Christ-centered environment. We are united by Our Core Values of *Living Faith*, *Accepting Responsibility*, *Promoting Teamwork*, *Achieving Excellence*, and *Inspiring Leadership*.

## Halo Heroes

Edelle C	Andrew F	Daylin P
Hadley N	Ben F	Brayton R
Owen B	Yosef K	Naomi S
Afolasade B	Camille L	Adalynn U
Ellionne B	Ethan M	Delilah W
Brynlee C	Lennon M	

## Important Numbers

### Student Transit (Bus)

715-839-5116

### After School Care

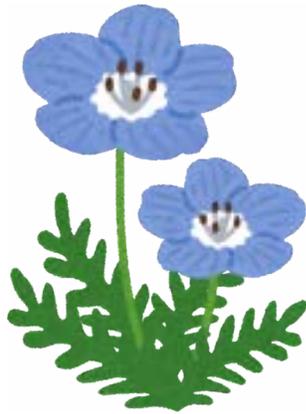
507-259-2135

### St. James Office

715-830-2277

## Uniform Expectations

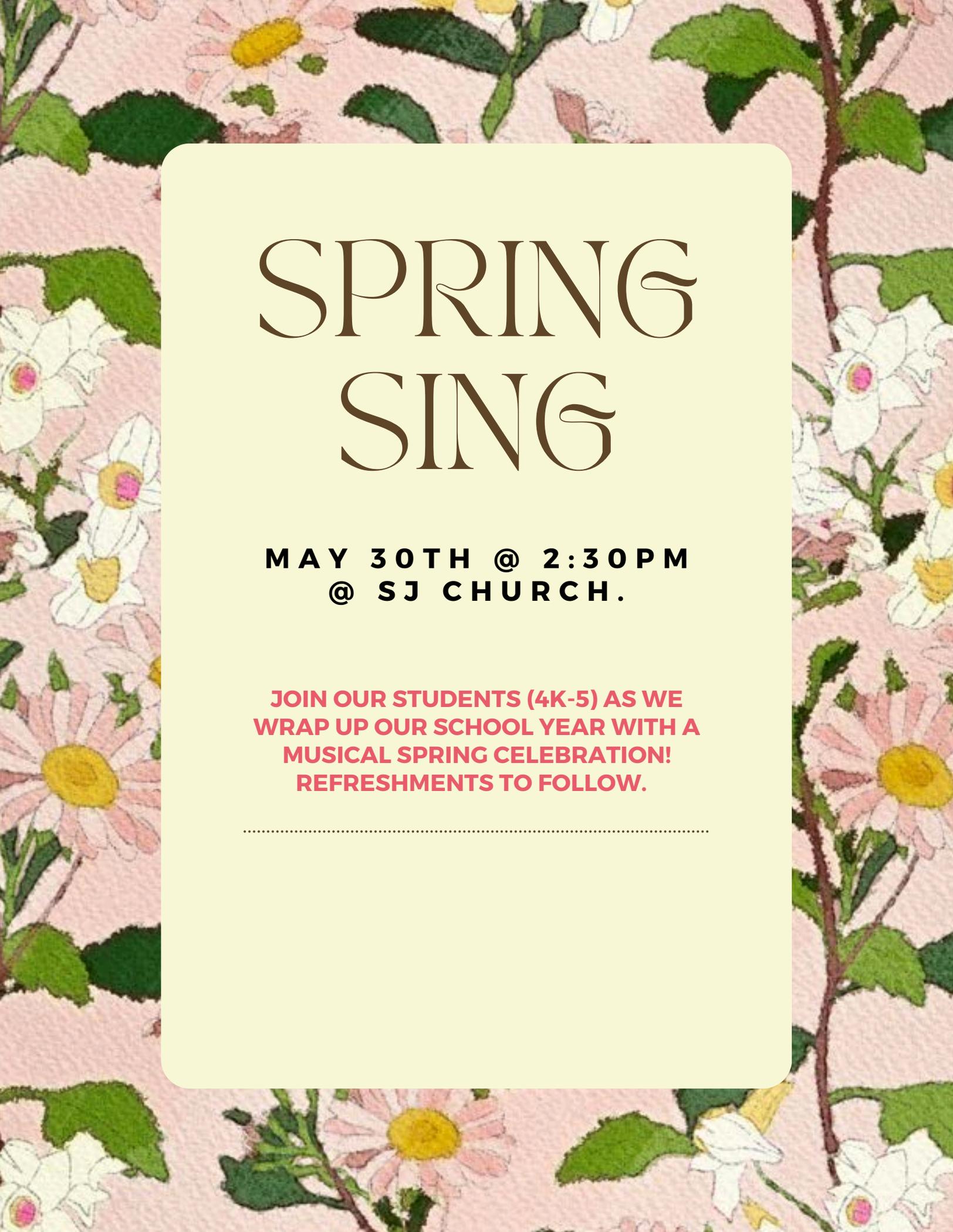
As the weather warms up (hopefully soon!), we want to take a moment to remind everyone of our dress code policy. Shorts may be worn starting May 1st. In April, they are **only** permitted if the forecasted temperature is above 70 degrees. Please ensure that shorts are worn under dresses and skirts. Additionally, open-toed shoes are not allowed. Your child should be in uniform **everyday** unless it's their birthday, a casual for Christ day, or a classroom celebration.



# May/June Events + Activities

*SJ Families – below is a list of our planned events for May and June. While not all events may apply to your child, we want to keep you informed about the activities happening across all grade levels. Additional events will be added, so please stay tuned for updates!*

- May 2nd:** Walk for Virtues @ Regis HS (All Staff + Students)
- May 9th:** Concert @ Good Shepherd Senior Apartments (K-5)
- May 12th:** Vision Screening @ SJ (K-2)
- May 14th:** Sports Day @ Regis HS (4 & 5)
- May 14th:** Mini Sports Day @ SJ (4K-3)
- May 15th:** Pioneer Day @ SJ (3rd Grade) **\*FAMILIES INVITED\***
- May 19th:** EC Public Library Visit @ SJ (K-5)
- May 23rd:** Cosmic Bowling (WFV Top Prize Field Trip)
- May 28th:** SM Pen Pals Visit (3rd Grade)
- May 28th:** 5th Grade Promotion Mass @ SJ **\*FAMILIES INVITED\***
- May 30th:** Spring Sing @ 230PM (4K-5) **\*FAMILIES INVITED\***
- June 3rd:** Earth Orbit Expo @ IC (K - 5)
- June 4th:** 4K Graduation @ SJ @ 230PM **\*FAMILIES INVITED\***



# SPRING SING

**MAY 30TH @ 2:30PM  
@ SJ CHURCH.**

**JOIN OUR STUDENTS (4K-5) AS WE  
WRAP UP OUR SCHOOL YEAR WITH A  
MUSICAL SPRING CELEBRATION!  
REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW.**

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Blurbs

# Principal Blurb

Welcome, May! I know many of us are excited to see the sunshine and feel that fresh spring air. With warmer days ahead, our students and staff will be enjoying as much outdoor time as possible. As the temperatures rise, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately and stays well-hydrated. Our building can warm up quickly.

As I've said before, May is a busy month packed with events and activities. Please keep a close eye on our weekly Thursday Thoughts, classroom newsletters, and all other communications from SJ. We want you to be part of these wonderful moments and understand how valuable it is to have the details in advance so you can plan accordingly.

We're just a few days away from Teacher Appreciation Week, and I'm looking forward to celebrating our incredible staff. They are the heart of our school. As always, feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns as we head toward summer break. May God continue to bless you + your families!

Hannah Miller

The word "May" is written in a large, stylized, rounded font. The letter 'M' is light green, 'a' is light pink, and 'y' is light yellow. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving them a 3D appearance.



# Pre-school

It's hard to believe April has gone by as quickly as it has. We have been busy in the preschool room learning all about our Earth and how plants grow. We had a wonderful presentation from Waste Management about recycling and keeping our Earth clean. We also planted grass seed and we are keeping a close watch on how quickly our grass grows! We have a lot of grass already growing and a lot of roots to see! We are excited to participate in our first Walk for Virtues fundraising event and have been busy getting ready for that. I hope you are enjoying this wonderful spring so far and I can't wait to move into May! We are excited to graduate very soon!

# Kindergarten

Happy Easter everyone. Jesus has Risen!!!

We are so “egg”cited about incubating duck eggs in the kindergarten room. We hope to hear the peeping of little ducks later in May.

We enjoyed learning about trash and recycling from Waste Management. Like always, we continue to read and write about all the wonderful things we are learning.



# 1st Grade



April was an exciting and eventful month in the first-grade classroom! It's hard to believe we're already nearing the end of the school year. To celebrate the Easter season, each student had the chance to "adopt a peep," and they enjoyed completing fun writing activities with their new little friends. In Math, we focused on place value and worked on adding and subtracting two-digit numbers. We're eagerly anticipating our upcoming units on measurement, time, and money. In Literacy, we dove into our "Great Outdoors" unit, exploring landforms, habitats, and animals. It's been a joy to watch the students' growth and curiosity blossom. We're excited to see even more progress as we wrap up the year!





# 2nd Grade



Happy May!

We are coming to the last month of school...how crazy is that that our 2nd grade journey is almost done! But we have a lot of learning still happening and a lot of fun to partake in! As we think about the last month of school, we will continue preparing these 2nd graders for 3rd grade! We will continue to develop the skills needed to be responsible, respectful, and smart cookies!

We will be learning all about different cultures within Social Studies and in Language, understanding how God makes us all different and how our differences make us who we are and how we can learn from one another!

We will finish our Double-Digit subtraction and end the year learning all about shapes and all about measurement and data!

During this last month together, let's really focus on just how far everyone has come and how exciting it will be to watch them grow! We got this!

I am SO very proud of all of them! Let's finish the year strong!

Love, Ms. Rosene



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

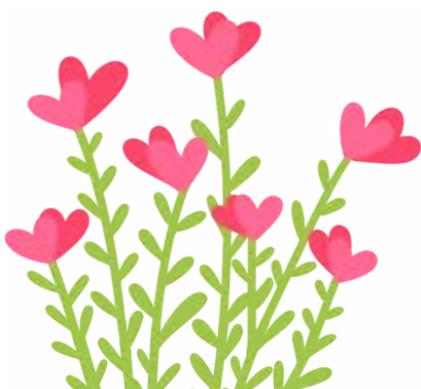


Books, books and more books! Our book clubs have been a smashing success – so far, students have read 33 books totaling 4,647 pages! With one month to go, the number of pages read might be record-breaking! :) Keep up the good work third graders!

We are truly enjoying learning about life on the Oregon Trail. Students are putting their engineering skills to work, designing and building their own covered wagon. Each wagon needs to have a poke bonnet, a tool box, wheels, and a feed box for the animals. A 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Pioneer Day will wrap up our unit – students will make soda biscuits, hard tack, and butter! They'll engage in pioneer games and make their own pioneer toys – no technology in the 1840s made for some very creative toys and games!

We will be planting sunflowers and snap peas soon. Students will observe the early growth stages, then take them home to be planted and enjoyed over the summer!

There is still over a month of school to go! Please encourage your child to not give up now! We have a lot of fun and learning to go before they become fourth graders!



# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade



April has been extremely busy. Here are some highlights. We took the Forward test which consisted of math, reading, writing, science, and social studies. We did a fun thing in fourth grade where I paid the children \$.25 each day during lent. If they behaved they got to keep the money. If they were not listening or breaking the rules, their quarter went into our class Mite box for the missions. At the end of Lent they could decide what to do with the money they earned.

We had Easter break and started the beginning sessions of Junior Achievement. Mrs. Rice rearranged the room and gave us new seating spots along with some new alternative seating. We had an EMS presentation and the evacuation drill. We finished reading *The one and Only Ivan* and are now reading *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. We have been studying fractions in math. We had our last mass that we were in charge of and we have also started the Stations of the Resurrection. We either walk or read for the stations each Friday.



# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



Fourth quarter is under way and the fifth graders are very busy learning and practicing skills to help prepare them for middle school. In ELA we are working on two important projects. The first is a research project about a state of their choosing and the second is a speech for promotion. You may even get to hear your child read their speech at their promotion ceremony at the end of May. In math we are finishing up Chapter 12 all about converting units of measurement. I am excited to finish this year strong!





# Spanish

April has been a good month so far. I wish you all a blessed Easter. We are wrapping up our number timings. In April we continued to review calendar vocabulary and began animals for the younger students. Gr. 4-5 learned or reviewed subject pronouns. They will learn a couple simple present tense verbs before the end of the year. Gr. 2-5 will be learning or reviewing the Spanish alphabet and working on a grade level project. Gr. 2 will be designing, drawing and labeling a house; Gr. 3 will be drawing and labeling a pretend community; Gr. 4 will be working on a food project of choice; and Gr. 5 will be studying Cinco de mayo. K-1 will be learning simple vocabulary for animals, shapes, and transportation from now until the end of the school year.

Don't forget to check the resources I have placed on my microsite.

<https://www.regiscatholicschools.com/staff/lynne-larabee/parent-resources/> ;

<https://www.regiscatholicschools.com/staff/lynne-larabee/work-for-the-week/>

# Library

April is National Poetry Month! Students in grades Pre-K through 2nd have been enjoying poetry from popular poets Jack Prelutsky and Shel Silverstein. We've enjoyed some silly poems, as well as other traditional poetry that uses rhythm and rhyme. We also celebrated National Poem in your Pocket Day by making pocket-sized poetry cards to enjoy and share with friends and family.

Students in grades 3 through 5 have been learning about research strategies and resources in the Library. We've learned how to use Wisconsin databases to find information about a topic, and how to find books in our school library. We will work on mini-research projects in the upcoming weeks to put these research skills to good use.

Photos: 2nd grade students with their Poem in their Pocket craft





# Physical Education

**Happy Spring!** We are paddling our way through April. We are using equipment as an extension of our body such as racket and paddle activities. These are life-long activities that students can do beyond their school age years. One of my focuses in physical education is staying active and healthy. The following are some benefits of being active: regular exercise provides strong muscles and bones, weight control, decreases the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, better sleep and a better outlook on life. Studies have shown that physically active kids are more likely to be academically motivated, alert, and successful. In May, we will be focusing on kickball, and T-ball/baseball. May 14th is Sports Day for all 4th and 5th grade students from St. James, St. Mary's and Immaculate Conception.

## Music



We will be wrapping up our school year in music with doing many singing games and classroom instruments in Grades K,1,2. Grade 3 will be learning note names to prepare for recorder in 4th grade and creating an instrument. Grade 4 will be working on rhythms with playing buckets. Grade 5 will be working on their class song, playing a few songs on the bucket drums and preparing for a class performance with bucket drums and band instruments. We learned an Easter Alleluia song that we will be singing in a round as well as singing our Easter songs at school masses. I love hearing all of our students singing together! Students will be singing at Good Shepherd on May 9th and will be singing a few songs for our Spring Sing on May 30th.



## Art



**Art with Miss LaRose - [hlarose@regiscatholicschools.com](mailto:hlarose@regiscatholicschools.com)**

Hurray for May! We only have a few more art classes left this year. There are some things to keep an eye out for during the month of May. We have been sending home clay projects and will continue to make sure everyone gets their art projects back from school. Students are encouraged to be careful with their artwork. Some students have also filled up their sketchbooks and taken them home. Returning students will need a new sketchbook, but 5th grade students do not need to replace their sketchbook.

**<https://www.artsonia.com/>**

In May, Artsonia runs a sale for Mothers Day. In the giftshop, you can get 15% off your purchase using promo code MOM25. As always, Artsonia remains completely free to use as a student online portfolio. Any purchases through the site generate a 20% donation to the art room and are appreciated.

ARTISAN CRAFTED - LOCALLY MADE

OLSON'S  
ice cream  
Since 1944

# SCHOOL FUNDRAISER



Help **REGIS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS** raise  
money in a sweet way with Olson's Ice  
Cream!

Olson's Ice Cream is helping out our local schools by raising  
money and building school spirit! **10% of proceeds** from 3:00  
PM - 7:30 PM on May 7th will be donated to Regis Catholic  
Schools!

**3:00 PM - 7:30 PM / MAY 7, 2025**  
**2100 FENWICK AVENUE EAU CLAIRE, WI**

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO MAKE SOME SWEET MEMORIES FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

# SJ CAREER OPPORTUNITY

**\*Food Service Employee\***

Calling all stay-at-home parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors and friends! Are you or someone you know looking for a part-time employment opportunity within our schools?

Our RCS Food Service program is currently looking for a kind and dependable person who is willing to work a few hours each day.

Head Cook at St. James Elementary School

- Position begins August 2025

-5-6 hours per day when school is in session

If you, or anyone you know is interested, please contact Alexis Toledo, Director of Food Service, at 715-830-2276 ext. 2005 or at [AToledo@RegisCatholicSchools.com](mailto:AToledo@RegisCatholicSchools.com).



# Little Lady Ramblers



## Basketball Camp

### For Girls Entering 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3rd Grade

Join us for a fun- filled basketball camp designed just for young athletes looking to build their skills and confidence on the court! What to expect: Fun and energetic basketball drills, skill building activities made for beginners, and encouragement from current Lady Ramblers players and coaches.

**When:**

Monday, June 30th  
Tuesday, July 1st  
Wednesday, July 2nd

**Where:**

Regis High School  
9:00-10:00 AM

**Cost:**

\$50- Checks written out to  
“Regis Girls Basketball” OR pay  
via Venmo!  
Scan the QR code on your phone  
“RegisGirlsBasketball”

**Contact:**

Teddy Joas with any questions  
[tjoas@regiscatholicschools.com](mailto:tjoas@regiscatholicschools.com)

**Mail Forms + Checks:**

Teddy Joas  
2557 105th St  
Eau Claire WI, 54703

**Google Form:**

Complete the google form if you  
wish not to mail in registration!

Registration Deadline:  
Friday, May 23rd



### Camp Registration

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ 2025-2026 grade level: 1    2    3

Student Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size : YS YM YL S M L

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Waiver:** Regis High School and any camp coach will not be liable for any injuries that occur during the Skills Camp. I hereby authorize the coaches and teachers of the Skills Camp to act with their best judgment in any emergency requiring medical attention. Additionally, Regis Catholic Schools and any camp coach will not be responsible for any damages or losses that may occur to anything my child chooses to bring to the camp.

I understand all terms and agreements on this registration form.

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Regis Girls Basketball



## Skills Camp



**Grades 4 - 7**

with the Regis High School Girls Basketball Team!

Regis Girls Basketball Skills Camp is a 3-session course, in learning the fundamentals and some advanced skills of playing and competing in the sport of basketball! The camp will focus on a different individual skill set every day. The camp is open to all students entering 4th - 7th grade in the upcoming 2025-2026 school year.

### When:

June 30th - Ball Handling  
July 1st - Shooting  
July 2nd - Team Drills/Defense

### Where:

Regis High School  
10:30-11:30 AM

### Cost:

\$50- Checks written out to  
"Regis Girls Basketball" OR pay  
via Venmo!

Scan the QR code on your phone

"RegisGirlsBasketball"



### Contact:

Teddy Joas with any questions  
[tjoas@regiscatholicschools.com](mailto:tjoas@regiscatholicschools.com)

### Mail Forms + Checks:

Teddy Joas  
2557 105th St  
Eau Claire WI, 54703

### Google Form:

Complete the google form if you wish  
not to mail in registration!

### Registration Deadline:

Friday, May 23rd



## Camp Registration

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ 2025-2026 grade level: 4 5 6 7

Student Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size : YM YL S M L XL

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Waiver:** Regis High School and any camp coach will not be liable for any injuries that occur during the Skills Camp. I hereby authorize the coaches and teachers of the Skills Camp to act with their best judgment in any emergency requiring medical attention. Additionally, Regis Catholic Schools and any camp coach will not be responsible for any damages or losses that may occur to anything my child chooses to bring to the camp.

I understand all terms and agreements on this registration form.

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# WALK FOR VIRTUES

WFV is underway! This year, the funds we raise will go toward purchasing new school lunch tables, updating office flooring, and adding an outdoor shed to store our recess equipment.

Our students love getting involved in the WFV fundraiser, and there are many exciting prizes to motivate them along the way. A prize sheet is located in your child's envelope.

We're thrilled to work together toward our school-wide goal of \$12,000! We encourage you to support and inspire your child to participate. Envelopes are due May 9th, 2025.

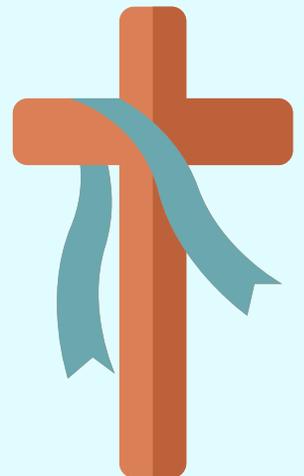


## Stations of the Resurrection - Fridays @ 220PM

Friday, May 2nd  
4th Grade Leads/5th Grade Walks

Friday, May 16th  
5th Grade Leads/4th Grade Walks

Friday, May 23rd  
4th Grade Leads/5th Grade Walks



# MAY LUNCH MENU

MAY 2025

Regis Elementary School Meals  
Grab N' Go Breakfast and Lunch

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Menus are subject to change



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

**Grab n Go** 5  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Ham Stacker on a Bun  
Baked Potato Wedge  
Mixed Vegetable  
Applesauce/Orange Wedges

**Grab n Go** 6  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Chicken Smackers  
Baked Beans/Cookie  
Cucumber Slices  
Cantaloup Wedges/Chilled Pears

**Grab n Go** 7  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Pizza Hut Pizza Cheese or Pepperoni  
Tossed Green Salad  
Cherry Tomatoes/Green Peas  
Chilled Peaches/Fresh Apple

**Grab n Go** 8  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Beef Nacho Bar  
Lettuce/Tomato/Salsa  
Black Bean Salad  
Mixed Fruit/Orange Wedges

**Grab n Go** 9  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Fish Sticks  
Whole Kernel Corn  
Baby Carrots  
Seedless Grapes/Pineapple Tidbits

**Grab n Go** 12  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Mozzarella Dippers  
Baked Beans  
Cucumber Slices  
Warm Apple Slices/Fresh Apples

**Grab n Go** 13  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Cheeseburger on a Bun  
Baked Seasoned Fries  
Baby Carrots  
Banana/Chilled Peaches

**Grab n Go** 14  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch SPORTS DAY 4th & 5th Grade**  
\*Pizza Hut Pizza Cheese or Pepperoni  
Tossed Salad  
Broccoli/Cauliflower  
Mixed Fruit/Orange Wedge

**Grab n Go** 15  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Teriyaki Chicken w/ Rice Pilaf  
Baby Carrots  
Green Peas  
Mandarin Oranges/Kiwi/Fortune Cookie

**Grab n Go** 16  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Cheese Quesadilla  
Whole Kernel Corn/Salsa  
Green Beans  
Chilled Pears/Fresh Apple

**Grab n Go** 19  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Chicken Nuggets  
Whipped Potatoes  
Cherry Tomatoes  
Mixed Fruit/Orange Wedges

**Grab n Go** 20  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Hard Shell Beef Tacos  
Lettuce/Tomatoes/Salsa  
Refried Beans/ Spanish Rice  
Cucumber Slices  
Chilled Pears/Fresh Apple

**Grab n Go** 21  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Baked Mini Corn Dogs  
Baked Potato Wedges  
Tossed Salad/Celery sticks  
Chilled Peaches/Melon Wedges  
Ice Cream

**Grab n Go** 22  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Spaghetti w/ Meatballs  
Green Beans  
Broccoli  
Pineapple Tidbits/Fresh Apple

**Grab n Go** 23  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*French Toast Sticks  
Baked Hash Brown  
Baby Carrots  
Strawberries/100% Orange Juice

**NO SCHOOL** 26

**Grab n Go** 27  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Chicken Patty on a Bun  
Baked Potato Wedges  
Green Beans/Baby Carrots  
Grapes/Chilled Applesauce

**Grab n Go** 28  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Cheese Quesadilla  
Tossed Salad/Celery Sticks  
Chilled Peaches  
Orange Wedges/Cookie

**Grab n Go** 29  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Roast Pulled Pork with a Dinner Roll  
Broccoli Florets  
Red Pepper Strips/Hummus  
Chilled Peaches/100% Grape Juice

**Grab n Go** 30  
\*Cereal Bowls or  
Breakfast bar Combo Kits and Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
\*Mozzarella Dippers  
Whole Kernel Corn  
Baby Carrots  
Mixed Fruit/Fresh Apple

\*Milk is offered with all meals & includes a choice of Skim or Chocolate.\*

Director of Food Service: Alexis Toledo - 715-830-2276 ext. 2005

or email at [atoledo@regiscatholicschools.com](mailto:atoledo@regiscatholicschools.com)



## Thoughtful Moments

### St. Augustine of Canterbury

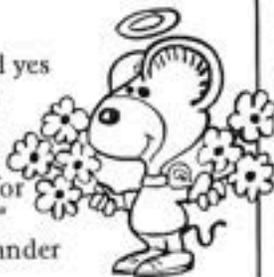
St. Augustine was an Italian Benedictine monk who was friends with Pope St. Gregory the Great. Pope Gregory thought so highly of St. Augustine that he sent him to go and re-evangelize England, whose people were disheartened because of ongoing invasions. Thankfully, King Ethelbert of Kent welcomed the monks to England and allowed them to preach the Gospel there. St. Augustine and his companions successfully converted southern England, and St. Augustine became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.



*"May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38)*

When faced with events beyond her understanding or control, Mary leaned on God. We, too, encounter situations we can't understand or control. That's when we can imitate Mary's trust in God. His plan for her worked out better than she could have dreamed. The same will be true for us.

*"Our Lady said yes for the human race. Each one of us must echo that yes for our own lives."*  
Caryll Houselander



## "Behold your Mother"

Remember, although she was full of grace, Mary lived a mostly ordinary, often difficult life. Jesus gave her to us as our spiritual mother (John 19:27) so we could follow her example, know Him more deeply, and be part of His family.

Mary leads us to Jesus. In the Gospels, Mary always brought people to Jesus—or brought Him to them. She talked about Him, pointed to Him, and stayed near Him. When we pray the Rosary as a family, Mary helps us reflect on Christ's life, one mystery at a time. If you want your family to grow closer to Jesus, start by spending time with His mother.



Mary is a model for family life. Her "yes" to God at the Annunciation continued daily, through every joy and hardship — fleeing to Egypt, raising Jesus, watching Him suffer. In blessings and struggles, she shows us how to say "yes" to God through our parenting challenges.

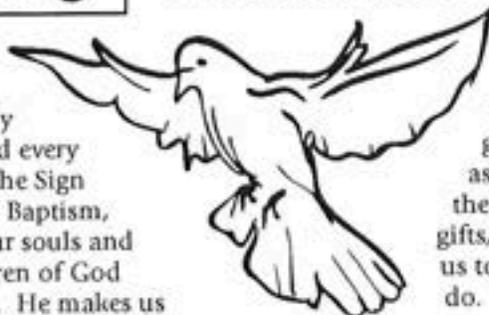
*"Behold your mother" (John 19:27).* Mary isn't distant — she's our mother. Jesus

wants us to draw close to her, talk to her, and love her. We are never alone. We can always turn to God, but our heavenly mother is always with us, praying for us, and guiding us home.

## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics invoke the Holy Spirit?

As the Third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is invoked every time we make the Sign of the Cross. In Baptism, He dwells in our souls and makes us children of God (Romans 8:15). He makes us



receptive to God's grace. He also teaches and helps us to pray. He guides and protects us, just as He guides and protects the Church. Through His gifts, He inspires and enables us to do the good we ought to do.

## What to do when “everyone else is doing it”

Your 10-year-old wants to play a T- or M-rated video game because “everyone else has it.” Your 8-year-old wants a phone to send emails and messages like “all” her friends. So how do we decide wisely when our children insist that everyone else is doing it?

Start by asking: Is this good for my child’s soul? Will it help build the virtues essential to strong character—faith, hope, charity, prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance? Or could it hinder growth of these critical virtues?

Seek guidance from trustworthy parents,



especially those with more experience. Their perspective can help you see more clearly.

Trust your instincts. Just because something is popular doesn’t mean it’s good. If something doesn’t feel right, it probably isn’t. God often speaks to us through that quiet inner sense.

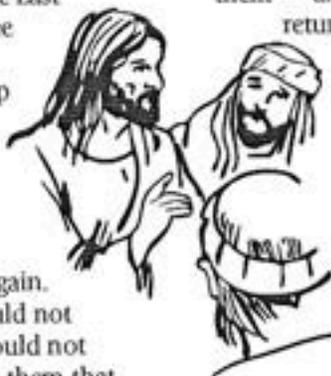
Most importantly, pray. Actively ask God for the grace to lead your children well. He can reach their hearts in ways we can’t. A simple prayer — “Jesus, I trust in You” — can lead to the best, most trustworthy guidance.

### Scripture LESSON

#### John 14:23-29, Jesus is always with us

This Gospel reading comes from Jesus’ Farewell Speech at the Last Supper. After spending three years together, He had to prepare the close-knit group for His departure. He was going to suffer, die, and rise again. After that night, everything would be different: they would not see Him in the same way again.

Yet, He promised He would not leave them orphans. He would not abandon them. He assured them that He would remain with them if they loved Him and kept His word. Jesus would send the Holy Spirit to guide, comfort, teach, and remind them of all



He taught them. Lastly, He promised them — and us — that He would return.

*What can a parent do?* Remind children that Jesus is still present among us today in the Church. Tell them we meet Him in prayer, encounter Him in the Sacraments, hear Him in the Scriptures, and receive Him in the Eucharist at Mass.

Encourage them to pray to Him whenever they want. He loves them always and is never too busy or too far away to help them.

### Feasts & Celebrations

May 1 – St. Joseph the Worker (1st century). Joseph, a humble carpenter, was entrusted with the care of the Blessed Mother and Jesus—a responsibility he carried with quiet strength, unwavering devotion, and deep obedience to God.

May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima (1917). The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children near Fatima, Portugal, and asked that they pray the Rosary for peace, for the end of World War I, for sinners, and for the conversion of Russia.

May 20 – St. Bernardine of Siena (1444). St. Bernard channeled his boundless energy and joy into running the local hospital during the great plague in Europe. At twenty-two, he became a Franciscan friar. After years in solitude, he traveled around Italy, preaching. He later became the General of the Friars of the Strict Observance.

May 29 – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (1st Century). Today marks the completion of Jesus’ mission of salvation and His triumphant entry into Heaven. (Observance may be moved to Sunday.)



### Parent TALK

My older daughter, Kara, was late getting ready for school every day—making the whole family late.



Meanwhile, my other daughter, Tessa, regularly “forgot” her chores. I was pretty frustrated with their irresponsibility.

Finally, I told them, “If you’re late or forget your responsibilities, you’ll write an essay.” The next time my older daughter was late, I assigned a 300-word essay on the importance of being on time. Her first draft was sloppy, so I had her rewrite it – twice. The final version was thoughtful—and she started showing up on time.

When my younger daughter skipped her chores, I assigned her a paragraph detailing why chores matter. She ignored it at first and lost play time, but eventually completed the assignment and started “remembering” her chores.

The results? Calmer mornings, an ordered home, and a powerful lesson learned: responsibility is part of family life. Discipline, done with love, benefits everyone.

#### Our Mission

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