



# St. Lawrence

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*We are a Catholic School family dedicated to nurturing and celebrating a love for Jesus Christ and educating the whole child with academic excellence.*


[StL Website](#)
[FACTS Portal](#)
[Cafe Menu](#)
[Athletics](#)
[Calendar](#)

*What's inside:*

**PRINCIPAL'S  
CORNER**

**DATES &  
DEADLINES**

**LEARNING  
CORNER**

**SCHOOL  
ADVISORY  
BOARD NEWS**

**PARISH NEWS**

**SCHOOL NEWS  
& UPDATES**

## Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

An official welcome to our new and returning St. Lawrence families! With four weeks into this school year, the students are settling into our new schedule quite nicely.

We had our third school mass on Wednesday hosted by our 8th graders. The mass link was sent out this past Tuesday for families who wish to join us live on YouTube. It's so wonderful to see our Church full with all of our students together again. God is good!

I'm also excited to share that we have opened up a school store where students can purchase spirit wear and all kinds of St. Lawrence apparel and goods. The store is located right when you walk in the 'U' door entrance on the right.

We will be wrapping up our first STAR assessment by next week and parents should expect to see results from teachers within the next few weeks.

Many parents have inquired about our roof install and our new middle school building progress and timeline. Our roof is expected to be complete by mid-October. Our middle school is on target for completion in December. It will be a wonderful gift to have our middle school students start the new year in our beautiful new building. Check out the Facilities update under the School Advisory Board news for more details.

While we are very excited about completing these projects, they certainly have presented challenges with drop-off and pick-up, in addition to Apple Fest and our bus inconsistencies. With that said, we are now managing to complete both morning drop-off and after school pick-up in 20 minutes. I will continue to communicate with our school families any updates from Utica bus transportation as I receive them.

I can not stress enough how important it is for every one to follow the rules and stay in your car in your designated lines until the students are released. Unfortunately, we may need to start taking action against repeat offenders who continue to park in unauthorized areas to avoid the lines. And of course, we are a smoke-free campus and there is absolutely no smoking of any kind on school grounds, no pets allowed and no video recording of students during pick-up. As a reminder, St. Lawrence has a strict Social Media Policy, which can be found in our Handbook on our website. [St. Lawrence Handbook](#)

Thank you for your patience during the last few weeks as things have smoothed out. It really does go smoothly if we all do our part.

Thank you all for your support and in choosing St. Lawrence for your children's religious and academic needs. We love our St. Lawrence family and are looking forward to a wonderful year nurturing and celebrating our love for Jesus Christ and educating our students through academic excellence!

*Mrs. DiMercurio*

## DATES & DEADLINES

Oct. 15 - NO SCHOOL

Oct. 18 - NO SCHOOL

Oct. 25 - High School Night 6-7:30 p.m. in the gym

Nov. 1 - Children's Mass - ALL SAINTS DAY

Nov. 3 - No school mass

Nov. 12 - End of first card marking

Nov. 15-19 - Scholastic Fall Book Fair

Nov. 22 - 1/2 day (dismissal at noon); Parent/Teacher conferences (Nursery - 8th)

Nov. 23 - 1/2 day (dismissal at noon); Parent/Teacher conferences (Nursery - 8th)

Nov. 24-26 - NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving break

## LEARNING CORNER

# 10 Smart Tips for Homework Success

Do you have tired, hungry students coming home and homework is the last thing they want to tackle after a long day? Help your students manage their homework load with these successful strategies.



Homework  
Tips

## SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD NEWS

The School Advisory Board is a body comprised of school faculty, teachers and parents to collaborate with the pastor and administration and assist in developing policies for St. Lawrence school. They also serve as a voice and intermediary between school families and administration. The Board consists of four committees: *Advancement, Catholic Culture, Strategic Planning and Properties & Facilities*. If you have any questions or concerns for the Board, please email them at the link below. Please see below for recent meeting updates.

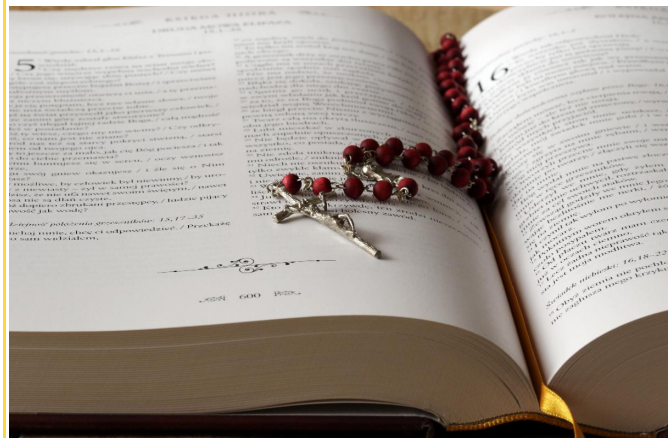
School Advisory Board  
Email

### PROPERTIES & FACILITIES



The new St. Lawrence Middle School construction is well underway. The new building will include 7 general classrooms, 2 science classrooms, an office space for Mr. Barker and a multi-purpose cafeteria to be utilized by the middle school students and for other school and community events.

### CATHOLIC CULTURE



Thanks be to God for a wonderful "Third Annual Back to School Mass"! Remember to always "Keep Holy the Sabbath Day". It is your duty and privilege as a parent.

Each classroom will have flexible student desks and chairs as well as technology monitors. The color scheme used within the building utilizes accents of blue paint, tile and flooring as well as navy blue lockers that are in keeping with the St. Lawrence brand.

Energy-efficient LED lighting is utilized throughout the building and the mechanical system has been updated to meet the educational environment needs. Visit the website for more building design photos.

[New building photos](#)

The Catholic Culture Committee is launching a new program: Spiritual Room Parent. These parents will communicate Religious information and prayer requests among each respective grade. The focus is to foster Catholicism within the home, as well as in the classroom. Please reach out to Melissa Hessel if you would like to volunteer. [gordon.melissa.j@gmail.com](mailto:gordon.melissa.j@gmail.com)

God bless our school and our families!

## PARISH NEWS



### St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus Youth Leadership Initiative

The Youth Leadership Initiative invites teens currently in the 8th grade in the Parish to explore their God-given talents as a means to leadership and service. Our initiative uses leadership service

opportunities to understand an individual's *Gifts of the Holy Spirit*, while promoting project planning considerations, personal accountability and reflecting on the meaning of success.

The St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus promotes leadership at all ages as a means to grow in our Catholic Faith and ensure the strong foundation for all generations in expressing the love of God and promoting the name of Jesus Christ to all we encounter.

Leadership means being able to set the example for our family, friends and those we encounter! The responsibilities of a leader are based on being committed to continual Christian formation and having courage to display the faith that we all are constantly forming.

If your teen is interested in being part of this, or learning more, please contact Joe Lograsso at [lograsso@comcast.net](mailto:lograsso@comcast.net).

[Email Joe Lograsso](#)





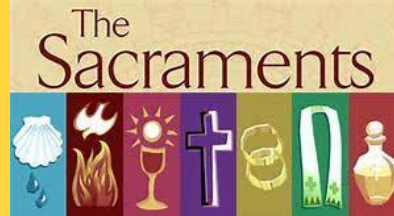
## Confirmation Masses

Last year's 8<sup>th</sup> graders will celebrate Confirmation on October 7, 2021 at 7pm with Bishop Fisher.

This year's 8<sup>th</sup> graders will celebrate Confirmation on January 26 & 27, 2022 at 7pm with Bishop Fisher.

Please pray for our candidates to be strengthened by the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and be joyful witnesses of Jesus!

Email Lisa  
Rajnicek



## First Communion Classes

First Communion for Older Students in Grades 3-8

If your older child is a candidate for First Reconciliation or First Communion, then we offer family-based classes to assist you.

Please contact Lisa Rajnicek, Director of Continuing Religious Education, to register this week.

Our first family meeting will be Sunday October 3, 2021 at 11:15am (after 10:00 a.m. Mass).

Email Lisa  
Rajnicek



## St. Lawrence Men's Mass 2021

You are invited to the return of the St. Lawrence Men's Mass for 2021 at the St. Lawrence K of C Picnic Grounds on Wednesday October 13 at 6:30 p.m.

St. Lawrence's Father Paul Graney presiding. Food and drinks will be served after Mass. Make sure to register ahead of time at [Men's Mass RSVP](#).

Please contact Jim Adams with any questions or Mass intentions: 586-337-7704, [jojim6@aol.com](mailto:jojim6@aol.com)



## Adoration Chapel Now Open!

Spend an hour or two with the Lord in our new beautiful adoration chapel, open Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-7 p.m.

Enter via the "X" door in the front of the church. Walk-ins welcome.

Sign-up for a 1-hour prayer slot: [Adoration Chapel Sign Up](#)

If you are interested in a recurring daily/weekly/monthly time or have any questions, you can reach out to Angie

Berant, [angieberant@gmail.com](mailto:angieberant@gmail.com) or call 586-295-2992.

## SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATES

### IMPORTANT REMINDER ON REPORTING ABSENCES

Parents must report absences **EVERY DAY** that their student will not attend school. If a student is sick all week, the parent must call to report the absence each day at 586-731-3212 or email [absent@stlawrenceparish.com](mailto:absent@stlawrenceparish.com).



### Athletics - Fall Sports Registration



#### Athletics:

Registration is open for girls/boys basketball (grades 5-8) and cheer (grades 4-8). Registration deadline for basketball is midnight, Oct. 2; deadline for cheer is midnight, Oct. 15.

Visit <http://www.mightymustangs.com> and click Register Now for more information or to register.

Coaches are needed for cheer and basketball. If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please contact [matt\\_bultinck@yahoo.com](mailto:matt_bultinck@yahoo.com).

Registration for 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade instructional basketball will begin in October. Athletics will need parent volunteer coaches to run the instructional program. In addition, Athletics is looking for an Instructional Basketball Coordinator who is willing to be trained and to facilitate the program. Practices will be 1 day/week with games from January through February.

### Uniform Shorts



### High School Night

As of Oct. 1, uniform shorts are no longer allowed. Students will be allowed to wear them again starting May 1.



St. Lawrence is hosting 'High School Night' on Oct. 25 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the gym. Representatives from surrounding Catholic high schools will be here to answer any questions from prospective families. Middle school parents and students are welcome.

## Box Tops

Do you already purchase Annie's, Nature Valley, Yoplait, General Mills, Cascadian Farm, Larabar, Lysol, Nestle water, Pillsbury, Old El Paso, Hamburger Helper and more?

Scan your receipt instantly with the boxtop app; No Clipping Required! Even if you are shopping online or doing grocery pickup, you can still submit your e-receipts.



Don't want to scan receipts yourself? Snap a pic or forward your e-receipt to [boxtops4stl@gmail.com](mailto:boxtops4stl@gmail.com). Find bonus offers on the App! Anyone submitting a bonus offer worth 5 boxtops or more will receive a free StL T-shirt (while supplies last). Just send a note to [boxtops4stl@gmail.com](mailto:boxtops4stl@gmail.com). Receipts up to 2 weeks old still QUALIFY! Questions: BTFE.com or [boxtops4stl@gmail.com](mailto:boxtops4stl@gmail.com).



### SCRIP

To help reduce the cost of your tuition, St. Lawrence Catholic School participates in the SCRIP program. SCRIP is substitute money and is just like a "gift card." For more info: <http://www.stlawrence-school.com/scrup-program>



### Kroger Rewards

If you shop at Kroger and have a rewards card, you can earn money for the school with NO cost to you. Just log in to Kroger Rewards, go to My Account, then Community Rewards. Search for "St. Lawrence School PTO" and click Enroll.



## Golf Balls for a Cause



St. Lawrence 8th grader KJ Schuster will be selling used golf balls for his Knights of Columbus Youth Leadership project to raise money to sponsor a child through the Friends of Foster Kids Christmas Angels program.

He will be taking donations at the St. Lawrence football games on Saturday, Oct. 2 at Swinehart Field in Utica. The sale will run from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

If you can not make the sale, but would still like to support the cause, you may send a donation to the school office, ATTN: KJ Schuster Youth Leader Project.

## Guessing Jar



St. Lawrence 8th grader Annamarie Artymovich will be having a guessing jar contest to raise money for her Knights of Columbus Youth Leadership project. Each guess is 50 cents. She will come around to the classrooms and students can purchase 'guesses'.

The contest will be held Wednesday, October 6th through Friday, October 8th. The donations will go towards buying Christmas presents for Friends of Foster Kids (FOFK).

Friends of Foster Kids (FOFK) is a non-profit organization that provides a "Christmas" for about 900 children who have been taken out of their homes and placed into temporary homes.



## Apple Fest Kids Tent Winners

Congratulations to Mrs. Walz and Mrs. DiLuca's classes on winning pizza parties for having the most votes for the Apple Fest coloring contest.

Also congratulations to Mrs. Walz and Mrs. Newby's classes on winning ice cream parties for earning the most tickets while playing Kids Tent games with their classes.





## St. Isaac Jogues Chess Tournament



**LET'S GET BACK TO CHESS !!**

When: Saturday November 6th, 2021 Check in: 8 – 8:30 am 1<sup>st</sup> Round: 9 a.m.  
What: 5 rounds - 30 min games (5 min clock per player if longer) versus students in your own grade / section).  
Where: St. Isaac Jogues Catholic School 21100 Madison St, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081  
Who: K through 8 - Beginner or Experienced - students will be grouped by grade (Grades may be combined based on number of players)  
Prizes: Trophies for at least the top 3 in each grade/section. More depending on section size. Medals for winning 3, 4, or 5 games.  
Cost: \$20 (Register by October 31<sup>st</sup>). Payment can be made by check (see below) or through paypal to [jicushmano@gmail.com](mailto:jicushmano@gmail.com). Please include player info below.  
Lunch: Pizza lunch included. Additional food/snacks/drinks available for purchase.  
Contact: John Cusumano (586-530-7534) – [jicushmano@gmail.com](mailto:jicushmano@gmail.com)  
Why: Play in an UNRATED fun chess tournament in a relaxed friendly environment. For beginners and experienced players alike.

Chess equipment available for purchase courtesy of Sal Chehayeb with "Chess In Schools"

**MASKS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED**

For check payments please mail this form and **check payable to SIJ Men's Club** to  
SIJ Chess Tournament  
Attn : John Cusumano  
21100 Madison St.  
St. Clair Shores, MI 48081  
**Registration ends October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

**St. Isaac Jogues Chess Tournament 11/06/2021**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*If registering more than one student, please fill out a separate sheet for each student. Please be sure to include a legible email address so we can email you your confirmation and schedule.*

## Chess Tournament

On Nov. 6, St. Lawrence students are invited to participate in a chess tournament hosted by St. Isaac Jogues in St. Clair Shores.

It is open to any interested students from Kindergarten to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students would be playing other players from the same grade level to make it as fun and fair as possible. Students of any skill level are welcome to attend. See flyer for more details.

FLYER