



# THE BEAGLE

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Saint Joseph School

## St. Joseph School Gives Back



### Packages for Soldiers

St. Joseph School wanted to give back to the troops fighting in Afghanistan. The Van Hoek family suggested that our school bring in supplies such as warm clothes, granola bars, medicines, mixed nuts, and blankets to send to the troops. The eighth graders packed up all the goods donated on Thursday, December 6th. In total, the eighth grade packed up 45 boxes to mail to the troops. The next day, the whole school gathered together to take a picture to thank the troops. We were able to call Captain John Murtagh, who is Colin Van Hoek's cousin, and also a SJS graduate. Captain Murtagh has 170 troops reporting to him. He thanked our school for the good deed. This was a very special way for us to say Merry Christmas and thank the troops for their service!

Bianca Veltri '19 & Michelle Vilajeti '19



### Third Grade Visits Cabrini

The third grade went on a class trip to Cabrini Nursing Home on December 5th. They sang carols for the residents there, including Deck the Halls, Away in a Manger, Joy to the World, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bell Rock, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, and many others. They also handed out blankets and cards to the residents, which were enjoyed by all.

We interviewed two residents at Cabrini and the Director of Recreation there. The first resident, Sister Golden, entered the convent in 1943, was a principal in Brooklyn, and worked as a principal at three different schools-Good Counsel Academy, Sacred Heart in Hartsdale, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Elmsford. When asked if she liked the childrens' company she responded, "I love them because they bring new life to all here."

We also interviewed Sister Bernadette. She was a teacher in the Bronx who worked at Saint Francis of Rome. She taught many grades including 5th and 8th grades. We asked her what she thought of St. Joseph School coming to visit, and she said, "It's a beautiful treat, and I love you folks." We also talked to Sheri Gottlielo, the Director of Recreation at Cabrini. She told us how the residents respond to the kids and she said, "They love it! Their faces light up! Even though some of them might not be able to show emotion, they get happy!"

We asked two 3rd graders, Lindsay Lugano and Thomas Encke how they felt about going to sing for the elderly residents. Lindsay said that she loved seeing smiles on people's faces, and Thomas said that it was so fun, and he especially enjoyed singing!

St. Joseph School loves giving back to the community especially during this time of year! It was a great experience, and the 3rd graders loved making people smile and making their day happy.

Julia Dellafiora '21, Brooke Lugano '21, Elizabeth Scalzo '21



### The Beagle

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Merry Christmas to all from the Beagle Staff!



## From SJS Warrior to American Warrior

Most people live far from their cousins. They may live in Ireland or on the other side of the country. However, my cousin John, a United States Marine who has always been only one minute away, now is overseas for eight months.

John started at St. Joseph School for elementary school and then he went to Fordham Prep for high school. He then graduated and went to Boston College. When he first became a Marine, my cousin and I may have poked some fun at him, calling him “army man” and saying he “played army”. Now it’s kind of funny, after all those jokes, it came true. He is a real “Army Man.”

This is a large and scary change in pace, but we know that John is very brave and strong. Though my cousins and I all miss him very much and we can’t wait for him to come home, we are all very proud of him for everything he’s done for our country.

Colin Van Hoek ‘19

## Westchester Winter Wonderland

Westchester Winter Wonderland is a great place to go for the holiday break with your family. It is being held this year from Friday November 23rd to Monday December 31st between the hours of 5pm and 9pm at Kensico Dam in Valhalla, NY. There are many fun features like a circus, Santa, Christmas light show, a food truck area, hayride, gift shops, rides and more. They added some new rides this year, including a Ferris Wheel and Merry-Go-Round. There are character nights like Star Wars night and Minion night. There is so much to see and do! In our opinion, the highlight of the Winter Wonderland is going to Jeremy Sanz’s Waffle Box and Donut Box food truck to have a waffle or donut and some hot chocolate. Jeremy is an alumnus of SJS who graduated in 2007, and he is the fiance of SJS fourth grade teacher Miss Letsen. Miss Letsen helps Jeremy on the truck on the weekends so you can see her there, too! We asked Jeremy some questions about his truck:

Q: How long have you had the waffle truck?  
A: We opened in June 2015.

Q: What made you decide to buy a waffle truck?  
A: After a weekend away snowboarding and eating waffles at the small huts at the bottom of the mountains, I quickly realized that Westchester County needed a mobile waffle unit.

Q: Have you ever been featured on TV for your waffle truck?  
A: Yes! The Waffle Box truck has been on the Rachael Ray Show and News 12.

We also asked Miss Letsen about working at Winter Wonderland.

Q: How long have you been working at Winter Wonderland and what is your favorite part of working there?  
A: I have been working at Winter Wonderland for 4 years and my favorite part is seeing how happy the waffles and hot chocolate make the children.

Q: What is your favorite waffle from the truck?  
A: My favorite waffle is the Toasted Smores Waffle. It has fluff, graham crackers, Hershey bars and marshmallows with Hersheys drizzled on top. Yum!

If you have time, stop by to visit Miss Letsen and Jeremy at Westchester Winter Wonderland and have a great holiday treat!

Anthony Mauro ‘21 and Daniel McQuade ‘22



## The Annual Bake and Boutique

On Sunday November 18, St. Joseph held their annual Bake and Boutique sale. At this event, there are vendors with tables full of amazing products. At the Bake and Boutique, the Mothers’ Club sells their delicious homemade desserts. In the cafeteria, the 8th grade was selling breakfast and lunch as a fundraiser for their big end-of-year class trip. At the end of the Bake and Boutique, there was the annual raffle where they give away many fun prizes including \$10,000! Special thanks to all the vendors and parents for making this event possible, and congratulations to all the winners!

Mary Adair Panerella ‘19, Devon Lugano ‘19, & Jenny Okon ‘19

## Fuller House Star & The Salvation Army Help Make This Christmas Merry

Did you know that Candace Cameron Bure who plays DJ on “Fuller House,” is helping out the Salvation Army this Christmas season? She has been named as their celebrity ambassador and will make T.V. and other social media appearances to bring attention to the work of the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army has been helping people since 1865.

During the holiday season, more than 3 million people rely on The Salvation Army. Donating to the red kettles, the same red kettle that we all see in outside our local ACME store, helps give more than 9 million nights of shelter, 52 million meals, after-school programs, and emergency shelter for children and families in the United States.

According to their website, here are some great ways we can help the Salvation Army:

- \*Donate by using Amazon Alexa by saying, “Alexa, donate to The Salvation Army”
- \*Visiting Give.SalvationArmyUSA.org
- \*Dropping money into the thousands of red kettles at partner storefront locations
- \*Giving any amount by texting KETTLES to 91999

Please help The Salvation Army. You’ll be doing good for others. God will be thankful.

Marilin Samuelian ‘21

## Mystery Student on the Loose!!!

Thank you for helping us find out with our previous mystery student. We found out who it was it was:

Julieta Zonea - Grade 5

But our work isn’t done, another student has gone loose! We need your help like last time. Here is the new information we gathered:

She is a girl.  
Her favorite subject is writing.  
Her favorite hobby is playing video games.  
She has no siblings in the school  
Her favorite animal is a baby cat.  
She has brown hair and brown eyes.  
Her birth month is January.  
She has no pets.  
Her favorite toy is a unicorn stuffed animal.  
Her favorite color is purple.  
Her favorite sport is ice skating.  
Her favorite song is “The Middle”.  
Her favorite holiday is Christmas.  
Her favorite TV show is Lego Friends.

For all those who are participating, thank you for helping us out! If you know the answer, please contact us at:

sjsbeagle@stjosephschool.net

Kaitlyn Horgan ‘22





### King Kong on Broadway

The 5th grade had a blast at the King Kong Broadway play. The 5th grade went on Thursday, November 29th and ate dinner at St. Joseph School before heading to the play. We got back to school around 11:00 pm! The King Kong movie came out December 5, 2005. Now its a Brodway hit. The play came out on November 8th this year. It was earlier produced in Australia. Christiani Pittis and William Morris star in the King Kong broadway musical.

The story King Kong is about a 2,000 pound gorilla. The play is 2 hours and 20 minutes long with one intermission. King Kong is a half-puppet and a half-robot that was created for the show.

We interviewed a 5th grade student Chris Treganowan and see what he thought.

What was your favorite part?  
When they had King Kong chained up and he became loose.

Who was your favorite character?  
King Kong. Who else would it be!

Did you like the singing?  
Yes, it was amazing!

Did you like the bus ride?  
It was nice, but a little loud.

Did you like the dinner? What was your favorite part at the dinner?  
Yes. My favorite part was doing the dancing in the Parish Center.

Did you like not having homework?  
Yes! I loved it!!

This is what Chase and Joe came up with about this amazing Broadway play!

Joe Troiano '22 and Chase Duffell '22



### Rockettes through the Years

The Rockettes are one of the most iconic traditions at Christmas time. They're a spectacular show. Most people probably will think that they were born naturals at dancing, or the minute they started dancing they were accepted into the Radio City Music Hall business. What did they look like or even dance like when they first started? Just keep reading this article if you would like to find out!

The Rockettes are a dance company that was started in 1932. They are amazing that they made it all the way to 2018, and their bigger than EVER! In 2007, the Rockettes were inducted into St. Louis Walk of Fame. They are flawless dancers and are extremely talented. They have created many optical illusions with their flawless moves.

Over 3,000 women have performed as Rockettes. That's a lot of people! Over 1,100 costumes are worn by the cast in each show. Millions of 3D glasses are handed out during the season. The Rockettes have had very intense training and have worked very hard to be the best they can be!

Gabriella Ibelli '21

### Christmas Drawing Contest

For this year's Christmas Drawing Contest, we asked the different grades to draw certain Christmas-related scenes or objects. All the drawings we got were great, but here are the winners:

K-1= Emily Miraldo Grade 1 -Madison Lewis Grade K

2- 3=Olivia Gagna Grade 3 - Max Rivera Grade 2

4-6= Dalton Danza Grade 6 - Sofie Grace Farkas Grade 5

7-8= Emily Rebholz Grade 7

Cutest= Madison Chartier Grade 3

Neatest= Molly Sugrue Grade 5

Most Christmas Spirit= Kate Hooks Grade 1

Most Creative= Reagan Spillane, Dylan Motilal, Julie Troiano, and Josephine Haverty-Stacke Grade 2

Thank you to everyone who entered a drawing! It was a very hard decision. Every drawing put us in the Christmas spirit. You all did great!!

Ryan Spillane '22 & Trinity Brown '22

### Remembering Stan Lee

Stan Lee passed away on November 12, 2018 at the age of 95. He founded Marvel comics alongside others, and wrote many comics. He was born on December 28, 1922. His last movie was Avengers Infinity War, our favorite Marvel movie so far. He created lots of famous superheroes such as: Spiderman, The Avengers, and The Guardians of the Galaxy. Marvel is our favorite superhero company, compared to DC Comics, because we feel the heroes are too overpowered in DC. Stan Lee was a very important man in superhero history. He will always be remembered as the man that showed us many kinds of superheroes.

John Flynn '21 & Sean McCuin '21

### Advent Wreath Making

Advent is a time in preparation for the coming of Jesus. We light a candle every Sunday starting on December 2nd until December 24th.

On November 25th, the Mother's Club held an Advent wreath making event. This was a brand new event. Everyone who came received a set of pine leaves, a base for the wreath, and a bag which contained three purple candles, one pink candle, and a prayer book. Once everyone was finished, they took their wreaths home.

It was a great way to kick off the Advent season. I hope it becomes a new tradition at SJS.

Colleen Flynn '20

### Santa's Workshop

Santa's Workshop is an event where the students of St. Joseph School go to buy presents for their family. Santa's Workshop took place on December 14th during school hours. The workshop had so many low- priced gifts. Going to Santa's Workshop makes it very easy to buy presents for all your friends and family. There is something for everyone there. For example, you can buy toys for siblings, jewelry for your mom, and this year there was even a mug for your dad with a message (World's Best Dad).

Everyone remembers the first time they went to Santa's Workshop. Participating in Santa's Workshop makes us feel more independent because we get to buy whatever we want without our parents. We would like to thank the Mothers' Club for putting in hard work to set up the event in the Scott Room. It is always a very special time at SJS and helps bring out the Christmas spirit!

Timothy Pandekakes '22 & Paxton Reyes '22

## Crazy Candy Cane Flavors

In 1670, the first candy canes were made in Cologne, Germany. The first candy canes were used in cathedrals. Candy canes were made because children made lots of noise during the Christmas Eve Mass, so the choirmaster of a cathedral asked a local candy maker to make “sugar sticks” for the children. Candy canes are shaped to look like the canes used by the shepherds that visited Jesus. Candy canes were brought to the United States in 1847. The first candy canes were peppermint. Today, there are many different candy cane flavors. Here are 7 of the most crazy candy cane flavors:

1. Bacon
2. Pickle
3. Sriracha
4. Gravy
5. Cinnabon
6. Wasabi
7. Birthday Cake

When I first read about these flavors I was surprised by them. I wondered why someone would try these flavors. When I was younger, I always wondered what my favorite foods would taste like on a candy cane. Now others can experience what their favorite foods taste like on a candy cane. Have you tried any of these candy cane flavors? Do you want to try any of these flavors?

Sophie Patz ‘22

## Fordham vs. Xavier: Turkey Bowl 2018

Every year on Thanksgiving, Fordham and Xavier’s varsity football team play in a huge football game. This year, it was at Fordham. Fordham won. This was their third year in a row winning. The final score was 21 to 13. My dad, my two brothers and I went to the Turkey Bowl, and it was amazing. As we walked in, we got towels to wave around when Fordham scored. After that, they announced all the players names, numbers, and positions. Then, the game started. Once the game ended, Fordham received their trophy. Everyone got their Fordham and Xavier merchandise and left. I had so much fun. My dad said that we are definitely going back next year.

Colleen Flynn ‘20

## Ranking the School Water Fountains

We did a little experiment to rank the school water fountains from best to worst. Here are our results:

6. “The downstairs bathroom one”- This fountain provides very little pressure and its warm temperature make the experience quite displeasing, putting this water fountain at our #6 spot. - 3/10
5. “The one next to the stage” - This fountain provides poor pressure, and its mediocre temperature, as well as a stiff button, makes its performance weak.- 4/10
4. “The small upstairs bathroom one” - This fountain used to be known for its cold temperature, but we fear it has lost that legacy. This fountain’s pressure is so weak that the water hits its lid, which could spread germs. - 5/10
3. “The big upstairs bathroom one” - This fountain provides a steady stream of water, with the best pressure on our list. But its temperature doesn’t meet the same standards, putting it #3 on our list. - 7/10
2. “The one next to the gym entrance” - This fountain also provides a constant stream of water and has one of the best arcs in the competition. The temperature is also very cool!(pun intended)- 8/10
- 1.“The one next to the science laboratory” The temperature is cold as ice, the pressure is legendary, and its location provides major convenienc, giving it our number 1 spot!- 9/10

So, what have we learned today?  
Absolutely nothing! Merry Christmas!

Colin Van Hoek ’19, Jackson Dellaflora ‘19, Owen Gazso ‘19

## How to make Bread Pudding

Here are the ingredients and directions to make a Christmas favorite dessert:

- Ingredients
- 6 slices of bread
  - 2 cups of milk
  - 2 tablespoons of melted butter
  - ¾ cup of white sugar
  - ½ cup of raisins (optional)
  - 1 teaspoon of ground cinnamon
  - 4 eggs, beaten
  - 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract

- Directions
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- Break bread into small pieces and put into an 8 inch square baking pan. Drizzle melted butter or margarine over bread. If desired, sprinkle with raisins.
- In a medium mixing bowl, combine eggs, milk, sugar, cinnamon, and vanilla. Beat until well mixed. Pour over bread, and lightly push down with a fork until bread is covered and soaking up the egg mixture.
- Bake in the preheated oven for 45 minutes.
- Enjoy!

Téa Messina ‘22

## Christmas Treat Recipes

### White Chocolate Christmas Bark

- Ingredients:
- 1/2 package of saltines
  - 2 packages white chocolate chips
  - 1 tbsp vegetable oil
  - 1 1/2 cups Andes peppermint baking chips

- Directions:
1. Spread saltines out on parchment paper.
  2. Using a double boiler, melt white chocolate chips, adding oil as it begins to melt to prevent clumping.
  3. When chocolate is melted, pour over saltines. Spread if needed to cover them all.
  4. Pour Andes baking chips over melted chocolate.
  5. Optional- sprinkle sea salt over candy.
  6. Let cool in refrigerator.
  7. When cold, cut and serve!

### Candy Cane Oreo Cookie Bars

- |                                 |                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ingredients:                    | 1 tsp vanilla extract                 |
| For the Cookie Base:            | 2 cups all purpose flour              |
| 1 cup unsalted butter, softened | 1/2 cup dark chocolate unsweetened    |
| 1 cup granulated sugar          | cocoa powder                          |
| 1/2 cup light brown sugar       | 1 tsp baking soda                     |
| 1/2 tsp kosher salt             | 15 Candy Cane Oreos, crushed          |
| 2 eggs                          | 1 1/2 cup red & green chocolate chips |

- For the Topping:
- 1 can (14 oz) sweetened condensed milk
  - 2 tbsp unsalted butter
  - 12 oz Green and Black’s White Chocolate Bars

- Directions:
1. Beat butter and sugars until creamy, using a mixer. Add in salt, eggs and vanilla. Slowly add flour, baking soda and cocoa, until combined completely. Fold in crushed Oreos and morsels (batter will be thick).
  2. Press into a parchment paper lined 15x10x1 baking sheet. Bake in a 375 degree oven for 15- 20 minutes, until soft in center and cooked on outside (adjust according to own oven). Remove from oven (will set while cooling).
  3. While baking, heat condensed milk and butter in a small saucepan on medium heat. Stirring constantly with a whisk, add white chocolate to warm milk mixture. Remove from heat and stir until smooth (about 2 minutes).
  4. Pour over cooked cookie bars and sprinkle immediately with crushed candy canes. Allow to set (about 30 minutes). Cut and enjoy!

Carolyn Byrne ‘19, Arianna Mustafaj ‘19 & Anna Spillane ‘19