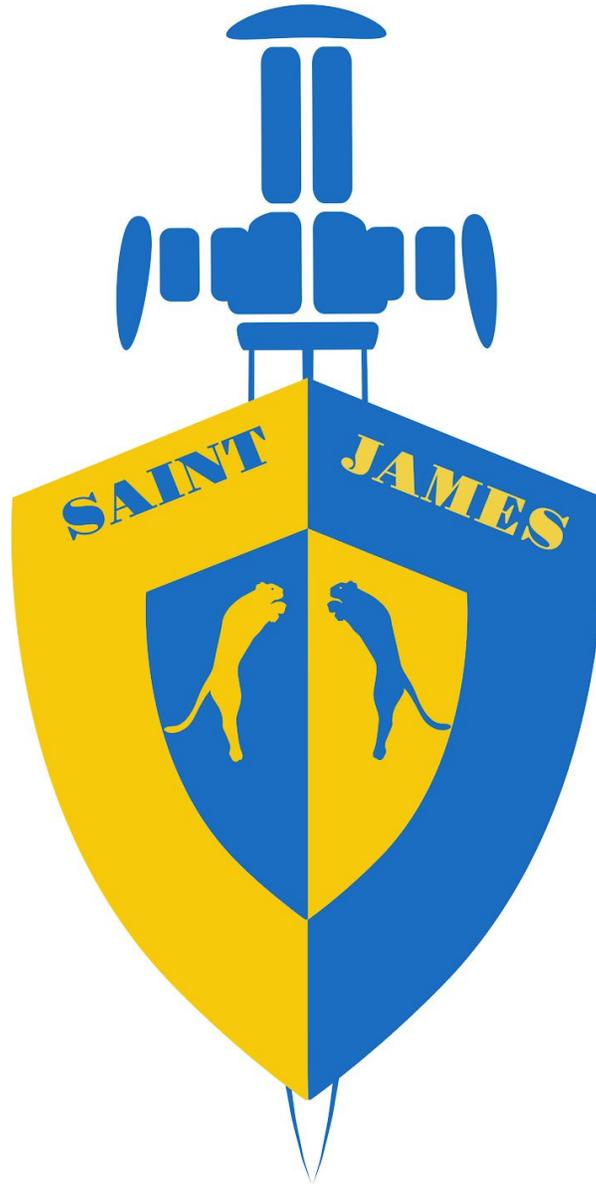


SAINT JAMES THE GREATER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Parent and Student Handbook 2018-2019



Message from the Pastor:

Dear St. James Catholic School Community,



St. James Catholic School is an environment that exposes the mind to the three transcendentals of truth, beauty and goodness. Our human hearts yearn for these three things. Education is about directing the mind to apprehend the objective nature of truth, beauty and goodness, and to empower the person to thirst for knowledge. Cultivating such a love of learning is an art. Our teachers are artists. Infused with their own gifts and talents, teachers strive to make applicable to everyday life, a multitude of disciplines.

It is my firm belief that truth and goodness are most attractive, when the person sees what is beautiful (since beauty is truth and goodness lived). Thus, the example we give is by far the greatest teacher. Our philosophy is to keep intact the integrity of education—to keep tethered to academic excellence, the growth and development of the human person as a whole. The model of Catholic education, in the effort to lead students to encounter Christ, the way, the truth and the life, is to allow each discipline and lesson therein, to be permeated by the light of the Gospel. With the help of parents, who are the first teachers, St. James Catholic School seeks to grow what is good, assist in challenges, and inspire young people to excel for the pursuit of a bright future.

Message from the Principal:

Dear Parents and Students,



I welcome you and your child to St. James Catholic School. There is no doubt that you will discover a dedicated and loving staff, who seek to provide your child with an education inspired by our Catholic faith and intellectual tradition.

The home is the domestic church, and parents are the first and primary teachers. On behalf of the St. James Catholic School community, we look forward to working with each of you in the educational adventure.

The Adorers of the Blood of Christ Sisters founded St. James School, and from this rich heritage, we continue the tradition of offering an excellent Catholic education. St. James is committed to academic excellence and to operating a school for students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade.

The Catholic School offers an outstanding faculty to student ratio, which allows teachers to interact on a more personal level with students. Through this unique feature of our educational program, teachers can more easily analyze the strength and challenges of each student.

This Parent-Student Handbook is prepared to enable us to work together in harmony and develop an understanding of our school. We hope and pray for a successful school year, and the continued atmosphere imbued by a *Love of Learning and Learning of Love*.

Peace be with you always,

Richard Guy, Principal
St. James Catholic School

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Philosophical Approach to Education:

St. James Catholic School seeks to provide a Catholic learning environment conducive to educating the whole child. It draws on the wealth of its Catholic and cultural heritage to offer quality formation in academic knowledge and skills, theological truth, Christian values, and personal development.

We believe that children can learn by word and example to live as disciples of Christ and take their place in society as productive citizens and active Catholics who can meet the challenges of

life with Catholic moral values and principles.

The first responsibility for the overall development of the child rests with parents. Our Catholic School strives to support parents in the effort to develop the child's intellect, emotional virtue, strength of will, through the various academic disciplines taught in light of the Gospel.

Together with the family, the parish, and each other we will help one another in our pursuit to become disciples of Jesus Christ, who seek the truth and live it in love.

St. James Mission Statement:

St. James Catholic School works alongside parents to cultivate an attitude of youthful wonder, through an academic curriculum that integrates faith and culture, so as to prepare servant leaders who strive to know, to love, and to serve God and neighbor.

Diocesan Catholic Schools Mission:

Together with the family, the parish, and each other, we will form each students into a disciple of Jesus Christ, who seeks the Truth, grows to love It, and learns to live It.

Diocesan Core Values

1. UNITY: "That they all may be one." (John 17:21) United as one family with our bishop, Catholic schools are at the service of the family, the parish, and the common good. Grounded in charity, we honor the dignity of every human person with respect for all life; for family and community; for peoples of all cultures, and especially for the most vulnerable. "Let no one have contempt for your youth; but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity." (1 Timothy 5:12)
 2. FAITHFULNESS: "Remain faithful to what you have learned . . ." (2 Timothy 3:14) Loyal to the teachings of Jesus Christ as taught in our Catholic faith, we believe that the formation of disciples is our first purpose, our critical function, and our ultimate measuring stick. Trusting in God, we have a relentless passion for finding the best way to provide Catholic education, moving forward alone, if necessary. "Stir into flame the gift of God which you have." (2 Timothy 1:6)
 3. STEWARDSHIP: "Place your gifts at the service of one another." (1 Peter 4:10) The grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor. "Guard this rich trust . . ." (2 Timothy 1:14)
 4. SCHOLARSHIP: "For everyone to whom much is given, of him shall much be required." (Luke 12:48) As disciples of Jesus, the Divine Teacher, we will infuse virtue into instruction and activity so that our students will be respectful and courageous scholars who use their knowledge and gifts for the glory of God and in service to humanity. "Be steadfast and persevering . . ." (1 Corinthians 15:58)
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The Pastor

The pastor of a parish with a school is the delegate of the Bishop in directing that school, except in those matters the Bishop reserves to himself or others. He is the parish's chief administrative officer who shares in the teaching mission of the Bishop on the parish level.

Principal

The principal has responsibility for providing religious and academic formation within an orderly environment. Parish school principals are directly accountable to the Pastor.

The Teacher

In cooperation with the parents, the Catholic school teacher exercises responsibility for forming the whole person spiritually, academically, emotionally, socially, and physically. In this position the teacher is far more than an instructor; he or she gives witness every day to the distinctive character of the Catholic school, not only teaching according to gospel principles and moral values, but modeling the Church's values and beliefs through word and action.

Parish School Council

The Parish School Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Pastor & school administration. In conformity with Church law and policies of the Diocese of Wichita Board of Education, the Council assists in planning and evaluating school policies and programs, especially strategic planning.

Faculty and Staff of Parish School:

Pastor, Fr. John N. Hay, frjohn@saintjamesaugusta.com

Office Manager, Vickie Knebler, vknebler@saintjamesaugusta.com

Director of Faith Formation, Kathi Martinez, kmartinez@saintjamesaugusta.com

Principal, Mr. Richard Guy, rguy@saintjamesaugusta.com

School Office Manager, Wendy Becker wbecker@saintjamesaugusta.com

Accreditation

St. James Catholic School is accredited by the state of Kansas.

St. James Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Put in this booklet as it already is exactly in the new handbook