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*Website of the Month:*  
[www.SwitchZoo.com](http://www.SwitchZoo.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, December 5**  
8:30am Scrip Gift Card Order

**Tuesday, December 6**  
\* St. Nicholas Day  
\* 3:15-4:15 Elementary Chess Club, Room 305

**Mon Dec 12, 2011**  
8:30am - Scrip Gift Card Order - Last full order before Christmas!

**Tuesday, December 13**  
3:15-4:15 pm - Elementary Chess Club, Room 305 (last session)

**Friday, December 16**  
\*Last day of the Annual SJA Food Drive  
\*School T-shirt Day

**Tuesday, December 20**  
7:00pm - Christmas Mass, St. Dominic Chapel SHU.  
Elementary students will read,



**December 5, 2011**

## Counting Christmas Blessings

As Christmas approaches, we want to let you know how truly thankful we are for the many blessings you give to our school. First and foremost is the gift of your child. Thank you for letting us partner with you in guiding your child through important milestones. Thank you for your time, talents, and treasures that you bring to our school community. These generous gifts are not only vital to our school, but enrich our lives and become timeless testaments to the value of our mission.



For those who have expressed a wish to give additional gifts, please know that the best gift you can give our staff members is a card or letter expressing your appreciation for the work they do. They truly cherish these notes of support. If you choose to give an additional gift, please ask teachers what they would like for their classrooms or consider



making a donation to our Annual Fund campaign in honor of your student. Our school wish list is also available on-line ([sjaschool.org/giving/wish\\_list.php](http://sjaschool.org/giving/wish_list.php)). Please know you have already given us your greatest gift--the opportunity to know and learn from your children.

--Sr. Pat Fischer & Pam Esterline

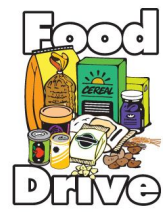
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[See photos from Family Math Night taken by Telegram Photographer Lad Strayer](#)

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## Annual Food Drive December 1-16

For over 15 years, St. Joseph Academy has collected food for local food pantries during December. This is a great way to let your children share in the spirit of Christmas. Non-perishable food items (no glass or breakable containers, please) and personal care products can be placed in the designated boxes just inside the entrances to the school. Thank you!



sing and help us celebrate the Gift of Christmas - All are welcome!

**Wednesday, December 21**  
School T-Shirt Day

**Thursday, December 22 through Monday, January 3**  
Christmas Break

**Tuesday, January 3:**  
Classes resume



**SJA Spirit Wear Store Now On-line!**

[CafePress.com/SJAspiritwear](http://CafePress.com/SJAspiritwear) has T-Shirts, sweatshirts, water bottles, bags and more! 20% of purchases go back to the school.

**THANK YOU!!**

Here is what we collected for our Kid-2-Kid Winter Clothing Drive:

- 27 HATS
- 25 pairs of MITTENS & GLOVES
- 22 COATS
- 9 pairs of SNOWPANTS
- 7 SCARVES
- 3 SWEATSHIRTS
- 2 pairs of BOOTS

TOTAL: 94 ITEMS!

Thank you so much for your donations! Special thanks to Mrs. Rising who sorted & tallied the donations and to Mr. Rhames who delivered them to the Salvation Army.

## Help Needed!

Are you able to help? We need

- **Substitute teaching assistants** for our toddler and pre-primary classrooms. If you can be available between 8:00 and 11:30 AM (even just some days of the week), **we will provide training for this paid sub position.** Please inform Pam Esterline if you are interested--an orientation session will be held in the first part of January ([pesterline@sjaschool.org](mailto:pesterline@sjaschool.org) or 263-4898 ext 12).
- **A Volunteer to return bottles/cans** donated to the school. Please contact the office if you can help--we need someone soon! 263-4898 ext 10 or [info@sjaschool.org](mailto:info@sjaschool.org).

## Christmas Program

Our Elementary students will be leading us in prayer as we celebrate Christmas through our annual school mass on Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 PM in St. Dominic Chapel. Don't miss this wonderful family event which will include songs, prayers and music by our students. All are welcome to attend this child-friendly event, especially any visitors you may have for the holiday season. Bring your camera and enjoy an uplifting message!



## Scrip Update

One more full Scrip Order until Christmas (December 12)! We will place an order on December 19 for ScripNow! and Reloads ONLY (due to the short week).



SCRIP SALE: in stock scrip cards will be available for purchase via cash and check in person at the SJA Scrip Office on:

- **Monday, December 19, 8:00-9:00 a.m.**
- **Tuesday, December 20, 3:15-4:15 p.m.**

As usual, proceeds of this cash-and-carry sale will go towards the SJA Scholarship Fund and not individual tuition accounts.

We are in need of volunteers to help with our Scrip program. Please contact Lisa Gillin at [scrip@sjaschool.org](mailto:scrip@sjaschool.org) or 263-4898 ext 24. Thank you!

## Thank You to Computol of Toledo!

Computol, a web development and networking solutions company, donated used RAM for our computers in the computer lab. Erica Miley and Sheila Wathen were able to install the RAM, doubling the speed of our computers in one afternoon. Thank you!!!!

## Chess Will Continue

The Elementary After-School Chess Club will continue this winter! Details will be sent home after the Christmas break.

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Saint Joseph Academy - 1267 E Siena Heights Drive - Adrian, Michigan 49221 - 517-263-4898

*We respect the worth, dignity and uniqueness of each individual.*

-SJA Mission & Belief Statements

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