



# THE COUGAR



## Greetings from Mrs. Gardiner

Dear St. Jude Families,

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and had the chance to enjoy quality time with family and friends. The annual **Santaland Shop** has been open this week, offering students the opportunity to do some Christmas shopping. A big thank you to **Jamie Meares, Megan Moses, Bonnie Schwing** and **Rachelle Brumley** for their hard work in organizing and coordinating this fun and memorable event for our students.

Over the next three weeks, we have many exciting events planned at St. Jude:

**Feast Day of St. Nicholas:** On December 6th, we will celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas. St. Nicholas was a man of faith who lived his life in devotion to Christ. He cared for the needy and believed in the importance of giving to others. The children in grades Pre-K through 4th grade will leave a shoe out in the hallway in anticipation of a small treat, and learn about the true Santa Claus.

**Band and Choir Christmas Concert:** If you are looking for a great opportunity to get into the spirit of Christmas, please come and join us for St. Jude's Christmas concert performed by our amazing band and choir students on **December 12th at 1:45 p.m.** in the Activity Center.

**Beta Club Bake Sale:** Do you need a sweet treat? The Beta Club will be selling baked goods **December 12th** at the Christmas concert to raise money to purchase gifts for their Wildwood Pre-K buddies. We appreciate your generosity in helping support the good work of the Beta Club and this learning experience for our students.

**School Wide Mass:** School wide mass to celebrate the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is on **Monday, December 9th at 8:30 a.m.** Students will wear the mass day uniform.

**Beta Club Toy Drive:** The Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is December 9th. Our Blessed Mother is a wonderful example of being a servant of the Lord. In keeping in the spirit of serving others, the Beta Club is hosting a Toy Drive as an Advent service project during the week of December 9th-13th.

**Nativity Pageant:** On December 19th everyone is invited to come and join our school community for the Nativity Pageant performed by our second grade beginning at 8:15 a.m.

**Class Christmas Parties:** Lastly, Class Christmas parties will be held on Friday, December 20th.

"For to us a child is born ... And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." - Isaiah 9:6

I hope everyone has a blessed Advent season,

Michelle Gardiner, M.ED.  
Principal



## Upcoming Important Dates

**December 6:** Silly Sweater Day with uniform bottoms

**Week of December 9:** Beta Club Toy Drive

**December 9:** All School Mass—**mass uniform required; NO sweatpants**

**December 12:** SJS Choir and Band Christmas Concert at 1:45 p.m.

**December 13:** Logan McIlwain Parent Session at 8:15 a.m.

**December 13:** Grinch Day

**December 17, 18 and 19:** 7th and 8th Grade Midterm Exams—dismissed at 11:00 a.m. each day

**December 19:** 2nd Grade Christmas Nativity Pageant at 8:15 a.m.

**December 20:** Polar Express Day and Class Christmas Parties

**December 23 through January 3:** Christmas Break—NO SCHOOL

**January 6:** Return to School for the Spring Semester

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## Identified Stewardship Giver Status for 2025-2026 School Year

In order to qualify for the **Identified Stewardship Giver (ISG) admission bracket** and corresponding lower tuition rate for the upcoming 2025-2026 academic year, you must have met the minimum identifiable amount of \$300.00 given through the Church offertory collection using the envelopes or through the online giving portal. Contributions must be made between January 1, 2024, and December 22, 2024 to count towards the 2025-2026 school year.

A Catholic family, whether in-parish or out of parish, is defined as "a family in which one or both head(s) of the household are baptized Catholic or registered in a church parish." A Catholic in-parish family (in other words, members of St. Jude parish) is defined as "a family in which one or both head(s) of the household are baptized Catholic and registered in St. Jude Parish, by way of our Parish Census Process." A non-Catholic family is defined as "a family in which neither of the heads of household are a baptized Catholic." Please note that a non-Catholic family cannot register as a member of St. Jude Parish. Also note that a non-Catholic family cannot request to have their child baptized simply in order to be eligible for the Catholic, in-parish rate.

If a Catholic family residing in the geographical boundaries of a church parish other than St. Jude wishes to register in our parish, they must receive a letter of permission from the pastor of the parish in which they do reside geographically.

If you have any questions about your contribution amount for 2024, **please contact Mindy Coogan in the Church office** at 225-766-2431 or by email at [mindyc@stjudecatholic.org](mailto:mindyc@stjudecatholic.org).

## Christmas Wonderland



Thank you to **Abby Legendre, Lad Legendre, Melissa Dean, Cameron Dean, Shelby Apple, Lori Granger and Stephanie Scott** for helping make our entire school a Christmas wonderland Sunday! Here is just a taste of some of the decorations, including a brand new **Nativity Scene!** The figurines were given to the school by the Class of 2024 and the creche was made by Lad Legendre.



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## Accelerated Reader 100 Points Club

Congratulations to the following students who have made the Accelerated Reader 100 Points Club for this year!

- **6th Grade:** Charleigh Crochet
- **8th Grade:** Jacob Nguyen



## Beta Club Toy Drive



Don't forget about our Beta Club Toy Drive next week to help support St. Vincent de Paul Society. The requested items list can be found at the end of *The Cougar*.

## We Love Our Cafeteria Team!



Thank you to **Abby Bourgeois** for bringing some joy to our cafeteria team: Mr. Fred, Adrienne, Brianna and Chiquita!

# SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER

ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE SCHOOL AUCTION 2025



We are 72 days away from our 9th annual St. Jude School Auction, presented by **Assured Flooring and Countertops**.

Visit <https://auctria.events/stjudeauction> to purchase your tickets or click on this [link](#) to purchase a Free Dress Coupon if it was not purchased on Grandparents Day!

## Assured FLOORING | COUNTERTOPS

Thank you to **Assured Flooring & Countertops** for serving as our **presenting sponsor** again at this year's auction! We appreciate the support from the Philip Ruiz de Chavez family (5th grader Estelle and 2nd grader Rowen).

**A little more about Assured Flooring & Countertops:** this company is committed to being the ultimate solution for residential and commercial projects, delivering results that exceed client expectations in flooring, countertops, cabinets and more. Our core focus is to provide clients with what they want, expect, and deserve with every project. Check them out at their current Perkins Road location until **their NEW showroom opens on Airline Highway in August of 2025** or online [here!](#)

Thank you to **R.A. Collette Oil Company** for serving as our Koozie sponsor again this year! We appreciate the support from the Dustin Collette family (Kate '24, 6th grader Lindsey, and PK student Allison)



## KALEIGH ABBOUD

O: 225-663-2112



C: 727-409-3059

Thank you to **Kaleigh Abboud Reality** for serving as our Bar sponsor this year! We appreciate the support from the Abboud family (1st grader Layla)

Take a LOOK at our Class Art projects for this year's silent auction! Thank you to **Kaysie Truax, Natalie Fontestad, Melissa Overholt, Claudia Frantz, and Anna Richard** for making these happen!



# St. Jude Beta Toy Drive

**December 9-13, 2024**

Dear Parents,

As the holiday season approaches, we are sometimes overwhelmed with the commercialism of the season. Although our custom of giving things to those we love is reminiscent of the Wise Men who brought the valuable presents to the Infant Jesus, we should remember that the perfect gift which Jesus gave the world, the gift of Himself, is far more precious than anything of monetary value.

Each year, the St. Jude School students, in conjunction with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, sponsor a campaign to help members of our parish who are unable to provide gifts for their children at Christmas. As a family, you may choose one of the items from any of your children's homerooms and send it to school. This gift should be a new item and should be UNWRAPPED. We will sort all items and the St. Vincent de Paul Society will assemble boxes of items for each family.

Below are listed the items by grade/homeroom that were requested by St. Vincent de Paul Society. You may send these items from **December 9-13, 2024**.

GRADE LEVEL	ITEM
PreK - Frazier	Stuffed Animals - ages infant-2 years
PreK- Berrigan	Children's scarves/winter fun socks
PreK- Ammon	Art Supplies - Play Doh, sketch pads, crayons, coloring books, etc
Kindergarten	Toys for a GIRL - for children 12 and under
1st Grade - Jewell	Toys for a GIRL - for children 12 and under
1st Grade- Stacey	Toys for a BOY - for children 12 and under
2nd Grade	Toys for a BOY - for children 12 and under
3rd Grade - A. Allen	Children's Games
3rd Grade - Porta	Family Games
4th Grade	Books - Birth to 7 years
5th Grade	Art Supplies - Play Doh, Sketch pads, crayons, coloring books, etc.
6th, 7th and 8th Grade	Sports Toys/Equipment

# The Ups & Downs of Parenting!

## A Workshop Series

Explore the highs and lows of parenting in a supportive and interactive environment

### Session 4

Phones & Social Media

**13 DEC**  
815-915AM

Price - **Free!**

\*includes a light breakfast

**Location** - St. Jude Parish Hall



LOGAN MCILWAIN, LCSW

**[Register Link Here!](#)**

**Or QR Code below**



Contact Me : [Logan@loganlcsw.com](mailto:Logan@loganlcsw.com) | (225) 240 - 4275