

From the Desk of Maura Crawford, Principal

I must start by saying thank you to so many of you who have kept all of us at St. James the Apostle School in your prayers. We have all been extremely distressed and emotional in response to the Archdiocese's decision to eliminate our middle school grades. However, in light of so many other Catholic Schools closing entirely, we are blessed that our school will be open as a PreK – 5th grade Catholic Elementary School in the fall. Our enrollment numbers are looking positive and we have, to date, enrolled 11 new students. We must continue to believe that God meets us where we are and will take us where we need to be. Please continue to keep all of our students, parents and faculty in your prayers as we make this transition.

"The Lord can leave us wanting relative to certain things (sometimes judged indispensable in the eyes of the world), but He never leaves us deprived of what is essential; His presence, His peace and all that is necessary for the complete fulfillment of our lives, according to His plans for us." - Jacques Philippe

Upcoming Events and Celebrations

Trout Release

On Friday, April 21st students in grades 1, 2 and 6 joined our 3rd Grade TroutMasters as they release their trout back into their natural habitat, replenishing our NY Watersheds with live healthy trout! This has been an incredible STREAM opportunity (science, technology, religion, engineering, art and mathematics) for our 3rd grade students and for our entire school!

Media Club Video

Our 6th Grade Media Club has been working very hard to produce a 60-90 minute video to submit to the Archdiocese Media Awards Show. This year's video theme is – **How are we, as the body of Christ, called to serve?** Incorporating still images, music and video clips, students are creating this video while learning editing techniques and video production. Thank you to alumni Olivia Preza, for her help with the editing of this video. Once it is completed for submission, we will be proud to share it with all!

First Holy Communion – 4/29

Our First Holy Communion mass will be held at St. James the Apostle Church on Saturday, April 29th at 10am. All are invited to share in this special day.

Card Party – 5/5

Spread the word! Our St. James Card Party is back and better than ever! We are looking forward to a fun-filled evening with our community partners and St. James the Apostle School friends and families! Thank you to Mrs. Mottarella who has worked tirelessly and has taken this event to the next level!

Renegades Game – 5/17

We are all booked for our school trip to the Hudson Valley Renegades Game. We are all looking very forward to hearing our beautiful Acapella Choir sing the National Anthem at Dutchess Stadium!

Storytime with the Principal – Coming Soon

In an effort to increase awareness and enrollment, I am planning a 6 week "Storytime with the Principal" program, beginning in May. I will invite young families to participate in a story, craft and tour of our school. *More details coming soon.*