

Dear SJPII Families,

Fr. Kane celebrated Mass with us on Wednesday, joined by his former classmate and friend, Fr. Michael Schuetz, the Vocations Director for the Diocese of Raleigh. In his homily, Fr. Kane engaged the students with a reflection on the existence of dodo birds, helicopters, and love—things we believe in even if we haven't seen them ourselves. We know dodo birds once existed through historical records, helicopters through experience and observation, and love through the way it is shown and felt. He then connected this to the virtue of Faith—believing in Heaven, the Holy Spirit, and God the Father because Jesus told us they are real, even if we have not seen them. Fr. Kane emphasized that “what is real is real,” not just a matter of personal belief, and he concluded by affirming: God is real, and Love is real.

Yesterday, we celebrated the election of a new pope after watching the Conclave we have been closely following and praying for. We are excited to hear that our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, is an American—born in Chicago and educated at Villanova University. We continue to pray for him and ask the Holy Spirit to guide and bless him throughout his papacy. Habemus Papam!

Congratulations to our Sacred Heart First Communicants who will be receiving the Holy Eucharist for the first time this Saturday. May God bless you on this special day and always! Pax vobiscum, Marian V. Kajfez, Principal

Mary Baskets:  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade &  
Kindergarten

## Dates to Remember

**May 10:** First Communion at Sacred Heart Parish

**May 14:** Fine Arts Showcase (3 - 5:30 PM)

**May 14:** iReady concludes - celebratory popsicles provided by the PTO

**May 15:** Athletic Banquet (5:30 PM)

**May 21:** Used Uniform Sale (2:30 - 4:00 PM)

**May 23:** Field Day (8 - 11:30 PM) - Noon Dismissal

**May 26:** No School - Memorial Day

**May 29:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

**June 6:** Noon Dismissal - Last Day of School!

## Shout Outs

**Thank you, parents!** Teacher Appreciation Week has been truly wonderful. We feel deeply blessed and genuinely appreciated by our students and families—your kindness and support mean the world to us!

Congratulations to our four alumni from the Class of 2023—**Holly Frazer, Satya Ung, Sophia Cosmello, and Cora Kassop**—on their phenomenal achievement of being accepted to the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics!

## Sports Corner

Thank you to everyone who has RSVP'd for the Athletic Banquet! Please note that the final deadline to RSVP is May 9th at 5:00 PM.

FREE Sports Physicals will be offered on May 19th from 3:15–5:15 PM in the Activity Center. This generous opportunity is provided by Mr. Domingues, PA, and Mrs. Chamlee, NP. If your child plans to participate in SJPII sports next year, this is a great chance to plan ahead. Forms will be available on-site.

