

A Few Notes, Dates & Reminders

St John the Beloved Academy



October 30, 2025

Calendar Updates and Reminders

OCTOBER

- Oct 31 11:30 AM DISMISSAL

NOVEMBER

- Nov 3 All SCHOOL MASS, HOUSE DAY, 4:30 PM Fall Family Picnic/Tailgate

- **Nov 5** 3rd Grade Saints Presentation
- **Nov 7** Book & Author Jazz Night 7:00 PM
- **Nov 10** Yearbook Picture Day
- **Nov 11** 10:00 AM Veterans Day Assembly
- **Nov 17-22** Discover Catholic Schools Week
- **Nov 19** Admission Information Coffee 9:30 AM
- **Nov 25** End of 1st Trimester, 11:30 AM DISMISSAL
- **Nov 26-Dec 1** Thanksgiving Break

School Day Hours:

Mon-Thu. 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM Fri: 8:00 AM-2:25 PM

ALL SCHOOL MASS - 10:30 AM unless otherwise noted

A few changes and additions have been made to our school calendar. Please see the latest version attached below.



School Calendar 2025-2026 10-2.pdf

Download

136.7 KB

Sync the SJBA parent calendar with your family calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/>

<cid=Y19lMTcwMTU5ZjFiNjk3ZDg0NWEwYWM5NTMyOTA4MjhiNmNiYWQyZTUwOGMwMThkY2FjNDRIMGRiNDZiYWRjNmZlQGdyb3VwLmNhGVuZGFyLmdvb2dsZS5jb20>

Halloween Information and Early Dismissal Reminder

St. John's will be celebrating Halloween at school on Friday, October 31. Students are welcome to come dressed in a costume. Please keep in mind costumes should be in the spirit of the celebration. Costumes should encourage imagination and whimsy, be appropriate for a Catholic school, and for attending Mass (if applicable), recess and PE activities. Students may be asked to make adjustments to their costume to participate in one of the above.

Just a friendly reminder that we have an early dismissal on Friday at 11:30 a.m. for all students!

House Day

Our first House Day of the school year is Monday, November 3! **Students are encouraged to wear their house shirts on this day (house t-shirts will be distributed Friday, October 31).**

The day will include an all-school Mass at 10:30 a.m. and competitions between the houses followed by a Fall Tailgate at 4:30 p.m.

Fall Family Picnic/Tailgate

All families are invited to join us **Monday, November 3, from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.** for the Fall Family Picnic/Tailgate, a casual evening of fun and fellowship outdoors near the playground.

Wear your house colors and help us cap off House Day festivities in style as we celebrate the feasts of All Saints' and All Souls'.

What to Bring

Bring a picnic dinner (or order pizza via the link below), beverages, and utensils. Other recommended items include: a blanket or chairs, a football or other lawn games, and musical instruments.

Pizza Order Deadline Extended to 10/31!

Specialty pizzas can be ordered from Lost Dog Café in McLean that will be delivered to campus. If you are interested in ordering pizza, please [place your order here](#). Large pizzas will be available by the pie (rather than by the slice). Available options are detailed in the [pizza order spreadsheet](#).

Please place your order and [Paypal or Venmo](#) Renee Sewall for the order by **Friday, October 31.**

For more information visit: <https://app.smore.com/n/9zn784>

Order Pizza Here!

Veterans Day Celebration and Slideshow

Veterans Day is a time for us to pay our respects to those who have served our nation in the armed forces. At St. John's, we will be celebrating Veterans Day on Tuesday, November 11, with a school assembly and slideshow at 10:00 a.m. to honor the Veterans in our community. Parents and family members are welcome to attend.

If you have a Veteran in your family and you would like for us to include them in our school slideshow, please email a picture of them along with their name and rank to Christine White at, cwhite@stjohnacademy.org by Friday, November 7.

Yearbook Picture Day

Mark your calendar! Yearbook picture day is **Monday, November 10**, in Eagle Hall. Order forms are coming home this week! Please check your child's backpack and contact your homeroom teacher if you need additional forms.

- All K-8 Students should dress in their school uniform. Any sweatshirts, sweaters or coats will be asked to be removed before being photographed (including the SJBA sweatshirt).
- Preschool and Pre-K student attendance varies, so students who do not attend class on Monday and would like their picture taken, are invited to come to the school preferably between 8:20-8:30 am.
- If a child needs to take his/her picture earlier/later due to scheduling needs, please let their homeroom teacher know ahead of time if they will be out.
- **Thursday, December 4** is the retake day.

Parents will be given the opportunity to purchase photos via Lifetouch photography.

For questions regarding yearbook picture day, please contact Vivian Grady at, vgrady@stjohnacademy.org.

Parent-Student Handbook

The Parent-Student Handbook for the 2025-2026 school year is now available on our website.

Please read through the Handbook and complete the electronic signature form at your earliest convenience.

2025-2026 SJBA Parent-Student Handbook

Free Uniform Closet

We've been blessed with many generous uniform donations, and we've put together a simple system to help families find what they need.

How it works:

- We've created a Google Sheet with an updated list of all available uniform pieces.
- You can view the list at any time using this link [here](#) or by scanning the QR code. The sheet is view-only so everyone can see what's available in real time.
- Please note: The document contains five tabs at the bottom. Google Sheets will always open to the first tab by default. To see the other categories, simply select the tab you'd like at the

bottom of the sheet.

How to request items:

- If you see something you'd like, simply text **Michele Schnabel at 703-508-8933** with your request.
- Michele will gather the pieces for you and coordinate with you to either:
 - Hand them to you at pickup,
 - Drop off at the front desk, or
 - Drop them off with your child during the school day.



This way, uniforms get reused and shared easily, and every family can find what they need.

Thank you to everyone who contributed—you've made this possible!

Volunteer Requirements for all Parents

Saint John the Beloved Academy, as a part of the Arlington Diocese, requests that any parent volunteer who will be in contact with students (i.e. field trip chaperone, driver, classroom volunteer), complete all the necessary requirements to be compliant with the Office of Child Protection.

The two primary requirements include, 1) completing the online Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (OPCYP) application and background check (which takes about 5-15 minutes), and 2) a Virtus Protecting God's Children safe environment training. Once your online application is complete, you will receive an email from the Office of Child Protection alerting you to the upcoming VIRTUS sessions in the Diocese.

The instructions for completing the online application are attached to this email. It should take no more than 5-10 minutes to complete. This process produces the Central Registry Release of Information Form which needs to be signed by you to give the Diocese permission to submit a background check. Stop by the Front Office to sign the form.

In order to complete the online application, you will need the following information:

Location: Saint John Academy (NOT THE CHURCH)

Position Title: Volunteer

Once your application is complete and approved, you will receive an email from the Office of Child Protection with available sessions to register for *Virtus: Protecting God's Children* safe environment training within 45 days of receiving the email.

Thank you so much for volunteering!



"Raising Children of Light" Lending Library

St. John the Beloved Parish invites parents to browse their "Raising Children of Light" *Lending Library* for wonderful and age-appropriate books, videos, and other resources to reinforce the goodness of life at every age.

Resources are available at the parish office and at the front office of the school. For more information please visit,
<https://www.toughtopics.life/raising-children-of-light>.



Attendance and Dismissal Procedures

A dismissal form lets the school know how your child(ren) will be arriving and departing from school every day.

When a student is going to be arriving late, leaving early, or has a change in their pick-up routine, please email Mrs. Monica Stilson in the attendance office: attendance@stjohnacademy.org and copy Mrs. Gracia Escudero in the front office: gescudero@stjohnacademy.org and copy the homeroom teacher.

Just a reminder, that when students leave school during the day due to illness, appointment or any other reason, they must be called for in the School Health Room or the school office. Children may never wait outside the buildings to be picked up during school hours, nor may teachers release a child directly from the classroom.

A note, email, or phone call should be sent to school requesting early dismissal and stating the time and identifying the person who will pick-up the child. Persons picking up a child at a time other than dismissal should report to the school front office and sign the child out. The school staff will call the child in his/her classroom to come to the office to meet the person picking him/her up. Students will not be called in advance to the nurse's office for an early release.

Persons picking up a child may not go to the classroom.



Shop our School Spirit Store!

Visit our online store to view the latest SJBA apparel and accessories! You can access the store via our website at <https://stjohnacademy.org/shop/> or on your phone by clicking on the shopping cart icon linked to the toolbar.

****Please note the SJBA sweatshirt is now available in ADULT SIZES and can be worn during the school day as part of the uniform for grades K-8. Additionally, the SJBA golf polo can be worn by 8th graders as part of the uniform.****

Thank you in advance for supporting our school store!



Quick Links

School Health Forms

After-School Clubs

Private Music Lessons

Lunch Options

Donate to our Annual Fund

Saint John the Beloved Academy

Saint John the Beloved Academy was founded in 1954 to offer quality Catholic education to parish children. Saint John the Beloved Academy continues to provide children in preschool through eighth grade with a Catholic liberal arts education rooted in rich tradition of academic excellence and spiritual formation, captured by the school's motto, *"Fides, Scientia, et Gaudium."* By Faith, children are led beyond themselves to entrust their formation to God. By forming the entire child, we impart the Knowledge for both intellectual and spiritual growth. The Mission of Saint John the Beloved Academy is manifested in genuine Christian Joy—rooted in the Sacraments, self-sacrifice, charity, and service to others.

Artwork: Halloween. Grandma Moses. 1955.



Christine White