

Saint James CATHOLIC CHURCH

25-26
SJS ANNUAL APPEAL



Dear Friends in Christ,

ON ALL SAINTS DAY, POPE Leo XIV named Saint John Henry Newman Co-Patron of Catholic Education. At one point or another in his life, Cardinal Newman was involved in every level of Catholic education – from the schoolboys at his Birmingham Oratory to the University of Dublin.

Newman understood that Catholic education comes down to this: *to form children not just for this world but for the next*. We want them to be well-educated but also – and more importantly – formed in the virtues of Christ. As Pope Leo XIV said, Jesus Christ Himself is “the Educator par excellence. We are his disciples

and are in his ‘school.’ We learn how to discover in his life, namely in the path he has travelled, a horizon of meaning capable of shining a light on all forms of knowledge. May our schools and universities always be places of listening to the Gospel and putting it into practice... I pray that Catholic education will help each person to discover their own call to holiness.”

Now, that’s a good summary of what we want to accomplish and what we pray for the children at Saint James School. By way of our Annual Appeal, we appeal to your generosity to help us make this happen. We have a prayerful, devoted community. But we also need the resources to fulfill our mission. Please consider a gift to assist us in this work.

I’ll conclude with a wonderful reflection by Cardinal Newman that we would like to be in the heart of all our children at Saint James:

God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission...He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my calling.

Through the intercession of our Lady, Saint Joseph, and Saint James, may the Lord bless and keep you.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Paul Scalia
Very Reverend Paul D. Scalia, Pastor





Dear Friends in Christ,

FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY, SAINT JAMES Catholic School has been dedicated to forming young minds and hearts in Northern Virginia. The school was first led by the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, and since 1923, the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) have faithfully carried on this mission. Having grown up in an area where Catholic schools were few and the presence of religious sisters rare, I consider it a true blessing to witness—and share in—the Sisters’ joyful service to God and neighbor.

This year, Sister Kathryn has invited us to embrace more deeply the IHM charism of love, creative hope, and fidelity, with a special focus on *creative hope*. This charism calls us to trust in God’s loving Providence, to serve the young and the vulnerable, and to “make a way where there seems to be no way.”

As we begin this year’s Annual Appeal, I ask you to prayerfully consider how you might share from the blessings God has given you. Our goal is to ensure that every family who desires a Catholic education has the opportunity to bring their children to Saint James. Our mission extends beyond forming minds—we are called to form souls. Catholic education helps each child grow into the fullness of their God-given potential, so that they may serve God and neighbor in this life, and rejoice with Him forever in the next. As one student recently reminded me, *we are called to greatness*.

May our mission of nurturing virtue, service, and academic excellence continue to flourish for generations to come.

With gratitude for the many blessings God has bestowed on us,

Mrs. Melissa Manaker

Mrs. Melissa Manaker
Acting Principal

Go Rockets, ignite the world with God’s love!



The 2025-2026 Saint James School Annual Appeal: **\$125,000 GOAL!**



PURPOSE

The Annual Appeal makes up the “financial gap” between the school’s annual tuition and what it actually costs to educate each student. We offer enrichment programs in *science, advanced math, music, art, technology, and robotics* that keep our school competitive with other private schools but require yearly financial support.

WHY GIVE?

Our 100+ year old school is an extension of our parish. As a unified community, we desire to make Catholic education “affordable and accessible to all” (Bishop Burbidge, Diocesan Strategic Plan).

\$25,000 CHALLENGE MATCH!!

A generous couple has once again offered to kick off this year’s Annual Appeal with a \$25,000 matching gift. **Every dollar you donate will be matched up to \$25,000!** This couple loves our award-winning parish school – the teachers, the students and the community it fosters. They hope this matching gift will inspire others to help us reach our \$125,000 goal.

HOW CAN I GIVE?

You can give a one-time or monthly gift via the Annual Appeal donation link on our website or by scanning the QR code:

Or you can mail a check to:

Saint James Catholic Church

Attn: Kathleen Anderson, Director of Development

905 Park Avenue

Falls Church, VA 22046



Thank you!



*Our school is rooted in the IHM Charism,
where Jesus is the center and Mary is the model.*



905 PARK AVENUE
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22046

*Saint James Catholic School is
rooted in the IHM Charism, where
Jesus is the center and Mary is
the model. We are committed to
educating the whole child through
virtue formation, service, and
academic excellence.*

May God bless you all for your generosity and goodness.

Saint James, pray for us!



Igniting the potential in each child for over a century

