



Villa Angela-St. Joseph  
HIGH SCHOOL

*Faith. Family. Future.*

# Parent Newsletter

## Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School Mission Statement

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School is a Catholic, comprehensive college-preparatory school rooted in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions and committed to the spiritual, academic and personal growth of each student.



**November 14, 2025**

### Upcoming Events:

- **November 19:** G.E.M. Meeting 3:15 p.m.
- **November 20:** Club Fair
- **November 7:** Goodies with God 7:30 a.m. (Chapel)
- **November 12:** Oarsmen Meeting 7:00 p.m. (VA Room)
- **November 17-21:** #weGIVECATHOLIC Penny Wars week (See below)
- **November 21:** That's D.O.P.E. Assembly
- **November 24:** L.I.F.E. All School Event 3:15 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
- **November 26-28:** Thanksgiving Break
- **December 1:** L.I.F.E. Leader's Meeting 3:15 p.m.
- **December 5:** Goodies with God 7:30 a.m.
- **December 8:** Immaculate Conception Mass 9:30 a.m.
- **December 10:** G.E.M. Meeting 3:15 p.m. & Oarsmen Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- **December 12:** Christmas On Campus (Seniors - More Info to come)
- **December 13:** Christmas in the Village (More Info to come)
- **December 16-18:** Semester Exams 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (schedule to come out soon)
- **December 19:** Semester Exams Make-Up Day 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- **December 22:** Christmas Break
- **January 5, 2026:** Classes Resume

\*Check the VASJ website for up-to-date athletic events.\*

To view the VASJ calendar: Please visit [www.vasj.com](http://www.vasj.com) and click on News & Events → Calendar.

\*\*Spirit Store is open 11:30 - 3:30pm When school is in session\*\*

\*\*Attendance Office 216-481-8414 x207\*\*

**\*NO SCHOOL NOVEMBER 26-28\***

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Students approached the administration earlier this academic year expressing an interest to start a chapter of HOSA here at VASJ. "HOSA is a global student-led organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services and several federal and state agencies. HOSA's mission is to empower HOSA-Future Health Professionals to become leaders in the global health community, through education, collaboration, and experience. HOSA actively promotes career opportunities in the health industry, enhancing the delivery of quality health care to all people. HOSA's goal is to encourage all health science instructors and students to affiliate and be actively involved in the

HSE-HOSA Partnership.” Ms. Latkovich is the moderator for this group. Please reach out to her at [jlatkovich@VASJ.com](mailto:jlatkovich@VASJ.com) if you have an interest in the group or any questions.

Mark your calendars for November 20, when VASJ will be hosting a Club Fair. At the fair, students will be given the opportunity to learn more about this new club as well as all the clubs our school has to offer.

Have a great weekend Vikings!

Mr. Sedmak

[gsedmak@vasj.com](mailto:gsedmak@vasj.com)

## **FROM THE DEAN OF ACADEMICS:**

Happy Friday!

November is moving by so quickly. Although the weather has been somewhat cooperative, the holidays are quickly approaching. We only have 18 academic days until semester exams in December!! Here are a few reminders:

- December 5 is the sophomore retreat. Sophomores only are allowed to wear jeans (no holes) or joggers and a Viking shirt or a solid red or blue top and tennis shoes. No Hoodies, Crocs, sandals or open toed shoes.
- We do have school on Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving break. These are regular school days and students should be in attendance.
- Final exams are December 16-18 with the Make-Up day for excused absences is on Friday, December 19. **These are mandatory attendance days.**
- Christmas break starts on Friday, December 19 and students return on Monday, January 5, 2026.

Information regarding semester exams will be published just after Thanksgiving break. These are short days. Students will take a maximum of two tests per day, unless they have two math classes. **Breakfast will be served in the morning, but there will be NO lunch service.** Testing will be done prior to noon, so please make transportation plans for your student accordingly. Van transportation will adjust their schedule for drop-off after exams.

Please continue to check PowerSchool for your student's academic progress. Tutoring is available every week, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:15 p.m. - 4:00 pm. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the teacher directly for clarification.

Enjoy your weekend,

Mrs. Marxen

[pmarxen@vasj.com](mailto:pmarxen@vasj.com)

## **FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS:**

On December 1, all students must meet school standards regarding hair color. Any Student arriving at school on December 1 with an **Unnatural hair color, including but not limited to: blue, green, yellow, pink, purple, & bright red** will be sent home and will not be permitted to return until the hair color issue has been rectified. **THIS POLICY WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.** It is supported by all administrators of VASJ and the Cleveland Catholic Diocese.

All students are expected to wear their full uniforms and possess all necessary items to meet our personal appearance policy outlined in our Parent/Student Handbook. Male students are required to wear belts and ensure their pants are not sagging. Ties must be worn daily and pulled up to the neck, not loose and may not be obscured by a sweater or sweatshirt. Shirts must be long enough to tuck them into pants without the shirt becoming untucked. This policy applies to the ladies as well; shirts must be tucked in, skirts must not be altered or fixed to appear shorter, tights must be worn, and leggings are prohibited. Shoes must conform to the dress code requirements outlined in the student handbook (**NO CROCS, TENNIS SHOES, OPEN-TOED SHOES, OR SLIDES**).



**Please be advised that the administration will no longer issue warnings regarding dress code violations. Students will receive disciplinary action for these infractions, which may include suspension.** Students have until December 1 to obtain the necessary items to address this issue. **THIS SERVES AS A FINAL WARNING TO ALL.**

As a reminder next week on November 21, VASJ will host a drug prevention assembly. The event will feature members from THAT'S D.O.P.E (Dream, Overcome, Protect, Elevate) as a speaker, addressing students about drug prevention. This event is anticipated to be impactful and engaging, raising awareness about the dangers of vaping and THC edible products.

Mr. Latimore

[ilatimore@vasj.com](mailto:ilatimore@vasj.com)

## **HAPPENINGS IN THE VILLAGE**

**PENNY WARS CHALLENGE:** VASJ's **#weGIVECATHOLIC** Penny Wars will begin on Monday, November 17 and end on Friday, November 21.

**HOW TO PLAY:** Each grade level and the faculty/staff will have its own jug outside the VASJ Main Office. **TO ADD POINTS** to your class jug total donate coins. **BUT**....bills can be added to any jar and the value is then deducted from that jar's total. **FOR EXAMPLE:** a one-dollar bill takes one dollar worth of coins away from the total in that specific jar. A five-dollar bill will take away \$5 worth of coins and so on. Part of the fun is to be strategic and make sure other classes or the faculty/staff don't earn enough money to win. Each day, the jars will be counted and a total will be announced. The winning group will win a delicious brownie bar during all lunch periods on Tuesday, November 25th through the generosity of AVI Foods.

Parents, collect your coins and bills to give to your students the week of November 17 and join in the fun and help the entire VASJ community reach our goal for the **#weGIVECATHOLIC** Day of Giving.

**#weGIVECATHOLIC:** Mark your calendar! VASJ is excited to once again be participating in #weGiveCatholic on **Tuesday, December 2nd**. This annual fundraiser kicks off the season of giving and helps make a difference for our wonderful students here at VASJ.

We need your help to make this year's campaign a success! Tell your friends and family about the vital work VASJ does and invite them to join us in supporting our school on Dec. 2nd. Our campaign this year will focus on providing needed equipment and making renovations to school space for our Tools and Machines class to bring back options in educating students for careers in trades or preparing them for college degrees in areas that benefit from a background in engineering, construction and more!

**EARLY GIVING!** Want to get a jump start on giving back? Stop by the VASJ Main Office during school hours **the week of November 17th** to drop off cash or a check. Or you can make a donation online at [bit.ly/GiveVASJ](https://bit.ly/GiveVASJ) **starting Nov. 22nd**. **Anyone who makes a gift in person or online during early giving will be entered into a raffle to win a Viking swag basket valued at over \$100!** Visit [bit.ly/GiveVASJ](https://bit.ly/GiveVASJ) to learn more about our fundraiser. Thank you for supporting Catholic education at VASJ!

**CHRISTMAS ON CAMPUS!** On December 12 we will be hosting almost 100 first grade guests from local elementary schools! These kids will get to hang out with our senior class and meet Santa! This is the second half of the senior service requirement. **THIS IS A MANDATORY EVENT FOR SENIORS AND A REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION!!!!** Seniors who will be assigned a child are required to bring in a present for that student (\$25 value), all other seniors must bring \$25 to help defray the cost of lunch! Email [emaher@vasj.com](mailto:emaher@vasj.com) with any questions.

**CHRISTMAS In The VILLAGE!** Get ready for some Christmas magic! VASJ will host the Fifth Annual Christmas in the Village event on Saturday, December 13. The event will take place in the Gym from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Families are welcome to join us for a breakfast buffet, children's crafts and games, photos with Santa, holiday music, and more. The event is open to alumni, current parents, faculty and staff, and families in the greater community.

Registration is now open. To register please click [vasj.com/christmas](https://vasj.com/christmas).

**IMPORTANT VASJ SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY:** Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School offers over 50 different scholarships based on academics, interests, and financial need. Students are asked to complete this application **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025** for consideration. If you have any questions about the scholarships available or the application process, please contact Mrs. DiTurno at [biturno@vasj.com](mailto:biturno@vasj.com).

### **CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIPS:**

1. Applicants must be enrolled and in good standing at VASJ.
2. Applicants must complete the **ENTIRE** application portion of the form and it can be accessed by clicking [HERE!](#) Paper copies of the application are also available in the Main Office or Business Office.
3. **All scholarship awards are for the 2026-2027 school year except for current seniors; senior awards will be applied to the 2025-2026 school year tuition.**

**GRADUATION INFORMATION: CAP & GOWNS:** On December 10 our Seniors will be getting measured for their cap & gowns during their religion class. Please do your best not to be absent that day. Cap and gowns will be delivered to the school sometime in early March/April. We will **NOT** be handing these out until the week of Senior exams.

**FROM THE ATHLETIC OFFICE: WINTER SPORTS PARENT MEETING:** On Monday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria the Athletics Department will be holding a **MANDATORY OHSAA Parent Meeting** for our winter sports athletes. Please make arrangements to attend this meeting if your athlete is competing in a Winter sport (Basketball, Swimming, Bowling, or Wrestling).

**NCAA Eligibility Center: ANY JUNIOR OR SENIOR** who is a student-athlete and is thinking about participating in sports at the college level, **MUST** register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. You should create a free Profile Page account if you are thinking of becoming a college-bound student-athlete. By creating an account, you will stay connected & receive the most current information from the NCAA Eligibility Center and it can help you decide what NCAA division might be right for you. Click on the Link for more information: <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/> or click on this video to help answer some of your questions with the recruiting process <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2CKtH6-nfc>



**FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE:** Payment plans for the 2025-2026 school year have started. If you have not set that up, please do so ASAP as your child's tuition is now delinquent. You can access the FACTS payment system by clicking on this link: <https://online.factsmtgt.com/signin/3X1G4>.

**FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE: ILLNESS:** COVID, cold, and flu season is upon us. Please take these simple precautions to keep the Viking Village as healthy as possible:

- **STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK!**
- Wash hands frequently.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and wear a mask if you choose to do so.

### **SERVICE INFORMATION:**

**FROM THE ATHLETIC OFFICE: MANDATORY WINTER SPORTS PARENT MEETING** is on Monday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria the Athletics Department will be holding a **MANDATORY OHSAA Parent Meeting** for our winter sports athletes. Please make arrangements to attend this meeting if your student is competing in a Winter sport (Basketball, Cheer, Swimming, Bowling, or Wrestling).

**AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING:** After School is offered every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday after school in rooms 303, 310 & 315 from 3:15 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. Students can receive help with their studies. Please make sure your student comes prepared and signs in.

**GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP & PROGRAMS:** Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School accepts the following scholarships through the Ohio Department of Education:

- ❖ Cleveland Scholarship
- ❖ EdChoice and EdChoice Expansion Scholarships
- ❖ Jon Peterson Scholarship
- ❖ Autism Scholarship

Each family MUST renew their scholarship every year! Please visit our [State Scholarship](#) section on our website for the necessary forms to begin your renewal process. The sooner you complete this the better!

If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact Villa Angela-St. Joseph and Scholarships, Ms. Amanda Fordyce 216-481-8414 x209 or by email [afordyce@vasj.com](mailto:afordyce@vasj.com). Click [HERE](#) for more Information and forms.

**WORK PERMITS:** If you are in need of a work permit, please contact the front office at [nmiller@vasj.com](mailto:nmiller@vasj.com).

**POWERSCHOOL INFORMATION:** Information for gaining access to your students PowerSchool account will be going out next week. We are working on getting everyone set-up in the system. If you already have a PowerSchool account and need assistance please email [powerschool@vasj.com](mailto:powerschool@vasj.com).