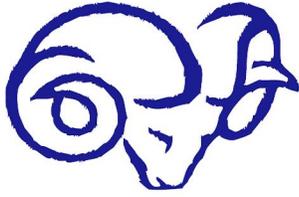


# Ram Review



## St. James Catholic School

206 NE Kirby Street  
McMinnville, OR 97128

Phone: 503-472-2661  
Fax: 503-472-5201  
Extended Care: 503-437-8930  
www.stjamesmac.com

**Sandy Lonergan, Principal**  
principal@stjamesmac.com

**Michael Walker, Pastor**  
mwalker@stjamesmac.com

September 6, 2018

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### September

- 4 - First day for K-5th grade
- 4 - Orientation for Pre 3's
- 5 - Orientation for Pre 4's
- 5 - 8:30AM 5th Grade
- 6 - First full day for Preschool
- 7-9 - Brews & BBQ's
- 10 - 28 -Testing
- 12 - 8:30AM Mass 4th Grade
- 19 - 8:30 Mass 2/3 Grade
- 19 - Back to School Night/Parent Club Meeting 6:30PM
- 26 - 8:30AM Mass Staff
- 25- SAC Meeting 6:30PM Library

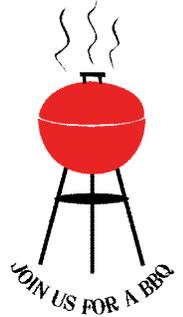
### October

- 1 - 4 - Book Fair
- 3 - 8:30AM Mass 1st Grade
- 10 - 8:30AM Mass 5th Grade
- 12 - NO SCHOOL Statewide In-service
- 17 - Progress Reports Go Home
- 17 - 8:30AM Mass 4th Grade
- 23 - School Pictures P3, K-5th Grades
- 24 - School Pictures P4 and Make ups
- 24 - 8:30AM Mass 2nd & 3rd Grade
- 26 - 11:30AM Early Dismissal Teacher Inservice
- 31 - Halloween Parties

### November

- 1- All Saint's Day
- 1 - 8:30 AM Mass Staff

Oregon Brews and BBQs  
Please sign up to volunteer!  
Visit  
[www.orbrewsandbbqs.com](http://www.orbrewsandbbqs.com)



## 2018 Jog-A-Thon

Friday, October 11th  
We will be jogging around the Parking lot.  
Envelopes coming home next Wednesday September 12th!

## Child Protection

New parents that would like to volunteer will need to have a background check. Please see Mrs. Rolison for the forms.

## School wide Learning Expectations

**Pastor and Principal Lunch Winners from June 2018. (Reminder these were the classes at the end of school)**

Please join Principal Lonergan and Fr. Walker on September 13th for lunch.

- Kindergarten - David H
- 1st Grade - Isabella G
- 2nd Grade - Grace D
- 3rd Grade - Emmanuel M-C
- 4th Grade - Sophia M-L
- No 5th grade for June



Extended Care Phone Number 503-437-8930. Please call this number during extended care hours to speak with Mrs. Chapman.

# Principal's Letter



Dear St. James Families,

Greetings and welcome to the 2018-2019 school year!! The teachers officially started last week, K-5th started yesterday, with orientation Tuesday and Wednesday for the Preschool. Their official first day begins Thursday the 6th and our community will be complete.

The first month of school has always been exciting for me as a teacher, principal, and parent. It is a time to re-connect with colleagues, students, and parents and provides new opportunities to grow spiritually, socially, and mentally. I look forward to participating in the many events on the school calendar and hope all of you will participate as well. Besides me other new staff members to St. James include: Mrs. Margaret Okrasinski as Preschool aide and Mrs. Arlene Candela as Spanish instructor. Please help me welcome them!

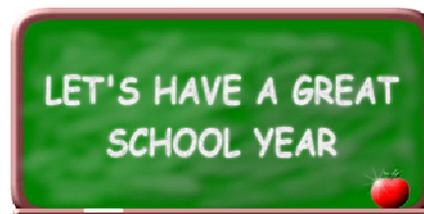
A belated thank you to all of the families and parish members who assisted with the cleanup of school and parish grounds on August 18<sup>th</sup>, to the parent volunteers, and Mr. Buchheit for the tear down of the old play structure and spreading of bark chips under new the play structure, as well as a note of gratitude to the Parent Club executive board for hosting the back to school ice cream float social. These events provided modeling to our children about the importance of service as well as a way to socialize with other members of our school/parish community.

During this school year I want to keep all of our members informed of the different aspects of our school ministry and so for this opening message I would like to share about how our teaching staff remains current as Catechists so that we may partner with parents to educate their children in the Catholic faith. Each staff member that teaches religion has completed or is in process of completing catechist certification. The school also relies on Fr. Mike and Fr. Zani to provide faith formation updates during the school year and the Archdiocese of Portland provides ongoing annual resources and training focused on different aspects of faith formation. For the next three years the focus from the Archdiocese will be on prayer and specifically this current school year, personal prayer. Annually, during in-service week staff take part in a retreat to build community among our members. Also, each morning the staff has the opportunity to join with me to pray as we prepare for the day and at the weekly staff meeting teachers take turns leading prayer as well as participating in discussions regarding religion, Catholic values, and/or faith formation of the entire school community.

On a different note, we continue to accept donations to the endowment fund as we currently have collected \$17,430 toward the \$25,000 Weston Matching grant. Donations will be accepted through September 15<sup>th</sup>. Please consider making a donation to provide for the future of our school ministry.

May the Spirit Be With You!

Sandy Lonergan, Principal



# Introductions

Greetings! I am Sandy Lonergan, the principal here at St. James. I grew up near Forest Grove in the small community of Verboort. I currently live in Woodburn with my spouse, Tom. We are members of St. Luke parish and have five children who are alums of St. Luke grade school. I completed my MS degree in teaching as well as initial licensure in educational administration at Portland State University. I taught PE/health/physical science at Regis high school in Stayton for eighteen years before transitioning to St. Luke to teach K-8 PE and middle school health. After ten years of teaching PE, I was hired as principal at St. Luke and completed six years of service as the administrator. In 2015 I returned to school to obtain licensure as a Physical Therapist Assistant and this past year I worked in Home Health as a PTA. I believe that God has a plan for all of us and when I was given the opportunity to lead St. James I feel becoming a member of this community is a part of that plan. I am excited and ready to serve.

Hello my name is DeeAnn Rolison and I am the school secretary. This is my second year at James and I am very happy to be here. I have been married to my husband Don for 39 years and we have two wonderful grown daughters and four furry grandchildren! My background has been in administrative support and to my surprise I've learned so much more than I ever could have in the corporate world. I am looking forward to this new school year and visiting with the new and returning students. In my spare time I love reading, crafting and hanging out with my family.

My name is Sally Briedwell and I am the school librarian. I live in Sheridan and have been involved with St. James School on and off for about 40 years. This will be my fourth year in the library and I am still loving it. It has been such a joy to be with all the kids. I have 2 adult children, 5 grandchildren & 2 great grandchildren, two of whom will be attending St. James this year. I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, crafting, coloring and traveling.

Lon Buchheit P.E.

Hello St. James students and parents. My name is Lon Buchheit and I have been a Physical Ed. Teacher for 40 years now. I am married to with four children, (three of which went to this school) and nine grandchildren. I always look forward to this time of year and seeing new and old faces in the gym for fun, skills and exercise! I know you will enjoy all the of the time we spend together this year and don't forget to wear the right shoes for playing games in the gym!

My name is Tricia Fisher this is my fifth year in the St. James Preschool. I have really enjoyed getting to know all our preschoolers and watching them go on to further education in our wonderful little school. This summer I have enjoyed teaching swim lessons, camping and gardening. Beautiful weather! My husband and I have six grown children and seven grandchildren with a new one on the way. We love spending time with them all. We enjoy hiking, camping, fishing and backpacking as well as gardening together. My hobbies include painting, sewing, crafting and woodworking. I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, crafting, coloring and traveling.

My name is Deacon David Briedwell and I assist my wife Sally in the library. I am a permanent deacon assigned to Good Shepherd in Sheridan and St. Michaels in Grand Ronde. I enjoy assisting in the library, serving as deacon at the school masses on Wednesday and doing playground duty after lunch as well. My biggest reward here at the school is the interaction with the children and watching them grown through the years

Welcome to St. James Preschool. My name is Brenda Flanders. My husband, Brent and I have three adult children and one granddaughter. I've enjoyed teaching preschool for many years. This will be my fifth year here at St. James. I believe young children learn best through purposeful hands-on play. Yes, we may get a little messy as we actively question, explore and create. But, that's just what happens when curious 3 or 4-year-olds are on a quest for knowledge! I'm excited to welcome back our returning students and families, and to meet those of you who are new to our school. I hope my classroom will always be a place where children feel safe and parents feel welcomed.

Hi my name is Peggy Chapman. I am happy to be returning for my twenty second year working here at St. James School. I was the assistant in the kindergarten classroom for seventeen years. Five years ago I moved to the preschool class where I am the afternoon teacher for our 3 and 4 year olds and the Director of the After School Care Program. I grew up and went to school in southern California, My husband and I moved our family to McMinnville in 1981 to be near my brother. We have three sons all grown now with families of their own which include our nine grandchildren. When I am not working here at St. James, you can find me working in our yard or hanging out with my grandkids.

Hello my name is Margaret Okrasinski, but I go by my middle name of Alex which is short for Alexandra. I have a daughter Addilynn and she was is almost five months old. She is such a joy. I am my best self when I'm with her. She is my light. I am so excited for this opportunity to be part of St. James and more so to be part of the preschool program. I absolutely love to work with small children watching each and everyone of them learn and grown in their own way and at their own pace. When I was in high school I worked in the daycare center that was part of the high school. I worked there three of the four years I attended McMinnville High. I'm so excited to be part of St. James School and I couldn't be more thankful for this opportunity.

Leilani Larsen - Kindergarten

Leilani Larsen was born and raised in The Dalles, Oregon where she attended St. Mary's Catholic School. She attended Oregon State University where she earned both her Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Early Childhood. Over the 30+ years in the field of Education, she has taught all grade levels from K-5<sup>th</sup>, Library, was a Volunteer School Coordinator for a statewide literacy program called SMART, taught afterschool classes and was the School Age Specialist for the statewide afterschool network, OregonASK. She is currently a Master Trainer for Educational Professionals. Ms. Larsen has a passion to build literacy. She is currently working with other staff to update St. James School library's nonfiction section and is seeking parent volunteers interested in this quest to join her.

In her spare time, Ms. Larsen volunteers to read and give books to low income children in their communities. She likes to build Little Free Libraries, enjoys gardening, volunteering at her Catholic parish in Portland where she resides, reading, crafting, welding, painting, spending time with her three grown sons, family and many friends. She is delighted to be a part of the St. James School community!

My name is Donna Carlile, and I am excited to be returning to St James Catholic School where I have taught Second Grade for the past three years, and beginning last year, I taught Second and Third grade. I am eager to begin my fifth year here again teaching Second Grade and Third Grade. I was born and raised in New York. I earned my Bachelors and Masters Degrees at Oregon State University. I previously taught at St. Mary's in Albany, (Sixth Grade, First Grade, and Kindergarten), which closed in 2013. I am still a very involved parishioner in Albany, where I have an historic home. My four children are grown; and we have three grandbabies. My free time is filled with church activities, my children and grandchildren, baking, reading, and caring for my numerous pets and grand pets. We have cats, dogs, chickens, and a young peacock. I enjoy the lovely drive to McMinnville, and I feel blessed to be a part of the St. James Parish and School Community.

Hi there! My name is Mrs. Thompson and I am so excited to be your 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher! I cannot wait to learn all about my students. I graduated from George Fox University in 2016 (Go Bruins!) I graduated with a BS in Elementary Education. This is my third year teaching and my third-year here at St. James. I am a proud alumni of St. James and a proud parent who sends both of children here. In my spare time, I love to spend time with my friends and family, roam the aisles of Target, work in my garden, and I take random trips to Salem- just for fun! I have two sons, Julian and Isaac. I LOVE being a teacher and feel so grateful to be at such a wonderful place like St. James!

Kristin Tollefson 4th Grade

I live in Newberg with my husband, five year old daughter Madyson and three year old daughter, Kinsley. We enjoy camping, fishing, working with our llamas and goats, as well as spending time with family and friends. I received my Bachelor's degree in education from Western Oregon University and my Master's of education from George Fox University. This is my 13<sup>th</sup> year at Saint James Catholic School, and I am excited for another great year!

Gus Pappelis 5th Grade

Born in Alabama and raised in Illinois, Gus is an award-winning Jazz pianist and composer. He attended Southern Illinois University in his hometown of Carbondale where he earned a B.A. in Biological Sciences and a M.A. in Music Composition. He then relocated to Los Angeles where he fell in with the Disney Show Development offices to contribute as composer/musical director for numerous shows for Disneyland and Disneyworld. His show credits include the Golden Horseshoe Jamboree and the Great Gold Mystery of Bear Country along with many parades, touring shows, and special events. Gus also contributed to shows for Sesame Street Live, Plaza Sesamo, Sanrio's Puroland (outside of Tokyo), Coca-Cola Olympic City in Atlanta, Superbowl Halftime Shows, and venues in Branson, Missouri. As a pianist and bandleader in Los Angeles, Gus entertained for numerous Hollywood celebrities and gala events.

Having relocated in Sherwood, Gus still keeps close to his music. For sixteen years, he has been one of the regular pianists at the Portland City Grill and also kicked off his tenth season as music director for the Multnomah Athletic Club's *MelloMacs*. Gus also begins his 20<sup>th</sup> year as parish music director for Christ the King Catholic Church in Milwaukie. Gus also worked five years as music editor for Oregon Catholic Press.

His teaching experience is also diverse. He taught an undergraduate course in the Evolution of Jazz at Southern Illinois University. He contributed three years as a full-time faculty member of St. Anthony School in Tigard (Middle School Math and Science) as well as three years at Christ the King School in Milwaukie (Middle School Math Specialist). His science background also includes 14 professional publications for cellular aging studies using quantitative interferometric microscopy techniques. He also received a graduate assistantship for interdisciplinary studies in cellular aging and gerontology.

Gus lives in Sherwood with his wife, Jerre Ann, who is a graduate of Lewis and Clark College and the University of Oregon. Their two daughters are graduates of Central Catholic High School: the older graduating from the University of Oregon, and the younger from Sacramento State University in California.

Hello! My name is Maura Okuley and I am thrilled to be returning for my fourth year as the Art teacher at St. James School. I have a BA in Fine Arts from Fordham University and I am an Oregon licensed art teacher with decades of art teaching experience, including 5 years at St. Anthony School in Tigard, with Jeananne Bloudek as Principal. In addition to teaching here at St. James, I teach after school ceramics classes in Portland and I am a very busy mom to three lovely children and devoted wife to my husband Steven. A few of my favorite hobbies are pursuing my own artistic interest, trail running, spending time in nature with my family, listening to live music, and cooking a yummy meal for family and friends. I am passionate about art and creativity and one of my greatest joys is making art with children. I am blessed to be able to do that here at St. James School.

Patti Stritzke

Computer Technology Instructor - Volunteer

I am a parent volunteer teaching Computer Technology to our children in grades Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. I am married to Eric and we have two sons who are both St. James graduates ó Cole, now a senior at McMinnville High School, and Spencer, 8<sup>th</sup> grader at Duniway Middle School.

I graduated from Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) and have worked for Hewlett Packard Enterprise for 29 years. My current role involves managing a services portfolio and program for North America.

I have been a St. James volunteer for 12 years in a variety of roles including Parentø Club president, Marketing committee chair, School Advisory Council member, Room Parent, and as the Volunteer Chair of our Sip! Wine and Food Classic fundraiser. Iøve also been involved in Boy Scouts for the past 11 years and am currently the Committee Chair for Boy Scout Troop 266 and the Membership Chair for the Eagle Valley District. And, I am just starting out as a pastoral care minister for St. James Church.

#### Computer Technology Classes:

My goal is to teach the children that while the computer is fun to play games on, it is really a tool to help them with their classroom studies and to explore the world. The younger students will be working on mouse control and keyboarding, moving to more advanced keyboarding and working with Microsoft Office and Google products for the older children. I utilize many free educational game sites to reinforce spelling, reading, math, science and social studies lessons learned in the main classrooms.

Please donø hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns: [pstritzke2@gmail.com](mailto:pstritzke2@gmail.com).

## **The Book Fair is Coming!**

October 1-4, 2018 in the School Library

7:45-9:00AM and 2:30-6:00PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

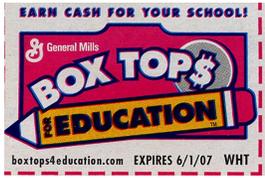
7:45-8:15AM and 1:30PM-6:00PM on Wednesday

See Mrs. Briedwell if you would like to help sell or set up/tear down!

## **We need your help!**

# Fundraising!

Here are some of the ways you can help the school raise money!



We have soda can and plastic bottle recycling center by the back door. Boxtops can be handed in to Mrs. Rolison in the School Office.

## St. James Sweatshirt Order Form

A navy blue sweatshirt with the St. James logo on the front. This is approved uniform ware.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Paid with: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Collected by: \_\_\_\_\_

Orders due by  
October 19, 2018



	Quantity	Price	Total
Small (6-8)		\$20.00	
Medium (10-12)		\$20.00	
Large (14-16)		\$20.00	
Extra-Large (18-20)		\$20.00	
		<b>Grand Total</b>	