

Bulldog Briefs



DECEMBER 14, 2011

NEWS FROM THE MAIN OFFICE OF ST. JUDE REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL ~ PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

THE ST. JUDE COMMUNITY SAYS GOODBYE TO MS. MARY ELLEN JORDAN, A FORMER FAITHFUL TEACHER AND LEADER

The St. Jude community was saddened to hear of the passing on Thursday, Dec. 8, of Ms. Mary Ellen Jordan, former teacher and principal at St. Jude Regional Catholic School. She had retired at the end of the last school year after teaching at the school for 24 years and serving as its principal for the past 16.

The school community gathered on Friday, Dec. 9, to share in a prayer and memorial service. Six students were asked to share their memories of Ms. Jordan, which are excerpted below.

What I loved the most about Miss Jordan was that whenever I looked at her she always made me smile. She was a strong leader and someone to look up to. She always made you feel your best. She held out her hand to you and made you feel welcome. She will always be a part of our community and she will always be a part of my heart. Miss Jordan you always said that St. Jude was your home, but now you truly are home. — *Brigid English, 6th grade*

Ms. Jordan was not just a principal to me. She was someone I could go to for help. One of my favorite memories of Ms. Jordan was the genuine kindness she had for all of us. She put the students and faculty's care before her own. She was always willing to do something for her students whenever needed. Her kindness and love will remain in my heart forever. — *Annie Martin, 7th grade*

She was always here to greet you with a smile, and never showed that anything was wrong, even when she was sick. Whenever I went into the office, she would ask me how my family was, which showed her great concern for other people. At St. Jude's Ms. Jordan always made people feel at home. Our school became one big family. Her spirit has been at St. Jude's for forty years, and we will keep it here for another forty. Ms. Jordan loved this school very much, so let's continue her dream of a successful and happy school. We are forever grateful for Ms. Jordan's dedication, commitment, example, and love for this school and all of the people in it. She was like our mother. It is appropriate that she passed



Ms. Mary Ellen Jordan served St. Jude Regional Catholic School for 40 years, 24 as a teacher and 16 as principal.

away on the feast of Our Lady. She was able to celebrate this special feast in Heaven with her mother, Mary. — *Christina, Kilmer, 8th grade*

I've known Miss Jordan for 9 years and my family has known her for much longer. I can say that she is one of the great persons that I have ever known. She is fun and nice, but could put her foot down when she needed to. In 6th grade, I was sent to Miss Jordan's office. She was mad and she showed it. I was scared, but when it was all over, she forgave me and gave me a hug. I know that when I say this, I can speak for my fellow 8th graders and most likely the whole school: We miss and love you Miss Jordan. — *Jack Posluszny, 8th grade*

Ms. Jordan has been a faithful, loving role model for me and a big part of my everyday life in school and at home. Ms. Jordan showed all of the qualities of a devoted Catholic. It is amazing that she died on the Feast of the

Immaculate Conception as she had a strong relationship with the Virgin Mary. She has been a great role model.

She taught at St. Jude for 40 years and knew all of her students by name. She would always tell the girls to unroll their skirts and the boys to tuck in their shirts and, by doing so, showed that she cared for us. Even though she wasn't my principal my entire time at St. Jude, she has influenced my life.

Though Ms. Jordan is no longer with us we know her spirit lives in the hearts and homes of all of the students, teachers, and parents of St. Jude. We have all been touched by Ms. Jordan. We love you Ms. Jordan. Rest in peace. — *Jenny Sella, 6th grade*

I would like to honor Ms. Jordan with a poem.

Ode to Ms. Jordan

Ode to Ms. Jordan and her smiling face
To believing she is now in a better place.
Ode to her smile so warm and so bright
Getting to know her was such a delight.
Ode to that wonderful woman we loved so dearly
Her love for us was shown so clearly.
Ode to our principal with a giant heart
Our friendship with her will never part.

We love you and will miss you Ms. Jordan. — *Moir Greaney, 7th grade*

**FOLLOW THE STAR! CHRISTMAS SHOW,
DEC. 15, 7 P.M.**

Come and join us on Thursday, Dec. 15, as our fifth graders present the story of Jesus' birth from the point of view of the magi and re-enact the wise men's journey to Bethlehem in the original play, Follow the Star. The elementary students and choirs will join in the annual Christmas show, which we hope will entertain and inspire you as we prepare for the coming of our Lord.

**CHILDREN'S NIGHT OUT!! CHRISTMAS
MOVIE AND DINNER — FRIDAY, DEC. 16**

Drop off children 4:45 p.m. and pick up by 8:15 p.m. **TEEN ROOM** (lower level of school). **Cost:** \$10 per child or \$20 max per family

Along with the movie and dinner, Challenge girls will play games with children, and help your children enjoy a fun evening out!

Go on date with your spouse or enjoy hours of Christmas shopping! **RSVP** your space by calling Cecilia Rowedder, 301-910-0603.

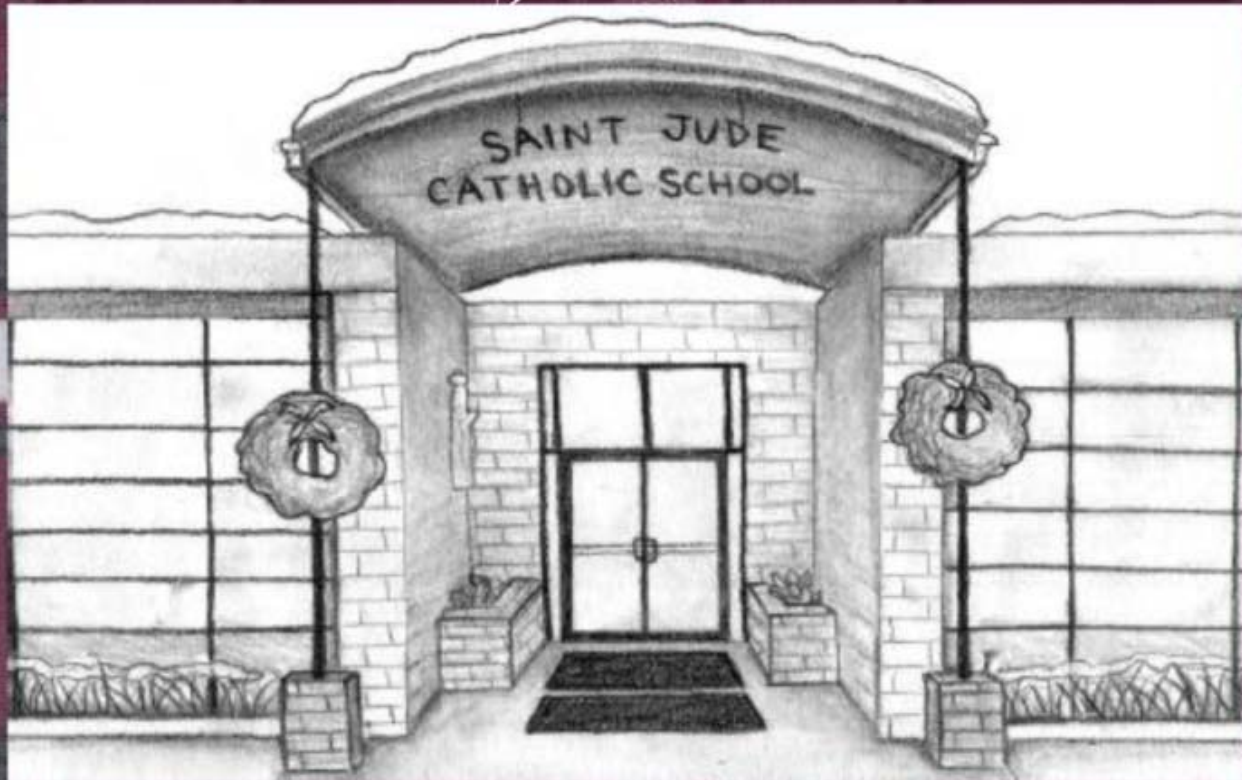
GIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING!

Looking for that perfect gift! Donate to the SJRCS annual **Give Your Way** campaign in honor of friends and family. A donation to Give Your Way provides you an opportunity to directly affect the educational experience of our students. You specify the area you wish your donation to be applied, such as tuition assistance, technology or Arts and Humanities. Donation forms are available from the main office or at www.StJudeRockville.org. All donations are tax-deductible.

CALENDAR

- Dec. 15 Christmas Pageant; 1 and 7 p.m.
- Dec. 19 Tag Day and The Muppets Christmas Carol movie (more details soon!)
- Dec. 20 Christmas sing-along (all school)
- Dec. 21 Christmas break begins
- Jan. 3, 2012 Classes resume

Merry Christmas



From all of us at St. Jude Regional Catholic School