

St. James Families,

It is hard to believe summer vacation is almost over and the beginning of school is just around the corner. The new PTO officers are looking forward to the 2011-2012 school year and are excited to work with all of you. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves to you:

I am the PTO President, **Brenda DePalma**. My husband and I have been married for 17 years and have 2 children, Ana Marie (3rd grade) and Giovanni (Kindergarten). We have been members of St. James for 15 years. I grew up in Liberty and attended St. James Church and CCD on Water Street since 1973.

My name is **Kathleen Ervie** and I am the PTO Vice-President. My husband, Eugene, and I have been married for 15 years and have been members of St. James for 6 years. We are parents of four children Olivia (5th grade), Samuel (3rd grade), Maxwell (Kindergarten), and Luke (11 months).

I am **Nichole Stewart** and will be serving as PTO Secretary. I have been a member of St. James for 38 years. I attended St. James School at the old church on Water Street for 1st grade, at the Seminary for 2nd grade, and at the new church for 3rd through 5th grades. I have 2 children at St. James - Ellie (3rd Grade) and Lauren (Kindergarten).

I am **Denise Moore** and I am the PTO Treasurer. I have been married for 16 years and have two children - Kayla (8th grade) and Kyle (5th grade). Our family relocated to Kansas City from Birmingham, AL in August 2008 due to my job with Cerner. I served on the PTO for 4 years at our previous school (St. Francis Xavier in AL), one year as Fundraising Chairman and three years as Treasurer. I love to play tennis and volleyball.

Next, we would like to outline some key dates for you to include on your calendar as you start planning for the year ahead:

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 – New Family Social/Deep Cleaning Day

Noon Social for New Families and Buddy Families
Noon to 3:00 PM Deep Cleaning Day

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 – Back to School Night

5:00 PM Meet the Teacher/Drop off school supplies in your child's classroom
5:30 PM Back To School PTO Ice Cream Social/Uniform Sales/Volunteer and Activity
 Sign-Ups in the GYM
6:50 PM New Parent Meeting in the LIBRARY – Last minute questions

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30 at 6:50 PM – PTO Meeting/Parent Information Night

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11 at 6:50 PM – PTO Meeting

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5 at 6:00 PM – St. James School Auction

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 at 6:50 PM – PTO Meeting (Budget Meeting)

JANUARY 28 thru FEBRUARY 3 - Catholic Schools Week (CSW)

TUESDAY, MARCH 13 at 6:50 PM – PTO Meeting

APRIL 9 thru 13 - Easter Break

TUESDAY, MAY 8 at 6:50 PM – PTO Meeting

Please note that the dates of the PTO Meetings are subject to change. Make sure to read the weekly school newsletter to be apprised of any changes and/or updates.

We know that the success of the PTO is not possible without the help of our school families. There are many opportunities to get involved by volunteering for the various activities that occur throughout the year. At the Back to School Night on August 14, the PTO will have a volunteer sign-up table set up in the gym. Please make sure to visit us and sign-up to volunteer! Here are some of the opportunities that are available:

Head Room Parent Coordinator

Room Parents (*Room Parent sign-ups will be at the PTO table NOT in the classrooms*)

Parent Teacher Conference Meals

Catholic Schools Week

Staff Appreciation Week

Field Day

Buddy Families

St. James Feast Day

We hope you seriously consider these and other opportunities to become involved. In addition, there will be many other tables set up in the gym for various organizations and activities. Some of them include:

St. James School Auction
St. James Athletics
St. James Café
St. James Volleyball Tournament
HOPE Cards
MIDI
Northland Catholic School Band
Chess Club
Mad Science
Boy and Girl Scouts
Do-Dads
Mid Continent Public Library

You will also be able to purchase St. James Auction T-shirts and school uniforms on Back to School Night. Please remember that current year Auction T-shirts can be worn as part of the PE uniform. Finally, don't forget to visit the Café and treat yourself to some ice cream!

Once again, we are excited for another school year and look forward to working with each of you. You will receive more detailed information on all the PTO activities throughout the year. If at any time you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of us. In addition, you can always communicate with the PTO at the following email address: pto@stjames-school.org

We hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

St. James PTO Officers

Brenda DePalma, President
Kathleen Ervie, Vice-President
Nichole Stewart, Secretary
Denise Moore, Treasurer

