



JOHN PAUL THE GREAT  
ACADEMY

# THE GUARDIAN

OMNIA IN EXCELLENTIA

AUGUST 2017

## FROM THE HEADMASTER...

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! As we prepare for the new academic year, I wish to invite the JPG community into a conversation about the *culture* of our academy.

We have watched with profound gratitude as God brought forth much fruit from our first ten years as an academic and spiritual home for hundreds of JPG students and families. At the beginning of our second decade, we must revisit again who we are and reflect deeply on the mission to which God is calling our community. It is for this reason that I wish to bring up the question of *culture*, and especially the *culture* of our school.

The culture of an organization may be defined as the sum total of our daily, habitual actions, attitudes, and ways of being. As Ken Myers once wrote, "Culture cultivates." Culture is like the air around us, we breathe it in, and it very much shapes who we are and how we see the world.

Indeed, culture really does *cultivate*. Culture plants the seeds, often unconsciously, of virtue or vice, hospitality or snobbery, kindness or narcissism, love or sin, hope or despair. We learn what we see, and who we are is often more "caught" than taught, as the cliché goes.

But we are not only *subject* to the cultures of our various communities, we shape them too! JPG is not merely a projection of the vision of our founders, or of my own hopes for the Academy – it is the lived and collective experience of every family, every student, and every teacher. Every person at JPG plays an irreplaceable and constitutive role in fostering our school's culture.

So for every family that has been here from the first days of the school, and for every family that is new to JPG this year, please join me in asking:

- How are the habits and attitudes of my family fostering a culture of wonder, intellectual inquiry, and academic excellence? Are we reading as a family? Are we demonstrating interest in or discussing literature, art, or science as a family? What obstacles prevent me from better engaging in the intellectual life of my children?
- How is my prayer life and that of my family echoing and confirming the spiritual formation offered at school? Are we praying and frequenting the sacraments as a family? What obstacles prevent me from better engaging in the faith life of my children?
- How am I embodying the virtues and qualities I hope to see in my own children? Am I asking the saints to intercede for me and to show my children how they too can become saints? In short, how can I join with other parents and teachers as together we shape the culture in which our children can grow, learn, and discover God's will for their lives?

If you are like me, you may find these questions challenging or even overwhelming. But I believe that God will be patient with our failings if we remain steady and make the daily effort to try. With His grace, let us begin, together.

In the peace of Christ,

Peter Fletcher  
President & Headmaster

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 8 – New Parent Meeting @ 5:00pm
- Aug 8 – Mandatory All Parent Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- Aug 9 – Lower School Meet & Greet @ 12:00-3:00 PM
- Aug 9 – Upper School New Student Orientation @ 12:00-2:00 PM
- Aug 10 – First Day of School
- Aug 12 – Back to School Social at the Barras's home @ 7:00 PM
- Aug 18 – School Picture Day
- Aug 18 – Popsicle Day
- Aug 18 – Gym Grand Re-Opening Ceremony @ 6:00pm
- Aug 18 – Sept. lunch orders due
- Sept 4 – Labor Day / No School
- Sept 5 – No School / Faculty Professional Development Day
- Sept 11-15 – Homecoming Week
- Oct 2-6 – Pilgrimage Week (Upper School)
- Oct 9-13 – Fall Break
- Oct 22 – Fall Fest
- Nov 11 – Collarnary Cook Off
- Nov 20-24 – Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 22 – Christmas Break begins

## JOHN PAUL THE GREAT ACADEMY

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

# Back to School Social

FOR

## JPG PARENTS, FACULTY & STAFF

SATURDAY **AUG 12** 7 - 10 PM

AT THE HOME OF  
CHRISTY AND BROCK BARRAS  
108 TURTLEDOVE TRAIL  
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

HORS D'OEUVRES, DRINKS & DESSERT  
SPONSORED BY THE JPG PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

PLEASE CALL MOLLY McCracken @ (337) 889-5345  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

KLM Creative / KLMcreative.etsy.com

**NEW JPG PARENT MEETING**

We will be having a New JPG Parent Meeting on Tuesday, August 8 at 5:00pm in the JPG Chapel. This New Parent Meeting will be followed by the All Parent Meeting at 6:00pm.

**ALL JPG PARENT MEETING**

All JPG parents are required to attend a meeting on Tuesday, August 8 beginning at 6:00pm in the JPG Chapel. At this meeting you will receive your child's class schedule and other critical information for the new school year.

**LOWER SCHOOL MEET & GREET**

The Lower School Meet and Greet for grades PreK-6th is on Wednesday, August 9 from 12:00-3:00pm. This is for all new and returning Lower School students. Students may come any time during that time to meet their teachers and see classrooms. Students should drop-off school supplies at this time.

**UPPER SCHOOL NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION**

Upper School New Student Orientation is on Wednesday, August 9 from 12:00-2:00pm. New Upper School students will receive their class schedule at this time and meet their teachers and other JPG students. Lunch will be provided. Students may wear casual clothes; please refrain from wearing athletic attire.

**AQUINAS INSTITUTE FALL COURSES**

The Aquinas Institute for Theology and Catholic Studies is a center for adult education in the Diocese of Lafayette. The Aquinas Institute provides a variety of courses in the areas of theology and Catholic studies. It is accredited through Holy Cross College in New Orleans and directed by Fr. Michael Champagne, CJC.

Registration for Fall 2017 courses is now open until August 15:

- THE 291 Angels & Demons – Fr. Clinton Sensat  
When: Wednesdays 6:00 – 8:45pm  
Where: John Paul the Great Academy  
Classes Start: August 23  
Classes End: December 6
- THE 390 Spiritual Theology – Fr. Michael Champagne, CJC, STD  
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:00 – 8:15pm  
Where: John Paul the Great Academy  
Classes Start: August 22  
Classes End: December 7

Register at [aquinaslafayette.org](http://aquinaslafayette.org).

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL + ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL**

Our first day of school is Thursday, August 10! Students can be dropped off as early as 7:30am. The bell rings at 7:55am. Students who arrive after 7:55am are considered tardy and must sign in at the Front Office and receive a tardy slip, which admits them to their first hour class. The Lower School dismissal bell rings at 3:10pm, and the Upper School dismissal bell rings at 3:15pm.

**CARPOOL PROCEDURES**

- Lower School students (PreK-6th) – On the first day of school, Thursday, August 10, all Lower School students may be walked to their classroom. On the second day of school, Friday, August 11, Lower School students may be walked to the courtyard behind the 5th/6th grade building. Beginning Monday, August 14, all K-12 students should be dropped off in the carpool line, with the exception of Pre-K. Pre-K parents may park in the gravel parking lot and walk their child to class for the first two weeks of school.
- Upper School students (7th-12th) - All Upper School students, beginning on the first day of school, August 10, are to be dropped off in the carpool line.

The carpool line flows counter-clockwise around the Main Building. When you come down the oak alley entrance, take a right at the "Y" to loop around school. You will see the drop-off zone around the back. *Please note: Students may never be dropped off in the gravel parking lot adjacent to the Main Building as this poses a serious safety threat.*



# New Faculty

We are excited to welcome many new JPG faculty members for the 2017-2018 school year:

Judy Bonin – Lower & Upper School P.E.

Ryan Gray – Upper School Math & Science

Katie Guidry – 2nd Grade

Lori Garrett – Cafeteria Staff

Mandi Hebert – Lower School P.E. / Gymnastics

Chassidy Menard – Upper School Humanities

Therese Seghers – Upper School Humanities

Luke Ungarino – Upper School Humanities

Adoration Vacant Hours															
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		S	M	T	W	T	F	S
12:00 AM	E							12:00 PM							E
1:00 AM					E			1:00 PM			E		E		
2:00 AM								2:00 PM							
3:00 AM								3:00 PM							
4:00 AM								4:00 PM							
5:00 AM								5:00 PM			E				
6:00 AM								6:00 PM			E				
7:00 AM			E					7:00 PM							E
8:00 AM								8:00 PM							E
9:00 AM								9:00 PM							E
10:00 AM					E			10:00 PM							E
11:00 AM					E		E	11:00 PM							

E - Empty      Blue - Hour Coordinator Needed  
 Adorers sign up at <https://adorationpro.org/jpgacademy>  
 Hourly Coordinators sign up at <https://tsu.me/m5vtuu>  
 Adoration Coordinator: Maureen Herrera, [mherrera@jpgacademy.org](mailto:mherrera@jpgacademy.org)

## REMIND TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE

To sign up for our Remind school text messaging service, text @jpga to 81010.

## ONLINE RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

Please visit the "Parents" tab at [jpgacademy.org](http://jpgacademy.org) to find helpful information throughout the year, including the following:

- 2017-2018 School Calendar
- School Supplies for PreK-12
- Summer Reading for K-12
- Lunch Menu & Orders
- Aftercare
- Uniform Policy  
*\*A few changes have been made to the uniform policy for the 2017-2018 school year. Please read with care.*



Jason Sowels scraping & painting doors

We are beyond grateful to the many parents, like Jason Sowels (pictured), and students who have helped us complete many campus projects this summer.

We could not do this without you!



Support John Paul the Great Academy at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).  
 You shop, and Amazon donates to JPG!



## 2017 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug 17 – HOME

Aug 25 – Away

Aug 31 – Away

Sept 7 – HOME

Sept 15 – HOMECOMING

Sept 28 – Away

Games @ 7:00pm

Home games @ Clark Field



## SUMMER PROJECTS!



What a wonderful summer it has been for JPG! So many parents have come together to assist our maintenance staff as they painted, remodeled, and upgraded our facilities. As the fruit of our 10th Anniversary Matching Campaign, we have been able to add a classroom, add or remodel a total of seven bathrooms on campus, and complete a top to bottom renovation of our gymnasium. This beautiful, new, air-conditioned space will serve every part of our community, from physical education, to JPG athletics, to community events like Grandparents Day. None of this would be possible without the support of parents and friends of JPG from across the community.

