# A GUIDE TO THE NEW SJS MISSION STATEMENT



St. Joseph School, an authentically Catholic community of diverse learners, prepares students to think critically, to work purposefully, and to live faithfully.

In 2019, St. Joseph School began writing a new Strategic Plan. While the Strategic Plan goals were being identified, it became apparent that a new mission statement was also needed. We believe this new statement embodies who we are and what we do at St. Joseph School. The words were carefully selected by people in our community to speak to the tenets of the school. This is a new way to celebrate all that St. Joseph School is!

# **Authentically Catholic**

We are a Roman Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. We are proud of the strong roots our faith provides us, as well as, the opportunities presented. As a "catholic" community we are a "universal" community embracing many diverse faith backgrounds at our school.

# Community

We are a community of parents, teachers, children, students, co-workers, administrators, classmates, grandparents, supporters, and friends. We are all working toward the same goals.

# **Diverse Learners**

We strive to address all the learning needs in our community. Each student has their own individual learning styles. We strive to offer enrichment and aide. We offer professional development to our teachers who continue to learn. We offer educational information to our parents as they journey through parenthood. Learning through technology, hands-on experiences, and in traditional classroom settings addresses the many ways that St. Joseph School contributes to the learning experience.

# **Preparing Students**

Beginning with PreK 4s though 8<sup>th</sup> graders heading to high school, we are always preparing our students for all that life has to offer. We believe the lessons and experiences they have while here as students will stay with them throughout their life.

### **Think Critically**

We use critical thinking every day in our lives. It is a valuable tool that our students need to navigate the changing world around them. At St. Joseph School, our students are problem solving in and out of the classroom, translating what they are learning in the books to real life experience, and actively using the knowledge they are given to navigate through life's journeys.

# **Work Purposefully**

All work is assigned with a purpose. Whether it is to reinforce knowledge without a teacher by their side or showing new ways to complete old lessons, our teachers are finding more and more ways to stimulate the learning environment. Encouraging active participation and involvement helps all students feel engaged in their own education.

### Live Faithfully

Through attendance at mass, service projects, school prayer, volunteer opportunities, and religion classes our students, teachers, and parents are a living example of our Catholic faith. As we all grow in our faith, together we motivate one another to build a stronger community for everyone.

