THE PREP
St. Joseph's Preparatory School

Mothers' Club

Welcome to the 2026–2027 School Year!

On behalf of the St. Joseph's Prep Mothers' Club, it is my pleasure to welcome all of our new and returning Prep families to the 2026–2027 school year!

To our returning families, welcome back! And to our new families, especially our freshman moms, welcome to the Prep! We are so happy you are here and excited for you to experience everything that makes this community so special.

As moms, we spend so much of our lives watching our sons grow, cheering them on, and wondering how the years go by so quickly. While this is their Prep journey, I truly believe it becomes ours as well.

The Mothers' Club is a wonderful way to be part of that journey. Whether you attend events, volunteer, meet other moms, or simply join us when your schedule allows, there is a place for everyone. My hope is that every mom feels welcomed, connected, and part of this incredible community.

We have so much to look forward to this year. Let's support one another, celebrate our sons, make wonderful memories, and enjoy every moment. It goes faster than we think!

Welcome back, Welcome to The Prep, and Go Prep!

Warmly,

Tara Banasz
President, St. Joseph's Prep Mothers' Club
taraamb@hotmail.com

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 2nd and 3rd - Freshman Orientation (Prep Shop & Second Joes will be open)

September 8th - First Day of School

September 11th - School Photos grades 9, 10, and 11

September 16th - Coffee and Conversations 9:30am

September 18th - Freshman Kickoff 2:00pm

September 20th - Mother / Son Liturgy and Brunch

September 21st - Coffee and Conversations 9:30am

September 24th - Mothers' Club Shopping and Social Night 6:30pm

September 28th - Coffee and Conversations 6:30pm

ALL MOTHERS AND MOTHER FIGURES ARE INVITED TO EVERY EVENT. PLEASE JOIN US TO CONNECT TO OTHER MOMS AND GIVE BACK TO OUR PREP COMMUNITY!

Senior Ornaments

The Senior Ornament is a treasured Prep keepsake that has been a Prep tradition for decades. They are most likely the last handmade ornament you will receive from your son's school years. These are a labor of love and take many hands working many hours to complete for all the senior boys. Moms from ALL grades spend time together at regular "Coffee-Conversation-Craft" workshops working on the ornaments throughout the fall.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Ornament Chair, Danielle Vitale, dkcamaratta@gmail.com

Attention all SENIOR Moms…

It is time to start looking through all your baby photos for your senior ornament & senior mom/son dinner presentation, both time-honored traditions at the Prep. Please be forewarned that the search for these photos will lead you down memory lane, so plan to reserve some time, and have a box of tissues handy. ALL PHOTOS are DUE BY 10/1!! Have a question? Email Danielle Vitale sjpseniorornament@gmail.com

Here is what you need to get ready:

1 - One uncut baby photo that can be trimmed to size at the workshops. The photo should be focused and well centered on the face of your son. It will be cut to the size of 1 ¾" x 1 ¾". We will be asking for these at the beginning of the school year, so please be ready to send in a hard copy. If you would like to get this task done right away, include contact information, write your son's name on the back and mail your photo to

2- One digital photo of you and your young son to be presented on a large screen during Mother/Son Senior Dinner sent to this email address:

St. Joseph's Prep

MOTHERS' CLUB ORNAMENT PHOTOS

1733 W Girard Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19130

Include your name and email and your son's name.

This photo will be cut, used on the ornament and not returned.

Amy Yeager sjpmcdigitalpics@gmail.com

Please write “2026 Mother/Son Photo” in the subject. Please also include Your name and your son’s name.

Grab a friend and join us! It will be rewarding in more ways than one.

Freshman Back To School Celebration

The Mothers' Club will be hosting a Back To School Celebration for the freshman on September 18th from 2:00-2:45 PM. We are looking for volunteers to set up, serve snacks, and clean up. We are also looking for donations of water, pretzels, and chips.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA5AF2BA7FEC07-58256949-freshman

Mother/ Son Liturgy and Brunch

September 20th 9:30am

The Mothers’ Club cordially invites you to the annual Mother/Son Liturgy & Brunch on Sunday, September 20, with Mass in the Church of the Gesu, followed by brunch in the Kelly Fieldhouse. Our speaker this year will be Patricia Dunn, the mother of two Prep alumni who broke barriers in 1976 by becoming the first female financial advisor for Merrill Lynch in Philadelphia . This is open to all mothers, and mother figures.

Tickets are $45 per person. Registration is now Open; https://www.sjprep.org/motherson-liturgy-and-brunch-2026?pending=true&cached=false

We are also looking for Volunteers to help with the set up, and the liturgy. Please sign up if you are able to help; https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E45AEA62FA0F4C07-65245169-2026

Mothers’ Club Back To School Social

Shopping, Raffles & Friends

September 24th 6:30 PM

Please join us for the Mothers’ Club Back To School Social. The evening will begin with a short prayer service in the Gesu followed by socializing and shopping with local vendors. It

is a great opportunity to learn about the SJP Mothers' Club and meet other Prep moms. All mothers and mother figures are welcome! Light refreshments will be served. Grab a friend and join us for a fun evening.

Please make sure to RSVP ; https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA5AF2BA7FEC07-65495282-sjpmothers

Secondhand Joe's

Second Hand Joe's is a pop-up shop run by the Mothers' Club. We provide a fantastic opportunity for families to purchase the staples our young men need that they grow out of so quickly like jackets, shirts, shoes, ties, pants and belts.

We accept donations to make sure Secondhand Joe's stays well-stocked. Please bring clean, gently used items and leave them at reception or the Prep Shop and label them SECONDHAND JOE'S.

Blazers $15 Shirts & Pants $5 Ties & Belts $3 Shoes $10

Upcoming Dates: September 24th 6:30-9pm

SAVE THE DATE

October 15th

Mothers' Club Faculty & Staff Luncheon

The very best day of the year! The Mothers' Club luncheon is a great way to thank the faculty and staff for all of the ways they educate and care for our boys. There are many ways to contribute or help for the Fall Luncheon. Links coming soon for sign up to volunteer!

Faith & Justice Committee

Volunteers needed! If you would like to help the planning of liturgies or retreats or the production of programs or other materials, email sjpmcfaithjustice@gmail.com. Help needed in person and remote!

Connect with the Mothers' Club

Visit on MyPrep/eBlackbaud often to find event dates, information, sign-ups, and more.

Mothers' Club Resource Page

Find us and your class parent page on Social Media:

Facebook:

St. Joe's Prep Mothers' Club

#SJP2027 (parents & guardians)

St. Joe's Prep Class of 2028 Parents

#SJP2029 Parents & Guardians

#SJP2030 Parents & Guardians

If you have any questions or would like to find out about opportunities to get more involved with SJP Mothers' Club, please contact **Mothers' Club President, Tara Banasz** taraamb@hotmail.com

Unsubscribe
St. Joseph's Preparatory School
1733 W. Girard Avenue | Philadelphia, PA 19130