

# JCA...A Tradition.

## JCA FIGHT SONG

JCA, we're for you...  
get in the battle,  
win that fight!

JCA, we'll back you...  
with your colors,  
brown, blue, white.

**FIGHT! FIGHT! FIGHT!**

You're the kind of team  
whose courage  
we want our foes to see!

**JCA, March Onward to Victory!**



**GETTING INVOLVED  
AT JCA  
YOUR GUIDE TO  
EXTRACURRICULARS**

## East Suburban Catholic Conference

*For detailed information, visit: [www.eastsuburbancc.com](http://www.eastsuburbancc.com).*

Benet Academy

Carmel High School

Joliet Catholic Academy

Marian Catholic High School

Marian Central Catholic High School

Marist High School

Nazareth Academy

Notre Dame High School

St. Patrick High School

St. Viator High School

## Illinois High School Association

*For detailed information, visit: [www.ihsa.org](http://www.ihsa.org).*

## National Collegiate Athletic Assn.

*For detailed information, visit [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).*

# Welcome to Joliet Catholic Academy!

High school will be one of the most memorable experiences of your life. Not only will you be gaining a great education, but also meeting friends that will be yours forever. One way to get to know the people around you who share your interests is to get involved in JCA's clubs and organizations, honor societies, and sports teams. We encourage you to get involved!

You will meet many new people and spend time doing things you enjoy. You may even learn things that will help you to grow and make decisions about what you would like to do in life.

If you have any questions regarding clubs and organizations, honor societies, or sports teams, please contact the moderator or contact name listed in this booklet for that particular activity. Have fun!

**Meeting information (i.e. time, date, location, etc.) will be broadcast through the daily morning announcements. Be sure to tune in!**

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# Clubs and Organizations

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## *Art & Literary Magazine, "41-88"*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Peg Stoiber & Mrs. Samantha Bush

**Room:** 230 & 109

**Description:** All student artists and writers are invited to submit their creative work for publication in this annual magazine. Students are also encouraged to help with editing and production.

## *Book Club*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Maria Fischer & Mrs. Celeste Mackey

**Room:** 107 & 104

**Description:** Students meet intermittently throughout the school year to discuss pre-selected books and exchange ideas. Students of all grade levels are welcome to attend and take part in thoughtful discussion of classic as well as current books.

## *Color Guard (Flag Line)*

**Moderator:** Ms. Jennifer Szynal

**Room:** 136

**Description:** The JCA Color Guard (flag line) is a group that will focus on twirling flags, rifles, sabers, and dance. This group will meet one night a week to learn different routines to music. They will perform at all home football games, a few home basketball games, and have their own performance in the spring. Members of the Color Guard will have the opportunity to attend a biannual trip to London, New York or Los Angeles. There is a materials fee for this group.

## *Shadow Visits and Private Tours*

Here at JCA, we realize that each family has specific needs, questions and expectations for their child. Therefore, we offer private tours to families throughout the year. Simply contact the Admissions Office at 815.741.0500 to schedule a mutually convenient time.

Shadow Visits offer seventh- and eighth-grade students an individualized experience by pairing a prospective student with a current Angel or Hilltopper who shares his/her academic and extracurricular interests. Students may shadow on most Fridays that JCA is in session from September through April.

Current high school students wishing to transfer to JCA are also encouraged to schedule a Shadow Visit and will be offered the opportunity to spend the day at JCA as part of the transfer process. Parents/guardians who are considering having their high school student transfer to JCA should contact the office of the Vice Principal of Faculty and Operations at 815.741.0500, ext. 217.

To schedule a Shadow Visit for a current seventh- or eighth-grade student, please submit your request online at [www.jca-online.org](http://www.jca-online.org). A member of the Admissions team will contact you to confirm your Shadow Visit request.



## *Drama Club*

**Moderator:** Ms. Jennifer Szynal

**Room:** 136

**Description:** In the Drama Club, students have the opportunity to participate in productions, Musical Theatre Troupe, Improv Mafia, and workshops. There are four productions throughout the year. These are the fall play, Christmas radio show, spring musical and the spring one-acts. Student can audition to perform on stage or be behind the scenes. We need actors, dancers, singers, makeup artists, and many different people. The Musical Theatre Troupe allows students to sing and dance for productions year round. This group has a brief audition at the beginning of the school year to see what level the performers are at. They perform at the Christmas radio show and spring one-acts. They also go out and help recruit students for the Drama Club. If you like "Whose Line is it Anyway," then Improv Mafia is for you. Students learn how to use their creativity to come up with different scenes and skits. Finally, there are several workshops to improve your performance skills. We have acting, singing, dancing, theatre tech, and more.

## *French Club*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Florence Austrums

**Room:** 216

**Description:** The French Club welcomes students of all levels who study French or any student who want to know more about the French culture. Students participate in different activities and field trips such as restaurant outings, other volunteer work, and even a trip to France!

## *Hillzone*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Suzi Arnett

**Room:** 102

**Description:** The Hillzone is JCA's student spirit section at events such as football games, volleyball games, etc. Who's a member of the Hillzone? You Are!!! Everyone in the JCA family is invited to participate in Hillzone activities. The Hillzone is led by the senior class, followed by the juniors, sophomores, and then our freshmen. Theme for Hillzone events will be announced at school prior to the event. Show your school spirit by coming out and helping us cheer on our Angels and Hillmen!

## ***History Club***

**Moderator:** Mr. Mark Clarke  
**Room:** 213  
**Description:** The History Club provides students with extra opportunities to learn about and experience state, local, and Chicagoland historical sites, events, speakers, and literature. The club meets once a month.

## ***Jazz Ensemble***

**Moderator:** Ms. Jennifer Szynal  
**Room:** 136  
**Description:** The JCA Jazz Ensemble is a musical ensemble comprised of students at JCA. The Jazz Band will meet for the full year before school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. They will perform at two concerts each year and various outsourced performances. To be eligible for participation a student must be a member of the JCA Band Class or with permission from the Director.

## ***Psychology Club***

**Moderator:** Mr. Mark Clarke  
**Room:** 213  
**Description:** The Psychology Club is open to all JCA students and meets once per month, generally before school. Officers of the club are present or past Psychology I or II students in good academic standings. Students will work with the moderator to prepare activities which support the enlightened use of psychology for the well being of all. Activities will possibly include research projects, replication of psychological experiments, field trips, guest speakers from the community, internet activities, viewing famous psychology movies, and local community service projects.

## ***Track and Field (Girls)***

**Coach:** Ms. Rachel Reyes  
**Season:** Spring  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** January 2020  
**Contact:** Ms. Rachel Reyes, Room 107

## ***Volleyball (Boys)***

**Varsity Coach:** Mr. Ryan Vozenilek  
**Sophomore Coach:** Mr. Jake Sobkoviak  
**Freshman Coach:** Mrs. Mary Lou Catalani  
**Season:** Spring  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** March 2020  
**Contact:** Mr. Vozenilek, Athletic Office

## ***Volleyball (Girls)***

**Varsity Coach:** Mrs. Christine Scheibe  
**Sophomore Coach:** Ms. Lakesha Cameron  
**Freshman Coach:** Mrs. Mary Lou Catalani  
**Season:** Fall  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** August 2019  
**Contact:** Mrs. Scheibe, Room 108

## ***Weight Room (Boys & Girls)***

**Season:** August - May  
**Time:** 2:40 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Description:** The JCA weight room is open for all students to use every day after school.  
**Contact:** Mr. Barello, Room 128

## ***Wrestling (Boys)***

**Head Coach:** Mr. Cory McLaughlin and Mr. Ryan Cumbee  
**Season:** Winter  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** November 2019  
**Contact:** Mr. McLaughlin, Athletic Office

### ***Softball (Girls)***

**Varsity Coach:** Mrs. Tina Kinsella  
**Sophomore Coach:** Mrs. Ashley Searing  
**Season:** Spring  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** February 2020  
**Contact:** Mrs. Tina Kinsella, Athletic Office

### ***Swimming (Boys & Girls)***

**Coach:** TBA  
**Boys Season:** Winter  
**Girls Season:** Fall  
**Practice Site:** Club Team's Facility  
**State Competition:** Represent JCA during State Series (Nov./Feb.)  
**Contact:** Mr. Pero, Room 210

### ***Tennis (Boys)***

**Varsity Coach:** Mr. Scott Allgood  
**JV Coach:** Mr. Tyler Eakle  
**Season:** Spring  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** February 2020  
**Varsity Contact:** Mr. Allgood, Room 110

### ***Tennis (Girls)***

**Varsity Coach:** Mr. Tyler Eakle  
**JV Coach:** Mr. Bob Tomasino  
**Season:** Fall  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** August 2019  
**Varsity Contact:** Mr. Eakle, Room 115

### ***Track and Field (Boys)***

**Coach:** Mr. Michael Ivlow  
**Season:** Spring  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** January 2020  
**Contact:** Ms. Reyes, Rm 217

### ***Key Club (Kiwanis Educating Youth)***

**Moderator:** Mr. Joe Burke  
**Room:** 217  
**Description:** Key Club is an international service organization for high school students sponsored by Kiwanis International, a worldwide service organization of men and women whose clubs serve children and develop youth leadership. The Joliet Noon Kiwanis Club is the local sponsor for JCA. Key Club students actively serve such organizations as: Morning Star Mission, Will County Forest Preserve, The Timbers and Willow Falls Assisted Living Facilities, Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home and the JCA community. All JCA students are invited to join. Most activities can be applied toward JCA community service graduation requirements. JCA Key Club activities are fun packed. Our local goals include: preservation of the Will County environment, assisting the less fortunate, and working toward making Joliet Catholic Academy a "green" campus. JCA's Key Club currently has over 75 members.

### ***Leo Club***

**Moderator:** Mrs. Kris Horn  
**Room:** Guidance Office  
**Description:** Leadership, experience, opportunity, these are just a few rewards students will gain from participating in the Leo Club. Leo's are leaders who are dedicated to taking advantage of new opportunities to improve our community. The Leo Club provides students the chance to practice and build their leadership skills, experience the wonderful joy of giving back to their community, but most of all have fun!

### ***Math Team***

**Moderator:** Mrs. Kristina Osburn  
**Room:** 118  
**Description:** JCA participates in the Illinois State Math Contest with the regional in February and possibly state in May. This is the largest such contest in the country. The purpose is to give the students, who have the interest and ability, the opportunity to study math topics that they may not see in the classroom. The team also competes in the Joliet Junior College Math Contest in March. Practices are generally from December through April. Normally the sub-teams for every designated topic meet weekly.

### ***Percussion Ensemble***

**Moderator:** Ms. Jennifer Szynal

**Room:** 136

**Description:** The JCA Percussion Ensemble is for students, interested in learning drums, piano, mallet, and auxiliary percussion instruments. This group will be late nights after school. This is a great way to meet new people and have fun making music. Students will perform at two concerts a year and also share in the opportunity to perform on our biannual trip to New York, London, or Los Angeles. There are material fees involved in participating in this ensemble.

### ***Respect Life Club***

**Moderator:** Mr. Jeremy Hylka

**Room:** 219

**Description:** Respect Life raises awareness from a Catholic standpoint of the sacredness of all life, from the moment of conception to the time of natural death. We deal with issues of the unborn, elderly, terminally ill, physically and mentally handicapped and any other areas where life needs to be protected. Projects, events and speakers occur throughout the year, as well as monthly Rosary/Mass and biweekly meetings. Every January the group takes a trip to Washington D.C. for the annual "March for Life" to rally and pray for an end to abortion. New ideas, projects and members are always welcome at meetings.

### ***Scholastic Bowl***

**Moderator:** Mr. Jake Ziesmer

**Room:** 130

**Description:** The Scholastic Bowl team competes against other schools in statewide IHSA competition on the varsity and Junior varsity levels. The team is a member of the 12-team South Metropolitan Scholastic Bowl Conference. The contests consist of answering a wide range of challenging questions that test academic skill, quickness of the mind, and teamwork. Members must attend practices that are usually once per week and any announced team meetings. Competitions are typically held on Tuesdays, with a few tournament competitions to be held on Saturdays. Practices usually begin in early October.

### ***Golf (Girls)***

**Coach:** Mr. Mark Alstott

**Season:** Fall

**Practice Site:** Inwood Golf Course

**First Meeting/Tryouts:** August 2019

**Contact:** Mr. Mark Alstott, Athletic Office

### ***Ice Hockey (Boys & Girls)***

**Coaches:** Mr. Jake Ziesmer

(815) 741-0500

[jziesmer@jca-online.org](mailto:jziesmer@jca-online.org)

Mr. Andy Chatten

(630) 258-8467

[andychatten@sbcglobal.net](mailto:andychatten@sbcglobal.net)

**Season:** Fall - Spring

**Practice Site:** Canlan Ice Sports Arena, Romeoville

**First Meeting/Tryouts:** September 2019

**Contact:** Mrs. Beth Hippman, (630) 747-4068 or  
[bhippman@reyesholdings.com](mailto:bhippman@reyesholdings.com)

### ***Intramural Sports (Boys & Girls)***

**Coach:** Mr. Jake Jaworski

**Season:** Fall - Spring

**Practice Site:** JCA

**Contact:** Mr. Jaworski, P.E. Office

### ***Soccer (Boys)***

**Coach:** Mr. Tom Cranmer

**Season:** Fall

**Practice Site:** JCA

**First Meeting/Tryouts:** August 2019

**Contact:** Mr. Cranmer, Room 112

### ***Soccer (Girls)***

**Varisty Coach:** Mr. Oscar Valdez

**Sophomore Coach:** Khomson Thanadabout

**Season:** Spring

**Practice Site:** JCA

**First Meeting/Tryouts:** February 2020

**Contact:** Mr. Valdez, Athletic Office

## ***Cross Country (Boys)***

**Coach:** Mr. Jason Midlock  
**Assistant Coach:** Mr. Mark Clarke  
**Length of Season:** Fall  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Practice:** August, 2019  
**Contact:** Mr. Midlock, Room 208

## ***Cross Country (Girls)***

**Coach:** Mr. Jason Midlock and Mr. Mark Clarke  
**Length of Season:** Fall  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Practice:** August, 2019  
**Contact:** Mr. Midlock, Room 208

## ***Dance Team***

**Coach:** Ms. Kelsey Kunz  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** May, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year  
**Other Info:** Performs at various JCA sporting events and local dance competitions. Participants are expected to attend all practices and attend camp each summer.  
**Contact:** Ms. Kunz Athletic Office

## ***Football (Boys)***

**Varsity Coach:** Mr. Jake Jaworski  
**JV Coach:** Mr. Dave Seneker  
**Frosh Coach:** Mr. Ryan Quigley  
**Length of Season:** Fall  
**Practice Site:** JCA  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** August, 2019  
**Contact:** Mr. Jake Jaworski Athletic Office

## ***Golf (Boys)***

**Varsity Coach:** Mr. Dave Mondrella  
**JV Coach:** Mr. Thomas Gilbert  
**Season:** Fall  
**Practice Site:** Wedgewood Golf Course  
**First Meeting/Tryouts:** August, 2019  
**Contact:** Mr. Mondrella, Athletic Office

## ***Science Club***

**Moderator:** Mr. Matt Morrissette  
**Room:** 131  
**Description:** The Science Club strives to promote and further the study of science, through after-school meetings, outings, group projects and competitions. Environmental topics and “going green” are also beginning to be developed by the club.

## ***Spanish Club***

**Moderator:** Mr. Edward DeBartolo  
**Room:** 227  
**Description:** The Spanish Club is open to any student interested in exploring the Spanish language and learning about the Spanish speaking world. Club activities include dining at ethnic restaurants, preparing ethnic foods, raising funds for missions, sponsoring school service projects, and engaging in fun activities to enhance Spanish skills like field trips and school events.

## ***Student Ambassadors***

**Moderator:** Mr. Ryan Quigley, Mrs. Mary Ragusa & Mr. Joe Gura  
**Room:** Admissions Office  
**Description:** Student Ambassadors help plan and participate in activities involving future Angels, Hilltoppers and their families. Activities include grade school visits, Open House, Step-Up Day for eighth-graders, and much more. There are currently over 250 Student Ambassadors involved in this very popular club for freshmen through seniors.

## ***Student Council***

**Moderator:** Mrs. Suzi Arnett  
**Room:** 102  
**Description:** JCA’s primary organization for student communication and representation, which consists of four executive officers who represent the entire student body, four elected officers from each class and a representative from each homeroom. Members coordinate all social events and work with JCA’s administration to plan and promote school spirit and unity.

Freshman class elections are held at the end of the first quarter of the school year. Announcements will be made at that time inviting freshmen to pick up petitioning packets, which help determine eligibility to run for office.



## *Student Newspaper, "The Victory View"*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Suzi Arnett

**Room:** 102

**Description:** Offered to upperclassmen, the "Victory View" production class generates JCA's student newspaper. Underclassmen who have a desire to write for the student newspaper should contact Mr. Staley in the English Department to learn how they can be involved.

## *Tech Club*

**Moderator:** Mr. Brian Jones

**Room:** Computer Center

**Description:** The Tech Club meets on Tuesdays after school in the Computer Center until 3:30 p.m. Our goal is to bring students together with a common interest in technology. Students take turns demonstrating their expertise in different areas of Technology during the course of the year. Students are interested in a broad range of technological subjects such as art through PhotoShop and PowerPoint, using technology to connect online to home computers, communication, games, video and design. Students design the Tech Club t-shirts, and have quarterly Movie Nights after school. The Tech Club also goes on an annual field trip on a Saturday during the school year. During the 2012-13 school year, the Tech Club went to Ignite Gaming for the day in Chicago. If you are interested in joining but have other obligations at certain times, please come when you are available. You are always welcome.

## *Varsity Club*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Suzi Arnett

**Room:** 102

**Description:** A club designed to provide volunteer opportunities around the school and in the community for athletes who have earned a varsity letter for any of JCA's sports teams.

# Sports

## *Baseball (Boys)*

**Varsity Coach:**

Mr. Jared Voss

**Sophomore Coach:**

Mr. Bart Kemp

**Freshman Coach:**

Mr. Jim O'Brien

**Season:**

Spring

**Practice Site:**

JCA

**First Meeting/Tryouts:**

February 2020

**Contact:**

Mr. Voss, P.E. Office

## *Basketball (Boys)*

**Varsity Coach:**

Mr. Joe Gura

**Sophomore Coach:**

Mr. Adam Degroot

**Freshman Coach:**

Mr. Tom Ragen

**Season:**

Winter

**Practice Site:**

JCA

**First Meeting/Tryouts:**

November 2019

**Contact:**

Mr. Gura, Room 122

## *Basketball (Girls)*

**Varsity Coach:**

Mr. Jim O'Brien

**Junior Varsity Coach:**

Mr. Matt Adler

**Freshman Coach:**

Mr. Bob Tomasino

**Season:**

Winter

**Practice Site:**

JCA

**First Meeting/Tryouts:**

October 2019

**Other Info:**

Team plays in a summer league

**Contact:**

Mr. O'Brien, Computer Lab

## *Cheerleading*

**Varsity Coach:**

Mrs. Kristen Jaworski Stuckwisch

**Competitive Season:**

Fall through Winter

**Non-competitive Season:**

Throughout football and basketball seasons

**Practice Site:**

JCA

**First Meeting/Tryouts:**

April/May 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year

**Contact:**

Mrs. Jaworski Stuckwisch, Athletic Office

### ***Tri-M Music Honor Society***

**Moderator:** Ms. Jennifer Szynal

**Room:** 136

**Description:** The Tri-M Music Honor Society is the international music honor society for middle/junior high and high school students. It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements, reward them for their accomplishments and service activities, and to inspire other students to excel at music and leadership. This group of students meet twice a month on Fridays and complete one musical service project each semester.

### ***Victory View Media***

**Moderator:** Mr. Brian Jones

**Room:** 106

**Description:** Victory View Media's purpose is to create quality original programming featuring the people, places, and events occurring in and around Joliet Catholic Academy and to provide that programming to the JCA community and local communities. Victory View Media strives to be a viable online media outlet on campus and to the Joliet area while providing students with the opportunity to gain multifaceted hands-on experience within the field of broadcast media.

### ***Vocal Ensemble***

**Moderator:** Ms. Joyce Kelstrom

**Room:** 134

**Description:** Vocal Ensemble is an extracurricular music performance group for singers. This club meets twice a week Tuesdays (before school) and Thursdays (after school) and performs at school concerts, field trips, and special events. Vocal Ensemble is open to any interested student. Auditions are not required.

# Honor Societies

## *French National Honor Society*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Florence Austrums

**Room:** 216

**Description:** This society is dedicated to honoring students who have achieved excellence in the study of French. It recognizes high achievement of French students and promotes interest in the French language and culture. The French National Honor Society is open to all students who have fulfilled the following requirements: Maintain an "A" average for three semesters in French and a 3.5 GPA average.

## *International Thespian Troupe 1046*

**Moderator:** Ms. Jennifer Szynal

**Room:** 136

**Description:** Membership in the International Thespian Society is an honor bestowed upon students who have excelled in theatre arts. Students earn the right to be inducted into the International Thespian Society by accumulating points for their theatre work and meeting other required criteria. Whether or not students pursue careers in the performing arts, the skills they learn through theatre are invaluable and ensure that future generations will appreciate and support the arts.

## *Math National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Rachel Reyes

**Room:** 117

**Description:** Co-sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Math Honor Society encourages interest in and helps to develop scholarship in mathematics. Colleges and major universities recognize membership in Mu Alpha Theta as a significant part of a student's academic record. Open to seniors enrolled in a senior-level Math course. Honors students must maintain a "B" average, Upper College Prep a "B" average (with no C's), and College Prep level must have an "A" average. Induction is held in the fall.

## *National Art Honor Society*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Amanda Popow

**Room:** 232

**Description:** This organization honors outstanding students in the study of Art. Membership requires completion of an upper level Art course, a B+ average, and completion of art service hours to the Art Department. Membership is limited to students who have completed two art courses. Induction is held in the spring.

## *National Honor Society*

**Moderator:** Mrs. Kathy Major and Fr. Nepi Willemsen, O.Carm.

**Room:** TBA

**Description:** Membership to the National Honor Society is an honor bestowed on JCA's Angels and Hilltoppers. Selection for membership is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. NHS applications are available and induction is held during the second semester of the student's junior year.

## *Spanish National Honor Society, Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica*

**Moderator:** Mr. Edward DeBartolo

**Room:** 227

**Description:** The "Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica" is dedicated to honoring students who have achieved excellence in the study of Spanish. In doing so, the society recognizes high achievement of Spanish students. The organization intends to promote interest in the Spanish language and culture. The Spanish National Honor Society is open to all students who have fulfilled the following requirements: Maintain an "A" average for three semesters and a 3.5 GPA average.