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# Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

*Faith. Family. Future.*

September 23, 2011

## VASJ.COM Gets a Facelift



*The new and improved VASJ website.*

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School is excited to announce the launch of our new website, [www.vasj.com](http://www.vasj.com). In addition to a more updated look, the website is much more user-friendly for our parents, students, alums and friends.

Some of the new features include online forms where potential families can request more information about VASJ, community members can request prayers, parents can sign up for the Parent Volunteer Program, and alums can update their contact information and submit class notes for *VASJ Magazine*.

We encourage you to visit the new site and, as always, we welcome your feedback. Please email Emily Robinson, Communications and Media Coordinator, at

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## Stay Connected with VASJ!



Want to be the first notified of school closing and delays?

[Sign up to receive text alerts for VASJ at WKYC!](#)

**Send us your photos!**

With all of the exciting events taking place at

[erobinson@vasj.com](mailto:erobinson@vasj.com).

## Welcome VASJ Class of 2015!



*Incoming freshmen participate in a trust building exercise during Freshman Orientation at the beginning of August.*

School officially began at VASJ on Monday, August 22, and we were excited to welcome our 90 incoming freshman to the Viking Village as the Class of 2015. In the beginning of August, VASJ held a Freshman Orientation giving the new Vikings a chance to come to our campus, familiarize themselves with the building, find their lockers and meet some of the faculty and staff. The freshman class was split into three groups and each group met at the school for three days.

Team-building exercises, note-taking tips and dress code do's and don'ts were just a few of the activities included during the orientation to help initiate the incoming students to their new school. Math teacher Mr. Gary Minadeo '74 took the students on a Heritage Walk in which they walk along the first floor halls to look at the pictures on the wall and the memorabilia to learn more about the history of the two founding schools, Villa Angela Academy and St. Joseph High School.

The Religion Department provided the freshmen with the historical information.

The freshmen were also given the opportunity to meet and get to know the upperclassman student ambassadors. What an exciting way to start your new journey at high school, already knowing some of the upperclassmen! It's safe to say that members of the Class of 2015 are thriving in their new home at VASJ.

For all of our students, it's sure to be a great year in the Viking Village.

## Opening Mass "Go Light Your World"

VASJ, our staff can't be there to take pictures at every event. If you attend VASJ events and enjoy taking pictures, please send us your photos to:  
[erobinson@vasj.com](mailto:erobinson@vasj.com)

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Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School held its Opening Mass on Thursday, September 1, 2011. Principal David Csank opened the Mass by welcoming special guests in attendance, including members of the Ursuline Sisters and the Marianist Brothers, members of Our Lady of Lake Parish and some former members of the VASJ faculty.

Each year, VASJ aims to transform students in faith, service and leadership so they can go on to transform the world. The Opening Mass theme, "Go Light Your World," was woven into every aspect of the Mass. Hymns, Gospel readings and even Fr. Jim Bartlett's homily encouraged those in attendance to find their place in this world and to find Jesus as their light so they can go on to "light the world."

In the past, Eucharistic Ministers during school Masses consisted only of faculty and staff members. This year, four students-- Anjelica Lucarelli, Ryan Gallagher, Sarah Mullin and Amanda Gornik-- were commissioned as Eucharistic Ministers so that they, too, can deliver the Eucharist at future Masses.

To close the Mass, Fr. Jim blessed Richard Osborne '69 in his new role as VASJ president and also blessed each of the four classes.



[Click on the image above to see more pictures from Opening Mass.](#)

## Oarsmen Club Annual Clambake



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2011  
VASJ GYMNASIUM  
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 p.m.  
DINNER SERVED AT 7:30 p.m.  
OPEN BAR \* LIVE BAND \* RAFFLES \* AND MORE!**

A table will be set up in the gym with Villa Angela, St. Joe's and VASJ yearbooks and the first floor of school will be open for viewing memorabilia in the display cases and pictures along the walls of the hallway.

**For tickets, contact Kellie Clinton '03, Alumni/Alumni Development Coordinator, at [kclinton@vasj.com](mailto:kclinton@vasj.com) or 216-481-8414 ext. 284.**

**[Click here for more information about the event.](#)**

## VASJ students create catalog of Veteran's graves at All Souls Cemetery

You may remember hearing about the group of VASJ students who under math teacher Gary Minadeo SJ 74's leadership, decorated veterans' graves at All Souls Cemetery last May.

During the flag decorating at All Souls Cemetery, VASJ senior Kaja Kijauskas was moved by how many government-supplied headstones were hidden because they had become sunken into the ground or were overgrown with grass. The VASJ group learned that All Souls does not know where all of the veterans' headstones are located throughout the cemetery. All Souls agreed to better tend to the headstones if VASJ would build a catalog of the veterans' headstones for them. Kijauskas went to work on this initiative and recruited a group of students who over the summer catalogued more than 1,300 government headstones.

One of the core values taught to all VASJ students is the importance of service to others. Kijauskas and her team of students who donated their time during the summer to make sure the tombstones and legacies of veterans are being properly honored, are living examples that this message of service is being heard loud and clear.



Photo taken by VASJ senior Rosebud Davis

## Switching Principals



### VASJ Drama Club presents "Switching Principals"

The Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School Drama Club will be putting on three performances of the fall play "Switching Principals," by Pat Cook.

School spirit has never been lower at Marvin Gardens High School. When a new principal is scheduled to arrive, everyone is hoping for a fresh breeze. What blows in, however, are George and Madge, two con men who slipped in through the principal's office window while hiding out from the law (Pioneer Drama Service).

**Friday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Saturday, November 19, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Sunday, November 20, 2:00 p.m.**

Tickets will be available beginning October 3, 2011, in the main office or through Drama Club members. Presale tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for families of 4 or more.

## Help VASJ support our troops



Photo taken by VASJ senior Rosebud Davis

As the years have gone by, many of our alumni/ae have walked out of the doors of their alma maters and bravely served our country. VASJ is going to be accepting donations for care packages for the troops. Every man or woman giving their lives for our country deserves a little piece of home for the holidays.

From September 19-30, VASJ is collecting any of the [items listed here](#). Collection boxes have been placed outside of the main office. Please feel free to come by the school during regular school hours (7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) to drop off your items. We will be giving the collected items to the USO (United Service Organization) in Chagrin Falls to be packaged up and shipped out.

Contact Kellie Clinton, Alumni/Alumnae Development Coordinator, for more information at [kclinton@vasj.com](mailto:kclinton@vasj.com) or 216-481-8414 ext. 284.

## Fall Open Houses

For students who are looking for a school where they can belong, stand out, be open to new things, be a part of something special and grow in a unique, co-educational Catholic environment, we want them to be a part of the VASJ family.

If you know of a family or a student who should learn more about VASJ, please encourage them to attend one of our two fall Open Houses:

**Thursday, October 13, at 6 p.m.**

**Sunday, November 6, at 12 p.m.**

Visit our website at [www.vasj.com](http://www.vasj.com) to pre-register for one of our open houses. Our scheduled program begins with an information session in our gym, student panel discussion to answer your questions and guided tours of the school to meet faculty and staff. It concludes with refreshments in our Ministry Center with current parents.

## Entrance Exams

**Saturday, October 1, at 8:30 a.m.**

**Tuesday, October 18, at 4:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, November 12, at 8:30 a.m.**

· Students need to pre-register for entrance exams and can do so online at

[www.vasj.com](http://www.vasj.com).

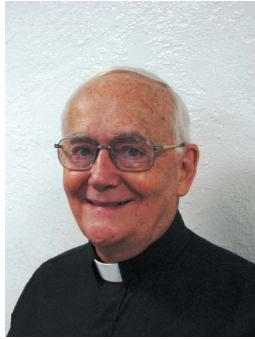
- Exams begin promptly. Please check in no later than 15 minutes before exam start time.
- Students should bring two No. 2 pencils. No calculators, please.
- Exam fee is \$20. To reserve your spot, please send in your \$20 payment in advance. Mail check to: Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School, attn: Admissions.
- Parent information session during the first hour of all exams.

## Red Cross Blood Drive

The first of four Red Cross blood drives is quickly approaching the Viking Village shore. It will take place on Tuesday, September 27, from 8-2 p.m. in the ministry center.

The goal of each blood drive is to donate a minimum of 50 pints of blood in order to be awarded scholarship money toward higher education for those students who help lead the drives.

## Weekly Masses with Father Jim Bartlett



Fr. Jim Bartlett will be holding a weekly Mass in VASJ's Chapel on Wednesday mornings at 7:15 a.m. for the VASJ community. Parents and alums are also welcome to attend Mass.

## Mark Your Calendar!

### September

- 27 - Red Cross Blood Drive, Ministry Center, 8-2 p.m.
- 28 - Oarsmen Club Meeting, Cafeteria, 7:30 p.m.
- 30 - Oarsmen Club Clambake, 6:30 p.m.

### October

- 3-6 - Spirit Week
- 7 - Homecoming Dance, Tizzanos Party Center
- 8 - Homecoming Football Game vs. Trinity and Senior Night, Euclid HS, 7 p.m.
- 11 - Parent Organization Meeting, Cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.
- 13 - Open House, 6 p.m.
- 20 - Rosary Prayer Service, Gym, 9:45 a.m.
- 26 - Oarsmen Club Meeting, Cafeteria, 7:30 p.m.
- 31 - Halloween on Campus

### November

- 1 - All Saints Day Liturgy, Gym, 9:45 a.m.
- 6 - Open House, 12 p.m. 8 - Parent Organization Meeting, Cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.
- 8 - Parent Organization Meeting, Cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 - Veterans' Day/Honor Roll Assembly, Gym, 9:45 a.m.
- 18 - Fall Play, *Switching Principals*, 7:30 p.m.
- 19 - Fall Play, *Switching Principals*, 7:30 p.m.
- 20 - Fall Play, *Switching Principals*, 2:00 p.m.
- 30 - Oarsmen Club Meeting, Cafeteria, 7:30 p.m.

Visit VASJ's website for more events: [www.vasj.com](http://www.vasj.com)

Thanks to everyone who submitted class notes for the Spring/Summer 2011 magazine!

Start submitting your class notes for the Fall/Winter 2011 *VASJ Magazine* today!  
Let us know of any changes in your life that you would like to share with fellow alums by  
[submitting a class note here!](#)

**Deadline for submissions for the Fall/Winter 2011 magazine is October 27, 2011**

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