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The Ambrosian



ST. AMBROSE
ACADEMY



Exciting Faculty Transition Sparks New Chapter for St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose Academy announces with great joy that Dr. John Joy (shown above with Executive Director Joan Carey and Bishop Donald J. Hying) has accepted the appointment of Dean of Faculty, one of the most influential and important posts at the school, beginning this summer.

In addition to his service to the Diocese of Madison in various roles since 2016, Dr. Joy is currently teaching the Cycle I religion course at St. Ambrose Academy, The Church in the Pagan World. This course begins with a study of Traditional Formal Logic, a subject that not many young people these days are exposed to.

Dr. Joy, who himself received a classical education, is deeply committed to the Academy's pedagogy of forming students in the Trivium with its Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric stages.

"I am incredibly grateful for the classical education that I was blessed to receive as a student of the liberal arts and of theology," said Dr. Joy.

"In many ways those experiences have shaped who I am as a person and deepened my faith as a Catholic. The mission of St. Ambrose Academy to provide a classical Catholic education in the context of a close-knit community of families, students, and teachers is a cause

Words that inspire us...

"Perfect schools are the result not so much of good methods as of good teachers, teachers who are thoroughly prepared and well-grounded in the matter they have to teach; who possess the intellectual and moral qualifications required by their important office; who cherish a pure and holy love for the youths confided to them, because they love Jesus Christ and His Church, of which these are the children of predilection."

- Pope Pius XI, Encyclical on Christian Education, 88
(Dr. John Joy's Favorite Catholic Education Quote)

that is close to my heart. It has been less than a year since my two oldest children joined St. Ambrose, but already we feel like we have found a home. I could not be more excited to devote the next stage of my life and work to furthering the St. Ambrose mission.”

Dr. Joy currently serves as Senior Theologian to the Bishop and is also the Diocesan Director of Evangelization and Catechesis. Bishop Hying is himself passionately committed to the evangelization of the diocese.

Dr. Joy sees the education of youth as an important element of that great work. “As Dean of Faculty, my priority will be to make sure we stay true to our identity with our eyes clearly fixed on the prize, which is preparing our students not just to get good jobs or get into good Colleges, but much more to become good people. And ultimately that means preparing our students to become men and women whose minds are fortified by faith and whose hearts are aflame with the love of Jesus Christ and zeal for his holy Church.”

Dr. Joy has a doctorate in sacred theology from the University of Fribourg, Switzerland; a licentiate in sacred theology, a master of Sacred Theology from the International Theological Institute, Austria, and a bachelor of philosophy, with a minor in classical languages and early Christian literature from Ave Maria College, Michigan.

He will continue his work in editing the complete works in English and Latin of

St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Augustine as the managing editor of the Aquinas Institute for the Study of Sacred Doctrine.

Dr. Joy succeeds Dr. Constance Nielsen as Dean of Faculty. Dr. Nielsen, a deeply-loved teacher who has served the Academy for many years in a variety of capacities, will continue to teach at the Academy, which is very good news for the students! Having worked with Dr. Joy on other projects, Dr. Nielsen declared, “The school will be in very good hands!”

As our Dean of Faculty, Dr. Joy will oversee curriculum and hiring, training, and oversight of the Academy’s faculty, which includes teachers with doctorates or advanced degrees.

Bishop Hying expressed his gratitude for Dr. Joy’s service to the Diocese over the years, especially his generous and visionary leadership of the Go Make Disciples initiative. “He has demonstrated a deep belief in and knowledge of the Faith, and he will bring all these gifts to the classroom as he forms young hearts and minds at St. Ambrose,” Bishop Hying noted. “As Dr. Joy makes the transition from the Diocese to the Academy, he is simply moving the same mission to a new location.”

Welcome, Dr. Joy, to this new role; we are blessed to have your love of the Lord and young people being applied to the work of the Academy. And our deepest thanks to Dr. Nielsen for your continued dedication and service to this community!

Winter Wonderland!

The 6th and 7th grade classes shown (and their 8th grade peers) enjoyed a fun winter trip to sled during a recent weekday.

We take our studies - *and our fun* - seriously at St. Ambrose Academy!!





We spotted some rugged frontiersmen taking a break while rehearsing for the upcoming spring musical. Get your tickets today!

Live Theater is Back!

SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS COMES TO THE STAGE THIS MARCH

We're back in action at the beautiful Verona Area Middle School PAC for this year's musical, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers.

With a ton of lively music, humorous scenes, and fun dancing, this family-friendly musical is a great way to enjoy a night (or afternoon) out!

Don't miss the talented 6th - 12th grade students of St. Ambrose Academy's theater program put on another incredible show. Long recognized by the Overture Center's awards for high school musicals, you'll be transported to another time and another place by this passionate, dedicated team!

Tickets

AMBROSEACADEMY.ORG/MUSICAL

March 25 at 7PM

March 26 at 7PM

March 27 at 2PM

\$14/Adults, \$10/Seniors,
\$7/Students & Children

Now Enrolling Students in Grades 6+

St. Ambrose is GROWING! More students, new families, a beautiful new building being planned - there's a lot of incredible things happening and we want more families to be a part of this wonderful community!

A St. Ambrose education offers challenging athletics, academic support for all learners to achieve their best potential, extra-curriculars to help form well-rounded young people, phenomenal and caring teachers, and so much more.

A robust tuition assistance program - which gives annual assistance to roughly 50% of our student body - helps families make this life-changing education a reality for their children.

Reach out today and we can help answer questions, set up student shadow days, arrange for a parent visit to see the school, and introduce you to our dynamic classical curriculum and the close-knit Catholic culture of St. Ambrose Academy.

Contact Angela Hinline at
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A Student Witness

FROM THE 2022 MARCH FOR LIFE

St. Ambrose historically sends current juniors and seniors to the Washington, D.C. March for Life every other year. Senior Marisol C. attended this year's March for Life and shared some of her experience of the event through her eyes:

My mom put this year's March in perspective: "You're not going for yourself, you're going to show the world that there is a young generation who will fight for what is right."

Going to this year's March was important to me to show my younger siblings and other



SAA Students Nick G., Andrew G., and Marisol C. at Supreme Court during the 2022 March for Life

students that it's important to step up for what we believe in and not stop until everyone has the right to life.

One of the speakers talked about how small choices can lead to a big impact. That had a huge effect on me and I think about the work we are doing around Madison.

Coming out of the pandemic, it's important to build relationships with organizations like Students for Life to learn from them. We also want to build on our relationship with The Sharing Center and other local orgs to help bring students to help serve their missions.

As the co-leader of Guardians for Life at St. Ambrose, its important to me to give this kind of witness and to always be prepared to give my reasons for being pro-life and to encourage my peers to do the same.

So much of the world around us pushes certain views; through my experiences in my classes, at the March, and my involvement with Guardians for Life, I have been able to move from being a little timid and even afraid to speak up to being able to respectfully speak out and be open when I don't agree with what's being said.

My voice, even if its a small voice, is important and I trust that even the small choices and actions I make will build a culture of life.

ST. AMBROSE ACADEMY

Catholic Classical Education for Grades 6-12

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Stay in touch!

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