



March 3, 2020

Dear Saint Joseph Parish Community & Friends,

I am excited to announce that Saint Joseph Preschool will soon be embarking upon its first expansion! Beginning in August 2020, our preschool will offer an Infant/Toddler Program.

Our parish grade school, twice recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School, has established itself as a model of excellence in the education of young hearts and minds. Our preschool, now in its seventh year, has certainly followed suit. Under the direction of Melissa Cowden, Saint Joseph Preschool has become a fully-accredited Level 4 Paths to Quality provider, but also much more — it has become a model of early childhood *Catholic* education, and that is an achievement for which our parish can be proud.

With our Infant/Toddler Program, we intend to provide this same exceptional quality of Catholic education for our smallest children in their first precious years! In addition to being overseen by Mrs. Cowden, our Infant/Toddler Program will be staffed with a full-time lead teacher as well as other experienced early childhood educators in order to provide a 4:1 student-teacher ratio. Staff will be trained in the HighScope curriculum for infants and toddlers, and our program will meet all of the guidelines for state licensing. These components will provide the children we serve with consistency of care and a first-class early childhood education.

Please see more information about the program, including application instructions, on the attached document. Additional details will be finalized in the coming weeks.

We look forward to a successful kickoff of this new offering. May Saint Joseph, Protector of the Holy Family and Patron of the Church, continue to intercede for all of our teachers and staff as we help to form the next generation in making God known, loved, and served!

God bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Kevin".

Fr. Kevin Russeau, C.S.C.  
Pastor



## Saint Joseph Preschool Program Expansion

*Saint Joseph Preschool, a Level 4 provider in the Paths to QUALITY™ early care and education rating program for the State of Indiana, will be expanding to offer an Infant/Toddler Daycare Program beginning in August 2020.*

### Program Description

The Infant/Toddler Program will serve children ages 3 months to 3 years. It will be staffed with trained teachers who are early childhood experts on developmentally appropriate practices following the HighScope curriculum for infants and toddlers. The program will follow licensing regulations of the State of Indiana, with appropriate adult-to-child ratios depending on children's ages. The program will operate on the same schedule as Saint Joseph Grade School.

### Facilities

The infant/toddler expansion will be housed in the Ackles Parish Life Center at Saint Joseph Parish in South Bend.

### Eligibility

Priority for the Infant/Toddler Program will be given to children of current Saint Joseph Grade School, Preschool, Parish employees, followed by children of those within the Saint Joseph Parish Community.

### Tuition

Frequency	Rate
Full-Day – 5 days	\$230/week
Full-Day – less than 5 days	\$55/day
Half-Day – 5 days	\$175/week
Half-Day – less than 5 days	\$42/day

## **Application**

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins March 3. There is a \$175 registration fee (non-refundable for accepted children) that will be applied to tuition.

Applicants who have completed the registration form and submitted the registration fee will be notified of status by March 30.

The link to the online application form for the Infant/Toddler Program can be found at:  
[www.stjosephgradeschool.com/admissions/preschool-admissions](http://www.stjosephgradeschool.com/admissions/preschool-admissions)

## **Contact**

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### ***About Saint Joseph Preschool***

*Saint Joseph Parish is committed to providing high-quality early childhood programming that advances our mission of educating hearts and minds in the Holy Cross tradition.*

*Saint Joseph Preschool is a Level 4 provider in the Paths to QUALITY™ early care and education rating program for the State of Indiana. Level 4 is the top rating a program can earn, after having demonstrated a commitment to the highest level of professionalism in quality early care and education — achievement of a nationally recognized accreditation. Saint Joseph Preschool is a nationally accredited early learning program through AdvancED.*

*Saint Joseph Preschool is also an Indiana On My Way Pre-K provider, allowing qualifying families to receive grants to attend our program the year before kindergarten.*