

SJB Congratulates and Wishes Farewell to Bishop Brennan



Like any high school across Long Island, St. John the Baptist DHS is proud of all of its Alumni and their achievements. It is an honor to watch them grow from teenagers into men and women changing the world as we know it. Our most recent “Alumni Spotlight” is near and dear to our hearts as we both congratulate and say farewell to our friend, Bishop Robert Brennan ('80,) as he moves on to spread the word of the Lord as Bishop of the Diocese of Ohio.

A graduate of St. John the Baptist's Class of 1980, Robert J. Brennan, now 56, went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from St. John's University. He completed his Ecclesiastical Studies at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, and he was ordained into the Priesthood in 1989. He has since served the Diocese of Rockville Centre for 30 years. Throughout that time he has developed close ties to the SJB community often visiting our campus, speaking with our students, attending sporting events, and simply donating his time to help better our SJB family.

Whether as a Priest, a Monsignor, or as an Auxiliary Bishop, Bishop Brennan's alma mater remained an important part of his life and his ministry. He was a good friend of SJB's first Principal, Monsignor Mulligan, as well as his successor, Sr. Bernadette Donovan. As Secretary to a new Bishop (Murphy,) he steered him in SJB's direction for our Ash Wednesday services, which started a tradition that continues. When they weren't leading the prayer service, both Bishop Murphy and Bishop (then Msgr) Brennan met and spoke to many students individually and in groups during the day.

Bishop Brennan is an invaluable friend to SJB, its students, faculty, and administration. Over the years, he, himself, came to SJB to speak at assemblies and to celebrate Mass. For all that he has meant over the years to our SJB school community, Bishop Brennan has been inducted into our Hall of Fame, as well as being a recipient of the Men of Vision Lifetime Achievement Award.

On the day before he was leaving for World Youth Day in Panama, Bishop Brennan received notice that he was being appointed by Pope Francis as the 12th Bishop of Columbus, Ohio. Some SJB students and staff were fortunate to spend the few days with him in Panama following his appointment. It is bittersweet to say goodbye to Bishop Brennan. He will always hold a place in the hearts of the SJB community, and his impact will forever be felt and missed. We wish him the best of luck in his new endeavors in Ohio, and look forward to seeing him again in the future. He will always have a home here at St. John the Baptist.