In April, Mr. Freund, Mr. Stancato and Mrs. Pitt-Payne attended an Archdiocesan summit to compose Faith Formation outcome statements for our students. This was one in a series of summits in which Principals, Campus Ministers and Theology teachers from all over the Archdiocese of Milwaukee gather together with the goal of defining outcomes and aligning efforts (Theology, Campus Ministry, Service, School Culture) towards a comprehensive Faith Formation purpose. At this meeting, the “Head, Heart and Hands” model was unveiled. The Head, Heart, Hands model (roughly equivalent to Knowledge, Disposition and Skills) helps Theology Departments to articulate clearly and aim to provide an authentic and holistic Faith Formation to students.

The Head, Heart, Hands model represents a way to think about entry-points into the faith development process. Students’ predispositions toward any of the three areas offers an opportunity to draw them into faith development opportunities that capitalize on those interests. In addition, the model offers a way to ensure that Faith Formation outcome statements, and ultimately our activities to nurture those outcomes, represent an authentic faith that is not imbalanced towards just one component.

We would like to inform you of just some of the efforts we are making at SJCA to implement this model:

- We now have one retreat team that will provide retreats during the J-Term for the entire SJCA student community - Lower and Upper Campus - with the same theme to unite all of us.
- We have begun a simplified Service Hour plan run through the Theology classrooms aimed at removing any unnecessary obstacles to students’ efforts to put their Faith into action.
- With our Freshmen, we are piloting the most technologically savvy method of handing on the Deposit of Faith with a brand new platform known as “Verbum”. Over 2000 years of collective wisdom of the Catholic Church is now being presented to students interactively on their laptops.
- We are the first school to have this incredible tool: https://verbum.com/education
- We are striving to make the Sacraments more accessible to our students during the school day and refining our clubs to provide opportunities for praise and worship, vocation discernment, etc.
- We are increasing our communication with local parishes to find as many opportunities as possible for students to connect with the local Church.

You will be hearing from us regularly this year as our combined Theology/Campus Ministry Department works hard to ensure the best possible Faith Formation for our students at St. Joseph Catholic Academy.

We’re looking forward to a great year!

**St. Joseph Catholic Academy Theology and Campus Ministry Team**

**Upper Campus**
Fr. Todd Belardi - Chaplain, Fr. Dwight Campbell, Terese Halm, Michael Masteller, Marie Palmer, Jeremy Pitt-Payne, Marie Pitt-Payne - Department Chair, Joe Stancato

**Lower Campus**
Sr. Sylvia Leonardi