



**PRINCIPAL CORNER for February 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Passionate, Exceptional, Grateful, Giving**

As a native Ohioan, I have heard the buzz surrounding Louisiana State University quarterback Joe Burrow, born and raised in Athens County, Ohio. People in his hometown are quite excited about his phenomenal play on the football field and extremely proud that he comes from their neck of the woods.

In 2019, he had 5,671 passing yards and 60 passing touchdowns. He led his team to win the SEC Championship in December, and then led LSU to win the College Football Playoff in January. Prior to his success, he had three seasons at another college and one challenging season in 2018 at LSU. His incredible success came after a whole lot of hard work and tremendous growth. A news clip about him included the following, **“Joe Burrow inspired the masses with his passionate and exceptional play.”**

For his prowess on the field, he earned the Heisman trophy this year. In his acceptance speech, he thanked his teammates, his coaches, his parents and his hometown, for their support.

He also said in his speech, “The poverty rate where I live is almost two times the national average. I am up here for all those kids who go home to not a lot of food on the table.” Will Diabolo began an online fundraiser, after hearing Burrow’s Heisman speech. So far, \$500,000 has been raised to support foodbanks in Athens County, Ohio.

Joe Burrow said in an interview after his speech, “Everyone has a responsibility to do good. Now I have a platform.” His example, as a player who is passionate, exceptional, grateful, AND who gives back to the community, is exactly what our goal is at St. Cecilia Catholic School for each of our students.

Through our rich academic program, students continuously grow their capacity and confidence. In addition, we provide multiple opportunities for students to share their strengths to help others.

As Catholics, we are called to be **passionate, exceptional, grateful, and giving**; at SCCS, we lay the groundwork, daily, for students to experience and communicate all four of these habits of learning and living.

With joy,  
Susan Kilbane