West Islip, NY --- St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School celebrated their 50th anniversary with their “Evening in Red and White” event, on Saturday, November 19th. Over four hundred students, parents, faculty, both past and present, and many alumni gathered to dedicate the new Library Media Center and then to continue to celebrate the rich history and success of St. John’s with music, dancing and reminiscing.

The event began with the dedication of St. John’s new Library Media Center. The new library was completed and opened to students at the end of September and offers a wide variety of print and technological resources. The library was blessed and dedicated by the auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, the most Reverend Bishop Robert J. Brennan. Bishop Brennan is an alumnus of St. John the Baptist and was one of many alumni who returned to St. John’s to celebrate its 50th anniversary. Proclamations were presented from Senator Phil Boyle, Legislator Tom Cilmi, and Town Supervisor Angie Carpenter.

Guests were then invited to take a stroll down “Memory Lane” in the gymnasium. Memory Lane consisted of artifacts and memorabilia representing St. John’s 50 year history, laid out in chronological order, for guests to view and reminisce about their time at the high school. Dinner, with much dancing and celebrating were also enjoyed in the school cafeteria. A large committee of faculty and staff planned the night to welcome, celebrate and have lots of fun!

Principal Nan Doherty stated, “It was with much Cougar Pride that we celebrate the 50th anniversary of St. John's and it was in a great spirit of thanksgiving to the many parents and alums, past and present, who helped to build and renovate St. John's from 1966 through 2016. Saturday night was a joyful celebration for all! It was terrific to have a cross-section of our entire community that wanted to be together to celebrate the 50th with great enthusiasm!”
About St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School: 1,500 students attend St. John the Baptist DHS, a college preparatory Catholic High School located on the south shore in West Islip. As part of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, St. John’s offers a value-centered education that recognizes the unique talents and abilities of each child, while fostering a school environment that challenges students to reach their true potential. Open since 1966, St. John’s offers a rigorous curriculum and extensive activity and athletic programs. Students have the opportunity to take numerous Advanced Placement classes and 99% of St. John’s graduates continue on to higher education. For Mission Statement and additional information: www.sjbdhs.org