



# ST. JOHN

## THE EVANGELIST PARISH

— < ESTABLISHED 1917 > —

February 12, 2021

Jambo,

As some of you may have heard, the Yonder Cider Co., which opened up several months ago, will be closing. The story around how this came to be has been unfolding over the past few days, and we feel it is necessary to share the facts around this and how it relates to the St. John community:

Item 1

- Several complaints about zoning and the proximity of this to-go retail space close by two schools and a church were submitted to the City and the parish.
- Many people in our community are frustrated that these complaints were perceived as representative of the entire St. John community in local media stories and on social media.

Item 2

- In January, the school and parish discussed Yonder Cider Co. at the administrative level. We agreed we had no issue with Yonder Cider Co. as long as they performed their due diligence. A draft complaint was submitted to the City and has since been officially retracted, although it still appears on the website.

This is a rather complicated issue, and we wanted to share the nuances of it with you. We recognize there are strong mixed feelings about this situation, which is polarizing our community. Some people do not feel Yonder Cider Co. near the school is appropriate, and others feel this local business is building community.

Ultimately, St. John School and Parish work together diligently to be good neighbors and want to support our community, including small businesses. While our community may have differing opinions, we must continue to respect each other and recognize we are still one Catholic family.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Baraka ya Yesu,

Father Crispin and Bernadette O'Leary