



WHAT RUNNERS, SPECTATORS AND VOLUNTEERS SAID ABOUT THE INAUGURAL ST. JOSEPH MARATHON!

Great event! I've run small town events all the way up to doing the New York City Marathon last November. I've also done several inaugural events. I must say, without a doubt, this was one of the best inaugural events I've done. Organized, tough course, best crowd of runners at a new event I've done, and post race vendors and such was an awesome deal for me. I got the opportunity to run with my granddaughter who was doing her 1st ever 5k event. I think this won her over to do more events and possibly go out for cross country next school year. Thank you for such a great time. Next year, though, flatten that hill towards the end, please, LOL.

**Larry W.
Wamego, KS**

I've run many races throughout the country and St Joe did a great job. Was very impressed from the very first that morning driving to the race and seeing streets already blocked off and volunteers already in place.

Then packet pick up was smooth, no problem with parking, course was marked very well and the post race food was great! Wish I could of had a doughnut with my tenderloin though 😊.

Course was tougher than I expected but I was only racing the 5k so it was no big deal.

My only suggestion is for the marathon and half, I would recommend to flatten out the course a little bit. Especially towards the end. Running up that hill on 6th street at the end of a half or full is a killer that most people will not like.

Overall a great event! I plan to be back next year!

Matt W

I wanted to personally thank you for the half-marathon medal! That was so kind of you. My husband said I should have done the 5k, 10k or half but I'm too competitive! It will be cherished.

The race was so well organized. As a former event coordinator, I'm a tough sell. Every detail was carefully planned and it showed. Hats off to you and your crew!

Have a wonderful evening and thank you again -

Elizabeth T.

Great event until the rain started. It was challenging for everyone after that. Volunteers was tough and stayed on course.

Charles C.

Hi!

Thank you so much for putting on a fantastic race event this past weekend. It was all wonderful! I wanted to reach out and see if a date has been decided for next year? I want to make sure I mark my calendar!

Thanks so much,

Dayle D.

I ran in the 5K race—actually my wife and I walked.

In years past, I ran in the Atlanta Peach Tree 10K (many, many years ago), in an on-base marine half marathon opened to non-marine folks (also many years ago), and in a small town 10K race, also a long time ago.

Clearly the St. Joe was the extremely well organized, set up, and super good in all respects, although I think the first stage could be better if runners went up 9th to Hall and then either west to 6th or on north to the parkway. Also could go up 7th or 8th. Downtown and 6th street are not particularly scenic or impressive, whereas the other routes would be at least their equal and, certainly, it would be nice to feature Hall street.

But, regardless, accolades and commendations to all who organized.

I will be back next year, as I suspect many others will be plus new folks.

Michael S.

Quick note, today was amazing!! From a runners standpoint I think you organizers, police and all the volunteers did a flawless job, rain and shine. A challenging but very scenic course.

Look forward to this being a regular event for St Joe.

Cheers.

Steve C.

The marathon was great. I heard so many compliments related to the organization of the race from the runners as they came through our water station. You and your team are rock stars. Thanks for your vision of bringing something new to our community.

Joella M.

First, a very good job on an inaugural event. That was my 137th marathon, and it was a good one. I have achieved all my marathonning goals so I had to invent some new ones. One of those is to run every marathon in Missouri. I have been just one or two away from completing that for a few years now, and every year someone (like St Jo) comes up with a new one. But yours was done very well. Not complaining. I will probably do it again.

Bill S.

I participated in the 2023 Inaugural St. Joe Half Marathon running race yesterday (Sept. 23) and found this to be a very well organized event. The packet pick-up, aid stations, the police presence, the volunteers, the race organizers, and the myriad of other crews, were all top notch and professional in my opinion. I've been running in races since 1998, and this was on par with much bigger running events. Thank you, and please thank your staff, for a good & productive event. I believe a good time was had by all, as the old adage goes.

Rusty M.

"I was able to speak with a few people who stayed with us for the Marathon and they said it was one of the best races they have run and it was very well supported."

Annie Eaton – Director of Sales at Stoney Creek

Dear St. Joseph Sports Commission team!

I want to congratulate you for a very successful event last weekend. I participated in the half marathon. Everything was so well organized, it was hard to believe it was a first time event. I've run in halves in 28 different states now, yours is already up there

with the best of those. The encouragement from the volunteers all along the route was best in class.

My only complaint: Flatten those Hills next year (LOL!)

Bill H.
Overland Park, KS

OTHER COMMENTS:

“Two of my relatives came from Liberty to run. They loved it and said how organized it was. They had a lot of fun and will be back.”

“I was expecting some hiccups with this being a first time marathon – I was so surprised there weren’t any.”

My friend who has run the Boston Marathon 3 times. She runs a couple marathons all over the U.S. every year – KC, MN, Washington, Chicago, Boston:

Before the Race: “wow this is great, this is a really nice set up”

After the Race as she was dripping wet from the rain: “it was fun, it was good. The hills got me, I had to walk a little bit at times. Great job.”

“Wow such a great event. So much swag for the runners. SOOO much food, free beer, free tenderloin, free energy pack, cool t-shirt, swag bag. We’ve run the Disney run and they only gave us chocolate milk and a banana!”

“So many volunteers – they did a great job.”

“Course was well marked – no chance of getting lost.”

“Can’t wait to come back next year.”

“Volunteers were great cheering us on along the way.”

“Oooooohhhh those hills.”