



CCS LINES

December 2023



Personal reflection during Advent

From Columbus
Catholic Schools
Executive Director Jeff
Ohnoutka

The calendar change to December signifies the frantic rush to Christmas will now reach its fever pitch. The gift buying, the parties, food planning and dreams of Christmas vacation will now consume us as they do every year.

This is why taking the time to truly invest ourselves in the season of Advent can slow down the merry go round. Advent is a time of personal reflection

The Scotus Craft Boutique is Sunday



The 2023 Craft Boutique shopping area in the Dowd Activity Center.

One of the most successful fundraisers Scotus puts on every year is the Scotus Craft Boutique. The Boutique will be this Sunday, December 4th, and feature over 80 vendors.

that allows us to prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Christ and acknowledge that we **wait** for His return.

We live in a world that seeks instant gratification with immediate results. Advent allows us a chance to slow down, but to do so with **hope** and **joy** for what is to come.

Our schools have some excellent resources to help your family fully participate in the joy of Advent. I hope that you will find some of them helpful. I wish everyone a blessed Advent and Christmas season. It truly is a privilege to share these moments with your children in our Catholic school community.

God Bless.

2023-2024 yearbook online ordering

Thanks to the development office, we can now offer online payment for yearbooks! We usually do a formal yearbook sales event in January, but with online ordering, you can purchase your 2023-2024 yearbook anytime! **The deadline will be Friday, January 19th.**

If you are interested in getting this taken care of now, please order using this link: **Yearbook Ordering for 23-24.** (2023-2024 yearbooks are passed out in August 2024 at orientation.)

As always, we have been busy this first quarter taking photos at almost all home events, and we have those photos online for purchasing. If you would like to view or order photos, here is the link to get started: **Journalism Photos.**

Proceeds from this event go directly back to our students and staff in multiple ways. Proceeds have purchased LED lighting, Lenovo's and more.

Breakfast and lunch will be served. Cinnamon rolls, sloppy joes, chicken noodle soup, and homemade desserts will be served in the cafeteria.

Admission to get in is \$5 for adults and kids \$2 (grades 1-6).

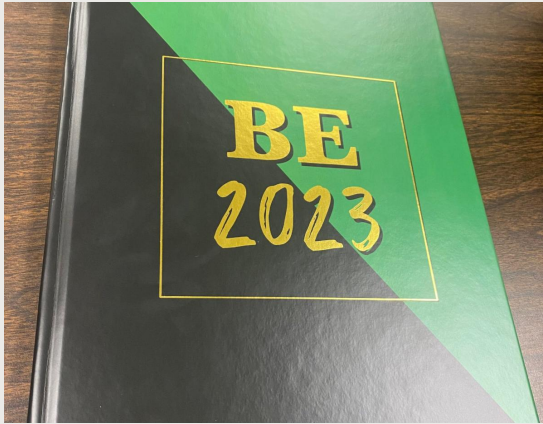


Scotus license plate frames for sale

Are you looking for a last minute Christmas gift for a Shamrock in your family? The junior high band students are selling metal, Scotus license plate frames as a fundraiser for the Band Department.

Frames are \$16. If you are interested please email Kristen Cox at kcox@colcath.org. Limited quantity available.

If you have any questions, please contact Angie Rusher at arusher@colcath.org.



Hats for sale!

The Scotus Entrepreneurship & Marketing classes have hats for sale. Students create and design their own leather patches through the Scotus STEAM lab. Right now there are various designs with different color combinations of hats for \$20. Hats will be sold at various home activity games or in Mr. Mroczek's room (220).

If you or your business is interested in your own logo/design please reach out to cmroczek@colcath.org to get your order started.



SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC BAND & VOCAL CONCERTS



BAND (5-12): DECEMBER 12TH, 7:00 P.M., DOWD ACTIVITY CENTER

VOCAL (6-12): DECEMBER 14TH, 7:00 P.M., MEMORIAL HALL



Scotus music concerts

Scotus Central Catholic is hosting the annual winter band concert on Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00 P.M. in the Dowd Activity Center. If you are unable to make it, the event will be live streamed on YouTube. Click here to subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#).

The annual winter vocal concert on Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 P.M. in Memorial Hall.

Come out and listen to some amazing music and support our students!

Prom info

Prom will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2024, in the Scotus cafeteria.

- 6:30 p.m. - Doors open
- 7:30 p.m. - Dinner
- 8:30-11:30 Dance

Please take time to review the dress code for formal dances, found in the Student/Parent Handbook. These dress code rules apply to both Scotus students and their outside dates.

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE DECEMBER LUNCH MENU



To the Principal's Office

(each month, two principals will submit a writeup for their respective school.)

As we begin December, we are nearing the end of the first semester. This is obviously a hectic time with family gatherings, new activities beginning, and preparing for challenging final exams. But, we need to remember to take a step back during December and commit ourselves to preparing for the birth of our Lord during Advent. During the month of December, our students will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during our all-school penance services. This is in addition to our weekly opportunities for Reconciliation on Wednesdays at Scotus.

During the month of November, some of our female students had the opportunity to experience the new retreat structure at Scotus by participating in the FIERCE Athlete Retreat. This retreat focused on the Theology of the Body and reinforced that we are all created in God's image. Our students were not the only ones participating in retreats during November. Our staff had the opportunity to participate in a day of Faith Formation led by Jose Gonzalez from the Sophia Institute and Sister Karolyn Nunes who is the Vocation Director at Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George. This was an awesome opportunity for our staff to grow in their faith as well as learn how to evangelize to our students.

Also during November, our 8th grade students completed another wonderful Science Fair, our junior class participated in mock interviews led by the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce, and our Health Science students were able to visit Columbus Community Hospital.

Our students once again helped us shoot right past our \$12,000 goal for the Dash for Cash Lottery that raises funds for the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton fund at Scotus. Students raised over \$14,000 with over 270 students selling at least \$50 worth of tickets. The Scotus Booster Club is also preparing for the Craft Boutique on December 3rd which is always a successful event that raises funds to support our students.

We wish you and your families a Merry Christmas from all of us at Scotus Central Catholic!

-Brady Vancura, Scotus Central Catholic Principal

Happy Advent! This is a busy month for the students and staff at St. Anthony's! Our Catholicity committee is planning weekly prayer services for us during Advent to help



prepare our hearts for Christmas Day. We also will be having our annual *Cozy Up With A Good Book* day on December 6. Family and friends of our students are invited to school any time during the school day to participate in a variety of fun activities centered around books. We will also have a book fair and hot chocolate and cookies.

We will also be having a K-6 Christmas Program at 7:00 on December 17 in church. Plan on joining us for the Nativity Play and Christmas songs. In addition to a busy month, the Angel Choir will sing and record a couple of Christmas Songs to send to Spirit Catholic Radio for them to play during their three days of Christmas celebration December 26-28. Our students will also be submitting entries for the Spirit Catholic Radio prayer card contest. Christmas break for our students begins at noon on December 20. That morning our entire school will head to the movie theater for a school wide Christmas movie with our Home & School paying for our tickets. That morning all students will be given a treat bag from the student council, and they will also have the option to purchase a kiddie combo.

In between all of these fun activities, the teachers will get in as many mid-year assessments as possible, the students will make a Christmas present for their parents, 3rd-6th graders will go to confession, 4th graders will send Christmas cards to incoming preschool students, and we are going to have a sock drive for the homeless. Plus, I forgot to mention lots of new learning will be happening too.

The students and staff at St. Anthony's School wish you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed new year! Thank you for the many different ways that you support our school!

-Amy Sokol, St. Anthony Elementary Principal

ADVANCEMENT

New crucifix

Thank you to the Class of 1983 and principal donors Michelle (Brooks '83) & Bob Soulliere who made it part of their 40th class reunion to underwrite the purchase of a new crucifix for the Dowd Activity Center. The crucifix came from Italy, and including shipping costs totaled nearly \$2,800.00. It looks great and once blessed, it will be installed in the Dowd Activity Center!

New scholarship recently created

Thanks to a \$20,000.00 donation to the Scotus endowment from JoAnn (Stavas-

Braun) Svajgr, a 1963 alumna of St. Bonaventure HS/Scotus CC HS, and her husband Al, a new scholarship was established to provide tuition assistance to students attending Scotus Central Catholic.

The scholarship is named the G. J. (Jerry) Braun and JoAnn (Stavas-Braun) Svajgr Scholarship. It is the intention of the donors that two-\$500 scholarships will be annually awarded, and as an endowed fund, the corpus of the fund (\$20,000) will never be spent--only the fund's annual earnings will support the scholarships.

Thank you, JoAnn and Al for your investment in the Catholic education of students at Scotus Central Catholic Jr/Sr High School!

November fundraisers

Bid-a-Bag was held on November 2nd with 55 women attending. Although intended to be more for engagement than for fundraising, the event had net proceeds of \$2,814.57. Proceeds were deposited in the Scotus Booster Club account where they will become available to support student activities at Scotus.

The Dash for Holiday Cash Lottery was again a success with Scotus students selling 2,949 tickets or 134 more than in 2022. Net proceeds of approximately \$12,900 will be deposited in the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Scholarship Fund which provides tuition assistance annually to Scotus students. Students involved in the ticket sales also enjoyed a dress down week at the end of November. The winner of the \$1,000 cash prize was Lakeview HS student, Eli Colegrove.

Scotus Gala 2024

The 43rd annual Gala dinner/auction is set for Saturday, April 13, 2024 and our co-chairs are: Clete & Lisa Borchers, Dr. Scott & Kelly Cameron and Roger & Jill Krienke. Vice-chairs are: Mike & Kim Dreesen, Fred & Carrie Maguire, Jack & Lisa Meers.

If you would like to participate by donating an item for the silent or oral auctions, volunteer to help, or if you wish to receive an invitation to attend, please contact our co-chairs, vice-chairs, or Erin Schmidt in the Scotus advancement office: or 402-564-7165 ext. 154 or eschmidt@colcath.org.

Your involvement will be key to our event's success and that's why we urge you to mark your calendars today!



Columbus Catholic Schools publications

You can read past yearbooks, annual appeals, school board minutes, school newspapers and more on the publications page on our website. Visit columbus-catholic.org, click "about" on the navigation bar, and on the about page, click the publications tab. [Here is a direct link.](#)





Band news

Upcoming dates:

December 1: High School Band & Choir caroling at area nursing homes

December 3: Bake Sale at the Scotus Craft Boutique

December 11: Band Christmas Concert (5th -12th grades) Dowd Activity Center

The Scotus high school band provided entertainment for the Veterans program at Brookestone Acres on November 8. The students performed patriotic selections and military service songs. Following the performance, the students enjoyed spending time visiting with the residents.

Our band had 15 students participate in the CMS Junior High Honor Band/Drumline Experience on November 11. Students involved were eighth graders Julia McPhillips, JR Oehrich, Leah Fleming, Gianna Braziel, Alex Chvala, Kayden Renner; seventh graders Ben Anderson, Ariana Hissong, Lawson Thiem, Liam Saenz, Layne Hollman; sixth graders Jude Reed, Kipton Oehrich, and Johnathan Koliha.

On December 1, the high school band and choir will be spreading Christmas joy to the residents at several local nursing homes and the hospital. Each group will play/sing Christmas carols and they will conclude each performance by performing a few songs together!

The Band's annual Bake Sale will be on Sunday, December 3 at the Scotus Craft Boutique. We will have lots of wonderful holiday goodies for sale, so please make plans to stop by J

Monday, December 11 will be the Band Christmas Concert at 7pm in the Scotus Activity Center. The Concert will include performances by the Jazz Band, Sr. High Band, Jr. High Band, 6th Grade Band, and 5th Grade Band. Thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you at our concert!



(Above) The band performed songs like Marches of the Armed Forces, Stars and Stripes Forever and more. After performing, they met with residents just to talk. Thank you for the band for taking the time to do this every year.

Signing up for service opportunities

If your students are looking for service opportunities, reminder that upcoming and ongoing opportunities are posted on our website. See the link [here](#) or contact our Campus Ministry staff.

Dana Ritzdorf
Kelly Koranda
Tyler Linder
Nate Tenopir

We try to keep this updated with different school, church, and community needs that students can take advantage of.

Join a Rock Talk group for the 23-24 school year!

Offer the gift of your time to invest in our teens and join the awesome team of RockTalk leaders! RockTalk started two years ago at Scotus as a movement to connect our students & teachers with Catholic adults in our community (Parents, especially!).



Growing stronger in their faith, the groups spend time sharing prayer, discussing the upcoming Sunday gospels, and getting to know each other. Co-Leaders meet with their group of students one Wednesday a month at the school, the last hour of the day.



Journalism photos for sale

Do you want to support our awesome Journalism students and get a photo of your son or daughter during a school day? How about an action shot from a volleyball game or a pep rally? We are starting to upload fall activity photos online. Click [HERE](#) to

see the albums.

If you would like to support Scotus Journalism and purchase photos, you can use the order form [HERE](#). Let [Mrs. Rusher](#) know if you have any questions!

Your support is greatly appreciated and helps fund our journalism department to purchase new cameras, software and more.

Scotus calendar of events and meetings:

- Scotus Craft Boutique - Sun. Dec. 3, Activity Center/Memorial Hall 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
- TEAM SCOTUS- Wed. Dec. 6
- StuCo Meeting- Wed. Dec. 6, Room 126, 7:40 A.M.
- Band Christmas Concert- Mon. Dec. 11, Dowd Activity Center, 7:00 P.M.
- Vocal Christmas Concert - Thur. Dec. 14, Memorial Hall, 7:00 P.M.
- DRESS DOWN DAY- Fri. Dec. 15
- Semester Tests - Tue. Dec. 19, (Students are dismissed for day when finished with tests.)
- Semester Tests - Wed. Dec. 20, (Students are dismissed for the when finished with tests.)
- CHRISTMAS BREAK NO SCHOOL- Thu. Dec. 21 - Wed. Jan. 3
- NSAA Moratorium - Sat. Dec. 23, - Wed. Dec. 28
- Holiday Basketball Tournament - Fri. Dec. 29 and Sat. Dec. 30, Scotus Central Catholic
- Teacher In-Service/Faith Formation - Wed. Jan. 3
- First Day of Second Semester -Thu. Jan. 4

To see the full calendar of Shamrock events for December, click [here](#).

[CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)

[December guidance & careers information](#)

Scheduling notice:

- The last day for drop and add for the 2nd semester is December 13th.
- All schedule changes must be made in person with Ms. Brichacek during school hours (7:45-3:45).

CCC online college courses:

- It's not too late to sign up! Please contact Ms. Brichacek if you are interested in taking an online college course through CCC during the spring semester. Course spots are filling up quickly.
- Here is a list of common college course offerings (look under Popular General Education-Online Offerings) [CLICK HERE FOR LIST](#).

Seniors:

- A reminder that scholarships are posted on columbus-catholic.org under "[Academics](#)" and the "[Scholarships](#)" tab.
- Students will be able to complete the FAFSA application by at least December 31st. In the meantime, it is highly encouraged that you and your student create a FSA ID account. This account can take up to three days to be verified and a FSA ID is required to complete the FAFSA.

COLUMBUS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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