

CCS LINES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS



COLUMBUS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



www.columbus-catholic.org

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A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear School Community,

As we enter the month of December, our schools are abuzz with activity, both academic and charitable. Our students are diligently preparing for their end-of-semester tests, and we are proud of their hard work and dedication to finishing the year strong. This season of giving also brings the opportunity to

participate in the Holiday Spirit Coop, a cherished tradition where we adopt families in need and share the joy of Christmas with them through donations of gifts and essentials. Together, a faith-filled community, we continue to foster both academic excellence and a spirit of generosity, living out the true meaning of this blessed season.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyous Advent,

Jeff Ohnoutka

DECEMBER PARENT DEVOTION: CHASING PEACE IN THE CHAOS

In the chaos, in the challenge, in the heartbreak as well as the joy of life, we can discover the deepest gratitude and peace by remembering God is always with us every step of the way.

"BE STILL AND KNOW I AM GOD."
PSALM 46:10



Sometimes in the fast-pace of our daily lives, we get into a "too busy" mode to be still with God. Even for those who have a routine morning or evening quiet time of reflection & prayer, it often might start to feel like it's part of the daily "to-do" list.

Challenge: "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10) During your busiest time of day, take a 10-minute "time-out" for God. Pay attention to how you feel during your daily activities after your impromptu "God break." Do you feel more strength? More peace? More hope?



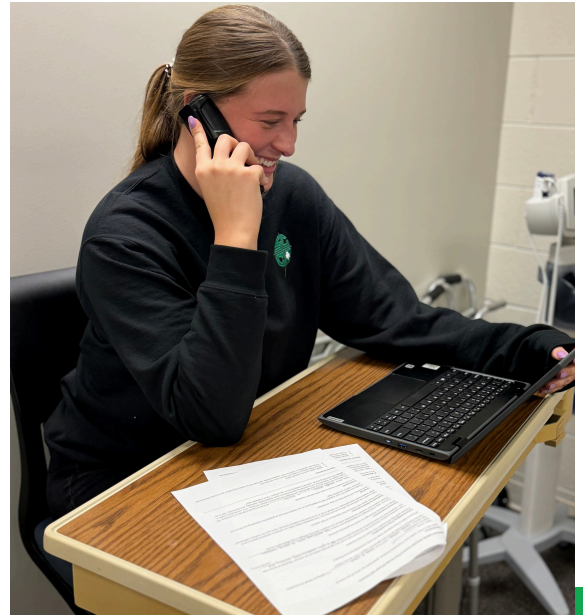
- **Annual Appeal Solicitation**
 - Total Raised: \$193,374.46 from 506 gifts.
- **Columbus Catholic Schools Gala**
 - Save the date: **Saturday, April 12 starting at 5PM**
 - **You do not need a specific paper invitation, everyone is invited!**
 - We will be asking all parents K-12 to volunteer and/or donate!

SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC

THANK-A-THON

The Scotus National Honor Society is enthusiastically taking part in the inaugural thank-a-thon at Scotus, with the goal of expressing appreciation to supporters for their generous contributions. NHS members are personally contacting donors to communicate their gratitude for the positive impact these donations have on our students by creating additional opportunities.

This event not only gives students a platform to convey their thanks but also strengthens relationships with supporters who make advancements in technology, class retreats, and other initiatives possible. Additionally, this occasion allows NHS members to reflect on the importance of gratitude and the crucial role that community plays.



- **Booster Club Fundraising**
 - Membership Dues - \$6,050
 - 250 Club Lottery - \$9,250 in sales thus far
 - Pools Fundraiser - \$6,750 in sales thus far
- **Craft Boutique Fundraiser**
 - 82 vendors registered for a total of \$5,740 in booth sales
 - Gate Profit: \$5,679
 - Christmas Cafe: \$3,913
 - Total: \$15,332
- **Post Prom Collections (Silent Solicitation)**
 - Donations total \$1,000

Dear Scotus Families,

I want to take a moment to express how incredibly impressed I am with our students. Over the past few weeks, I have witnessed outstanding examples of good study habits and a true commitment to academic success. As we approach semester tests, their hard work and preparation are evident, and I'm confident they will finish this term strong.

In addition to their academic efforts, I've been equally impressed by the way our students have demonstrated remarkable character. Whether it's showing kindness to a classmate, taking initiative in extracurricular activities, or simply offering a helping hand, their integrity and compassion reflect the values we strive to instill at Scotus Central Catholic.

It is a privilege to lead such an exceptional group of young people, and I couldn't be prouder of the way they represent our school and community. Let's continue to support and encourage them as they prepare for the final stretch of this semester!

Sincerely,
Brady Vancura
Principal



SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **December 5:** G/B/JV Basketball at 4:30 p.m. VS Hastings Catholic Schools
- **December 5:** G V Basketball at 6 p.m. VS Hastings Catholic Schools
- **December 5:** B V Basketball at 7:30 p.m. VS Hastings Catholic Schools
- **December 6:** Wrestling at 12:30 p.m. at Lakeview
- **December 9:** Band Christmas Concert at 7 p.m.
- **December 10:** G JV Basketball at 6 p.m. VS Guardian Angels Central Catholic High School
- **December 10:** G V Basketball at 7:30 p.m. VS Guardian Angels Central Catholic High School
- **December 12:** Vocal Concert at 7 p.m.
- **December 13:** State One Act at 11:30 at Johnny Carson Theater, Norfolk, NE
- **December 13:** Wrestling at 4 p.m. at Raymond Central
- **December 13:** G/B/JV Basketball at 4:30 p.m. VS Grand Island Central Catholic High School
- **December 13:** G V Basketball at 6 p.m. VS Grand Island Central Catholic High School
- **December 13:** B V Basketball at 7:30 p.m. VS Grand Island Central Catholic High School

OTHER NEED TO KNOW INFORMATION:

- **December 3:** FAFSA Meeting at 6 p.m.
- **December 5:** Pep Rally at 3:10 p.m.
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- **December 18 & 19:** Semester Testing at 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **December 20 - January 5:** NO SCHOOL



Take an ornament from the **Giving Tree** by the Chapel door and make the holiday brighter for a local family in need. **Campus Ministry** is coordinating items for the **Holiday Spirit Coop** to have enough gifts for teenagers, like gift cards for gas or fast-food, sweatshirts, nail polish, and sports items. If you want to participate, take an ornament from the tree and give your item - **UNWRAPPED** and WITH THE ORNAMENT - to **Mrs. Wallish** by **December 6th**.



DONATE



Students Shayla Borchers and Ellie Ehlers are hosting a blood drive
Thursday
December 18, 2024
from **11:30AM-4:30PM** at
Columbus Motor.



April 5th,
2025



April 12th,
2025



NHS Christmas Candy Sale is this week for \$0.50 each. **Last day to purchase: Friday, December 6th!**

ST. ANTHONY ELEMENTARY

Dear St. Anthony Elementary Parents,

It is hard to believe that in just a few short weeks the 1st semester of this school year is almost over. It has gone by so quickly. We have been busy at St. Anthony's doing a wide variety of activities.

Our students in 3rd-6th have visited Emerald Care and Rehab and did activities with the residents. Our Angel Choir sang at the District Venue during the downtown Christmas Stroll. We also collected items for the Simon House for Thanksgiving.

December doesn't look to slow down. We are having weekly all school Advent Prayer Services. We are also busy putting the finishing touches on Gingerbread Village. We are transforming our school hallway into a Gingerbread Village to go along with our Tour of Homes. The teachers have done an amazing job, and the students have been so excited to help. **The Tour of Homes is Thursday, December 5 from 4:30-8:00.** We have our **Cozy Up with A Good Book Open House** on **December 11.** The students have invited visitors to come and enjoy books, trinkets, hot chocolate, and cookies with them. On **December 12, the 3rd-5th graders will have a Christmas Program** at Scotus in the Memorial Hall.

We are looking forward to sharing the same evening with the high school Christmas vocal concert. The 1st and 2nd graders will be going to Emerald Care to sing Christmas Carols and color pictures as well. The students in 3rd-6th grade will also go to Reconciliation during Advent. In between all of these activities, we will still be learning!

As this year comes to a close, thank you for all of the many different ways that you support our schools! We appreciate all that you do for us. May the love of the Christ Child bring you love, peace, and joy in 2025.

Blessings,

Mrs. Sokol



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising**
 - Total Sales: \$333,077
 - Total Profit: \$13,339.12
- **November Restaurant Night Profit: C&K - Profit's not yet available**

ST. ANTHONY HOME AND SCHOOL'S
TOUR OF Homes
December 5, 2024 · 4:30 - 8 p.m.

The tour includes **FIVE** locations plus a homemade dessert and a gourmet hot cocoa, coffee, and apple cider bar. Also, explore our adorable gingerbread village in the St. Anthony School hallway.

Tickets available at the church & school offices, Salon.cak, or online with the QR code below.

Hot cocoa, coffee, and apple cider with desserts available until 8:30 p.m. at the St. Anthony Social Hall.



SCAN to purchase tickets online

Ticket Price:
\$20

Tour of Homes

Don't miss out on St. Anthony Elementary's Tour of Homes fundraiser!

St. Anthony's invites you to explore 5 different locations of homes and enjoy some homemade desserts as well as your choice of hot chocolate, apple cider, and coffee.

Benefits from this event will directly support education efforts at St. Anthony's.

ST. BONAVENTURE ELEMENTARY

Night of Entertainment

Bonaventure Parish organized a Night of Entertainment fundraiser, bringing together families and friends for a fun-filled evening. Attendees enjoyed a delightful dinner, participated in a silent auction, and so much more!

While this event served as a fundraiser for the parish, the elementary school plays a significant role in the parish's budget, making it wonderful to see the active involvement of many school families!



Dear St. Bonaventure Parents,

As we near the end of 2024, St. Bonaventure's Elementary School is alive with joy and accomplishment. November has been a month of hard work and engaging activities, and we are now eagerly preparing to celebrate the Advent and Christmas season with our cherished traditions.

Our **4th and 5th graders** are ready to shine during the **annual Advent and Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 8**. Throughout Advent, students will embrace the spirit of the season by drawing for their Advent Angels and keeping one another in prayer.

They will also deepen their faith with visits to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and attend Benediction as a united school community. To add to the holiday cheer, **Home and School will treat all students to a pizza lunch on Wednesday, December 18**. The season wouldn't be complete without our annual **Home and School Holiday Bake Sale, taking place after all Masses the weekend of December 14-15**, offering delicious treats and supporting our school programs.

As we reflect on a truly wonderful year, we are deeply grateful for the dedication of our staff, the unwavering support of our families, and the incredible students who make St. Bonaventure's a vibrant and loving community. We wish each of you a peaceful and joyful holiday season and look forward to an exciting and blessed 2025.

Warm regards,

Cheryl Zoucha



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising**
 - Total Sales: \$530,145
 - Total Profit: \$20,456.23
- **November Restaurant Night Profit:**
Godfather's Pizza - \$341

ST. ISIDORE ELEMENTARY



**MRS. SPENCER'S AND MRS. WEMHOFF'S
KINDERGARTEN CLASSES**

Thanksgiving Mass

St. Isidore's Elementary School gathered together for their annual Thanksgiving Mass, a special occasion to celebrate gratitude and reflect on the many blessings the school community has received. Students and staff filled the church with a spirit of joy and reverence, offering prayers of thanks for family, friends, and the opportunity to learn and grow. The Mass featured hymns of thanksgiving, scripture readings that highlighted themes of generosity and kindness, and a heartfelt sermon reminding everyone of the importance of giving back to others.

Dear St. Isidore Families,

As we close the first semester of the school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared so far. Our students have demonstrated remarkable growth—academically, spiritually, and personally—and I couldn't be more proud of the St. Isidore community.

Faith in Action

Our students continue to meet with their Faith Families, building meaningful relationships across grade levels. This mentorship fosters a strong sense of community and encourages living out our Catholic values together.

Looking Ahead

As we complete the first half of the school year, we are engaging in active learning opportunities, events, and community-building experiences. Key upcoming events include the **5th-6th Grade Band Concert** on **December 9th**, **3rd-5th & 6th Grade Vocal Music Concert** on **December 12th** and the **VIP Breakfast** on **December 19th** at **7:15AM**.

Gratitude and Blessings

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to you—our parents and parish community—for your unwavering support. Your involvement makes a profound difference in our students' lives.

May you all have a blessed holiday season filled with joy, peace, and family. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January, ready to continue our mission of faith, learning, and service.

Amy Evans
Principal



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising**
 - Total Sales: \$760,455
 - Total Profit: \$18,006.31
- **November Restaurant Night Profit:** Sweet Harvest - \$300