



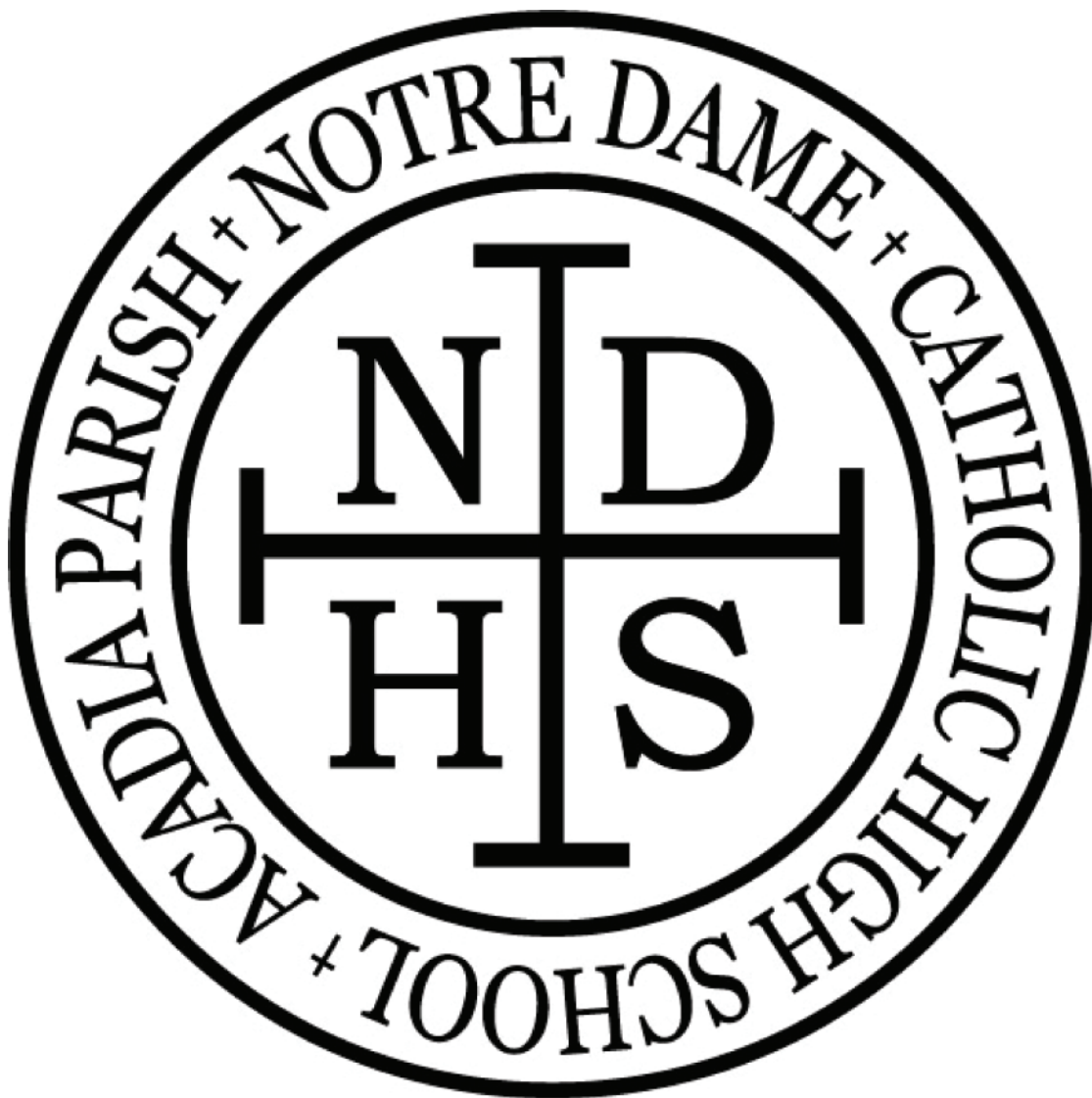
THE  
**PIONEER**  
PROGRESS

**NHDS**

"A Community of FAITH,  
KNOWLEDGE and SERVICE "

No. 105

November  
2021



N° 1



## message from the ADMINISTRATORS

## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

November 1, 2021

Dear ND Family and Friends,

As we enter November, we begin the Season of Thanksgiving. What a wonderful time of year when our hearts and minds are filled with gratitude and recognition of God's abundant blessings to us—especially in light of the recent 'unmasking' of our campus ! Research supports the hypothesis that an "attitude of gratitude" is linked to a feeling of general well-being, satisfaction and even longevity of life. We are thankful for this time of year and for the special opportunity it affords us to express our love. While this school year, to date, has presented us with challenges to gratitude: why not make an effort to start/end each day, as a family, acknowledging someone who deserves a "thanks"? In this way, we model a grateful heart for all those whose lives we touch.

In a special way during this season of gratitude, please pray in thanksgiving for our Chancellor, Father Brent Smith, and for each of the priests on our Board of Pastors: Father Mikel Polson, Father Jonathan Janise, Father Arockia Doss, Father Paul Broussard, Father Jude Thierry, and Father Michael M. Sucharski. We pray in gratitude for all the associate priests and deacons who are so generous to our school. We are also grateful to our Religion teachers, and all our teachers and staff, who model our Catholic faith and assist in the formation of our students. And last, but never least, we are grateful to our loyal supporters whose love and generosity have helped NDHS fulfill its Mission for 50+ years!

November 2<sup>nd</sup> is ND Day when we host the 8<sup>th</sup> graders in our feeder schools and interested students from public schools. In the evening, we have an informational dinner for parents. If you have relatives or friends who are discerning Catholic education for their child, please encourage them to consider Notre Dame High School of Acadia Parish.

Progress report notifications for mid-way through the second nine weeks will be sent home just prior to the Thanksgiving Holidays (grades are due on November 15th). If you have any concerns about your student, please contact the teacher and/or Mr. Terry Gros, our Counselor. Mid-term exams will be given December 14th-17th—prior to the Christmas holidays and *must be taken according to the assigned schedule* unless approved by the administration

In light of all our school, community and nation have endured over the past many months, the Thanksgiving and Christmas Seasons this year hold special significance and beauty. May they be a time of renewal, good will and gratitude.

We wish each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Blessings,

NOTE: It is a policy of both the Diocese and of Notre Dame High School of Acadia Parish that all financial accounts must be current before exams. If you have questions concerning your account balance, please contact our Bookkeeper, Mrs. Juli Elfert.

11/3 ... Notre Dame Day-8:45a  
Parent Dinner-6pm

11/5 ... Football @ Port Barre  
Jeans Day

11/15 ... Progress Reports

11/19 ... Jeans Day

11/20-11/28 ... Thanksgiving  
Break



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

## IMPORTANT INFO

**Next ACT National Test Date is December 11th.**

**The regular registration deadline is November 5th.**

*\*Register by going to [act.org](http://act.org)*

### *What is TOPS?*

*TOPS (Taylor Opportunity Program for Students) is a program of state scholarships for Louisiana residents who attend either one of the Louisiana Public Colleges and Universities, schools that are a part of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Louisiana approved Proprietary and Cosmetology Schools or institutions that are a part of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.*

### *What is the application for TOPS?*

*A. To apply for a TOPS scholarship, you must submit the FAFSA application.*

*You must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) unless you can demonstrate that you do not qualify for federal grant aid (Pell Grant). We recommend that all students submit the FAFSA. The most direct way to file the FAFSA is via the Internet at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).*

*If you have any problems with filing the FAFSA on the Web at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov), including problems obtaining or using the FSA ID from Federal Student Aid, you should contact the FAFSA hotline at 1800- 433-3243 for assistance.*

*Both you and one of your parents must have and use an FSA ID to submit the FAFSA on the Web. Be sure that the name that you use on the FAFSA exactly matches your name on file with your high school and the name you use on the ACT.*

*If your name differs in the slightest way in any of these documents, the determination of your eligibility for TOPS will be delayed. Your date of birth, home address, and email address must also be the same.*

*Once the application has been submitted, the Web site will prompt you to print and keep a copy of the confirmation page. MAKE SURE YOU COMPLETE THE PROCESS BY SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION AND PRINTING THE CONFIRMATION PAGE. IF THE CONFIRMATION PAGE DOES NOT APPEAR, THE APPLICATION HAS NOT BEEN SUBMITTED. SAVE THE PRINTOUT OF THE CONFIRMATION PAGE TO PROVE THE DATE THE APPLICATION WAS SUBMITTED. You should receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) confirming the receipt of the application within a few days. You should retain a copy of the SAR.*

**Want to learn more about TOPS and access a list of other scholarships?**

**Go to: [mylosfa.la.gov](http://mylosfa.la.gov) and click on the Students and Parents drop down menu**

**ACT@ ND  
December 11**



## RELIGION NEWS

It's hard to believe that we are already in November! The cold fronts are arriving with greater frequency and seem to be extending their stays. The clocks are about to be turned back and the nights will begin to seem shorter. And in two short months we will welcome in a New Year!

This past month was certainly an eventful one here at Notre Dame! Our fall sports are in full swing heading into the playoffs, our students were out and about on retreats, and so many smiling faces because visible once again!

Just last week our Sophomore and Junior classes were able to have their class "retreats". Our Junior class participated in a Service Day, partnering up with Rebuilding Acadiana to help paint four homes between Crowley and Breaux Bridge for families and home owners who were in need because of the recent storms we've had the last couple of hurricane seasons.

It was such a blessing to see them out and about, being Jesus' hands and feet to the poor and those in need. Great job Juniors!

The sophomores are just coming off the heels of their own outing to the Community of Christ Crucified, a religious community located in St. Martinville. The community, headed by Father Champagne, hosted us for a "Vocations Awareness Day" in which the students were exposed to the various vocations in the Church (religious life, priesthood, marriage, consecrated life), and encouraged to begin prayerfully discerning which vocation God may be calling them to.

It was a wonderful day of prayer, laughter, and true Christian joy! Sophomores, know that we will be praying for you and your vocations as well!

Looking ahead, we of course are mindful of Thanksgiving just around the corner. Let us pray that this month would be one filled with thanks, thanks to God for the many blessings (both seen and unseen) that He bestows upon us, each and every day.

In Christ,  
Notre Dame Religion Department







Notre Dame Day will be held on Tuesday, November 2 from 8:45a-12:45p. This is a day set aside for 8th graders to visit ND to see what our school has to offer. We will host a parent information dinner at 6pm that same evening.

If you know of a first-time Notre Dame parent who would like for their 8th grader to attend or would like to set up a personal visit, please have them reach out to Mandy Miller at 783-7143.

**Please be advised that NO STUDENT will be allowed to take mid-term exams if tuition is not current THROUGH NOVEMBER (diocesan policy).**

**Tuition**

NDHS Library collects Community Coffee labels. Would you please help us collect enough labels to help pay for databases? No amount is too small. This is an easy way to support our library. Many thanks to those of you who participate. Every little bit helps!



**#iGIVECATHOLIC**  
#GIVINGTUESDAY™

stay tuned for more information on how to give...



Congratulations to our seniors who recently received their academic sweaters and athletic jackets! Thank you for your committment to excellence! Your hard work in the classroom and in athletics has paid off!







**Congratulations to these seniors on a well-deserved achievement in academics and athletics! Receiving All-Academic Composite Scholar Athlete honors for maintaining a 4.0 GPA are (seated, l-r): Brayden Broussard-football, Michael Goss-football, Andrew Habetz-football, Nikolaus Vice-football.**

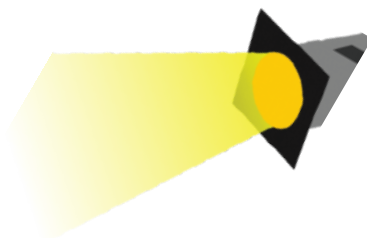
**Receiving All-Academic Scholar Athlete honors for maintaining a 3.5-3.9 GPA are (standing, l-r): Matthew Bernard-football, Sara Boulet-volleyball, Karson Broussard-football, Caleb Comeaux-football, Andrus Kelbaugh-volleyball, Lily Morgan-volleyball, Madison Murrell-volleyball, Russell Nugier-football, Julia Patin-volleyball, Nicholas Swacker-football**

A HUGE thanks to all of our mini campers who attended the Pio Pride Dance Camp! A great time was had by all and they looked great on the field!



**Girls can begin wearing the official navy school pants on November 1 thru February 28. These can be purchased at Crowley Sewing Center and must have the round ND seal on the back, right pocket. If you have any questions, you can find the answer in the handbook - page 35**

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



GET TO KNOW **TARA BENOIT**

SHE TEACHES AG SCIENCE, CARPENTRY & WELDING

SHE COACHES GIRLS' BASKETBALL

SHE TEACHES CATECHISM IN HER HOMETOWN OF BASILE

SHE IS MARRIED TO A FOOTBALL STRENGTH & CONDITIONING COACH  
(WHO IS AN ND ALUM) & THEY ARE THE PROUD PARENTS OF 4 DOGS



GET TO KNOW **RACHEL LACROIX**

SHE SELF-PUBLISHED A BOOK AT THE AGE OF FOURTEEN

SHE IS AN ALUMN OF NOTRE DAME

SHE HAD AN ARTISTIC PHOTOGRAPH PUBLISHED IN THE FALL 2016 EDITION OF THE  
HUMANITIES MAGAZINE (PHOTOGRAPH TITLED AMONG A SEA OF BOOKS, IN  
THE ARTICLE TITLED IF ODYSSEUS STARTED A BOOK CLUB)

IN ADDITION TO A FEW ADDITIONAL LITERARY ACHIEVEMENTS, SHE HAS ALSO WON  
AWARDS FOR HER BAKING SKILLS AND ENJOYS WORKING WITH SWEETS AND BREADS



## BIRTHDAYS



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## November Birthdays

2- Alli Mouton  
2- Aidan Mouton  
2- Aiden Leonards  
5- Olivia Hensgens  
7- Annalise Maloz  
8- Jackson Link  
12- Kaylee Ewing  
12- Abigail Savoy  
15- Kamryn Cormier  
15- Claudia Kibodeaux  
15- Ellen Cormier

6- Mrs. Diana Ronkartz  
9- Mr. Terry Gros

17- Thomas Gattle  
17- Eli Adams  
17- Jake Brouillette  
17- Luke LeBlanc  
17- Evelyn LeBeouf  
17- Marie Thibodeaux  
18- Riley Shuff  
19- Ella Boudreaux  
20- Theresa Burleigh  
20- Evan Dauphine  
23- Ella Cantrell

9- Coach Myles Creek  
10- Mrs. Donna Fruge'

23- Olivia Guidry  
24- Rosemary Gielen  
25- Brayden Broussard  
25- Karson Broussard  
25- Boyd Boudreaux  
26- Ava Foreman  
27- Ahnnie Albro  
27- Matthew Mixon  
28- Adelynn Sonnier  
29- Christian Leonards  
29- Haley Rivette

24- Mr. Andrew Powell  
30- Ms. Angie Bertrand