



THE
PIONEER
PROGRESS

NHDS

"A Community of FAITH,
KNOWLEDGE and SERVICE "

No. 119

February
2023



Catholic Schools
Faith. Excellence. Service.

The mission of Notre Dame High School is to educate its students in mind, body and soul with the Love of Jesus, Discipline of Joseph and the Faith of Mary.

N° 1



message from the ADMINISTRATORS

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Dear NDHS Family and Friends,

January has come to an end and we are into the 3rd nine weeks of school. Colder temperatures and rainy days mean that students are more closed- in than in better weather. We continue to stress that students remain home if they have fever, vomiting, pink/running eyes-- or active signs of transmissible illness. Please remember to call or email us if your student will be absent from school and if the illness is three (3) consecutive days or more, they can be documented as 'extenuating' if your student returns with a medical excuse. This helps preserve their 15 allowed absences for the school year.

Catholic Schools Week is being celebrated starting on Sunday, January 29th, and this is a wonderful time to thank God for the blessings of Catholic education. This is an opportunity to reflect on what NDHS has meant in our lives and in the lives of our families. In today's climate, we should not, and cannot, take this blessing for granted! We are grateful for our students, our parents and our faculty and staff; all working together to help Notre Dame High School of Acadia Parish continue its tradition of excellence.

On Friday, we will welcome our special guests, our Grandparents to celebrate the Liturgy with us! After Mass, we will be announcing our Supporter of the Year and our Teacher of the Year. St. Michael School has graciously agreed to allow any of our grandparents who have a conflict with their Faith Rally to attend on Thursday if desired, or to come from their campus to ours on Friday at 11:30 for our liturgy. Please join us! Immediately following our celebration, we will dismiss all our students so as to allow for lunch/time with their grandparents. Enjoy!

As you reflect on the importance of Catholic Schools, please be aware that financial viability is key to our future. We are immensely grateful to our parents and supporters for all their hard work for the DROP The MIC fundraiser earlier this fall. Initiated and implemented by parents; led by Claire Kelbaugh and her 'team', the fundraiser garnered \$43,000 to be paid on the loan for the East Wing renovations. A \$50,000 payment on this loan brings the balance to \$750,000. This is a perfect example of the way in which our stakeholders can have a tremendous positive impact on OUR school. Thank you!!!!

In preparation for advising for the 2023-2024 school year, faculty members will meet the afternoon of February 3rd to begin the preparatory work on each student's advising packet. They will look at current progress (grades) and progress toward graduation, calculate a TOPS gpa, check ACT or standardized test scores, and confirm necessary core classes for next year. In the latter part of February, you will receive a call to schedule an appointment for Monday, March 13th. This is the time set aside for each student, and parent, to have an individualized meeting with their teacher-advisor and to make schedule requests for next year. Since our return to a traditional 7 period schedule, there are fewer decisions to make that aren't already pre-determined by graduation requirements. However, the information regarding TOPS, potential DE and student progress is still vitally important. Please let us know how we can better meet the needs of your student/s.

We ask for your continued support and prayers for Notre Dame and our Mission and wish you a Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Blessings,

Cindy

1/29-2/4... Catholic School's
Week

2/3... Grandparent Mass,
11:30am, ND Gym
early dismissal,
teacher professional
development

2/10... Jeans Day

2/14... Progress Reports

2/17-2/21... Mardi Gras
break



COUNSELOR'S
CORNER

Important Information for Seniors:

FAFSA Deadlines

Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form is required for TOPS eligibility and also allows you to be considered for federal student aid. In addition, states and colleges use FAFSA information to award their own grants, scholarships, and loans.

Federal FAFSA Deadlines 2023–24 Academic Year

The FAFSA form must be submitted by 11:59pm
Central time (CT) on June 30, 2023.
Apply at studentaid.gov

Remember to check our school website scholarship page for updates on scholarship opportunities under “academics” on the main menu. Local scholarship information will also be sent to your school email as they arrive.

Upcoming:

ACT
February 11
April 15

School-wide
ACT @ ND
March 7



RELIGION NEWS

Happy February and Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Each year, Notre Dame celebrates Catholic Schools Week beginning on the final Sunday in the month of January. January 29th began this year's celebration. We will join with the 7,800+ Catholic schools in the country to celebrate our Catholic identity! The timing of the celebration is right in the middle of our school year, an opportunity to recenter and to surround everything we do with our mission, the mission to teach the Gospel message to those who walk through our doors.

One of my favorite lines from the Disney movie Lilo and Stitch is repeated by Lilo time and time again throughout the movie. She passionately says "Ohana means family. 'Family' means no one gets left behind".

As we begin February, we are also reminded of this month's devotion. A devotion to the Holy Family, the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. For centuries, Christians and Catholics have looked to the Holy Family as a model of virtue, and what we all desire our families to look like. A home where faith and family come first, where serving God is the mission of the family, and where no one is left behind.

There are a number of ways to practice this devotion throughout the month. Praying together as a family, consecrating your family to the Holy Family, sharing stories of loved family members, placing an image of the Holy Family somewhere prominent in your home.

These are just a few of the ways that we as Catholics can honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, as we ask the Lord to give our families the grace to follow the example of His family.

**in Christ,
Notre Dame Religion Department--**



NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

Pioneers and GRANDPARENTS

You're invited to celebrate **Catholic Schools Week** with your Pio family by joining us for Mass on **Friday February 3rd, at 11:30am** at **Notre Dame High School**. Following Mass, you are welcome to enjoy the day with your grandchild(ren) as they will be given a half day and dismissed early!

A Mass collection will be taken up to support Campus Ministry

The deadline to submit **tuition assistance** applications for the 2023-2024 school year is April 17th. Please call Juli at 783-3519 with questions.



Tuition must be current and paid in full before final exams are taken.
Seniors (May 1)
Underclassmen (May 16).



BULLETIN BOARD

From the Athletic Department

Reminder that athletic dues must be paid for all student athletes, trainers and managers. The fee (per year) is \$150.00 for each athlete.

Also: Spring sports are gearing up and all athletes must have their proper paperwork turned in to the athletic office. Returning athletes must turn in a current physical, permission to participate and proof of insurance. The physical and permission forms are available on the Notre Dame website under "Athletics". New athletes must complete the "First time athlete" packet located on the website. It includes the LHSAA approved physical form and all other required forms. A copy of the student's insurance card is also required for proof of insurance. All forms must be **TURNED IN TO THE ATHLETIC OFFICE BEFORE A STUDENT MAY PARTICIPATE IN COMPETITION.**

Coach Cook

With the spring semester approaching, some of your children may be looking ahead to Prom. The Notre Dame High School policy regarding dances and prom may be found on pages 55-56 in our handbook. **WE ARE ASKING YOUR HELP TO ASSURE THAT YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER ADHERES TO THESE POLICIES.** We have some particular concerns about the modesty of some of the girls' formal wear. The bodice of the gown must be cut so that there is no visible cleavage. Also, gowns that are too short in the skirt (even "high-low") and cutouts or low backs are **NOT** permitted-- as there has been an increase in these trends. If there is any question about whether a dress or outfit is permissible, a picture could/should be brought to the administration for clarification **BEFORE** the dress or outfit is purchased. We are called to **MODESTY** and **CHASTITY** and must follow the standards as set forth in the handbook by our Chancellor, Administration and Advisory Council. Thank you for your support.



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!



BULLETIN BOARD



Congratulations to these three seniors on a well-deserved achievement in academics and athletics! Receiving All-Academic Scholar Athlete Honors for maintaining a 3.5-3.9 GPA are (l-r): Teddy Menard - basketball, Blair Signorelli - bowling and Branson Melancon - bowling.

ND CHEERLEADER TRYOUTS
MARCH 22-24



PIO PRIDE DANCE TEAM TRYOUTS
MARCH 28-31
(PARENT MEETING MARCH 27TH, 5PM)





Happy Birthday!

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1- Gabriel Cramer
1- Caitlyn Walker
4- Jaiden Gibson
4- Caroline Vondenstein
4- Adam Signorelli
5- Mary Claire Thomas
6- Jack Fontenot
6- Zayden Helo
9- Liam Link
10- Ellie Adams
11- Lily Futch

13- Alli Coignard
14- Luke Schultz
14- Emilie Fields
14- Cameron Stelly
15- Ellen Richard
15- Christian Patin
15- Jonah Blake
18- Ellis Gray
20- Valerie Brown
21- Nick Menard

22- Winston Frey
23- Madison Boudreaux
24- Kaitlyn Constantin
24- Charlie Cantrell
24- Angelle Bourgeois
26- Avari Simon
26- Gretta LeJeune
28- Liam Scarborough
28- Maksim Scarborough
28- Elizabeth Prevost

18- Mrs. Linda Gibson



Catholic Schools Week Activities



Monday, January 30th - "Celebrating our Catholic Identity". As a fun way to begin our week's celebrations, students will be able to Dress Catholic! This means they will dress like a Catholic Saint or in any Catholic apparel. Proceeds from a lunchtime Bake Sale will be going towards Notre Dame's Campus Ministry and their Retreat Team outreach to its feeder schools.

Tuesday, January 31st - "Celebrating the Domestic Church". With the Domestic Church being a term that refers to the Church as the family in the home, students will dress out as "BBQ Dads and Soccer Moms". Proceeds from a lunchtime Bake Sale will be going towards vocations programs.

Wednesday, February 1st - "Celebrating Heaven" by remembering to be "in the world, but not of the world". The dress will be reflective of not putting too much emphasis on earthly things like fashion by dressing in wacky outfits. Proceeds from a lunchtime Bake Sale will be going towards community outreach programs.

Thursday, February 2nd - "Celebrating the Faith of Our Fathers". Remembering that the faith was passed on to us by our family members. "80s Dress Day ", with students dressing up as though they were in their 80s or from the decade of the 80s. Proceeds from a lunchtime Bake Sale will be going towards a small gift for the faculty and staff.

Friday, February 3rd - "Celebrating Our Faith". Students will dress in their regular school uniform as there will be a special Grandparent's Mass celebrated in the A.B. Dore Memorial Gymnasium on the Notre Dame Campus. Mass will be at 11:30am and will be celebrated by Fr. Brent Smith, Chancellor of Notre Dame. All grandparents and family members of Notre Dame students are invited to attend this celebration. Students will enjoy a half day of school, being dismissed after Mass to spend the rest of the day with their grandparents and families.

Each day of Catholic Schools Week, students will enjoy lunchtime activities in the A.B. Dore Memorial Gymnasium in order to win prizes and earn class of the year points.

Catholic Schools Week is a joint project of the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for the nation's 7,800 Catholic schools. Notre Dame High School of Acadia Parish is proud to join the other schools across the country in celebration of Catholic education.