

St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic School

Monday News

December 16, 2019

“Joy is not found in material objects, but in the recesses of the soul. “

~ St. John of the Cross

Message from Principal Angie Krauss:

Dear Families,

I am so excited to celebrate our third week of Advent with our students which encompasses our K-8 annual Christmas Program and Reconciliation. Both of these events allow us an opportunity to prepare our hearts for Jesus birth.

We end our week on Friday, with green and red free dress and Christmas parties. I love the joy, peace and love that this time of year symbolizes to our world. I know i have witnessed several “holy spirit moments” this year with the love of Christ being shared at our school.

I wish you all a very blessed and life giving holiday break with family and friends. Thank you for all you do for St Al’s school and community.

Reminders for the Christmas program:

- 8th grade actors who need to change into a costume please arrive at 6:00 pm
- Students report to their assigned class spot at at 6:15 pm; We ask parents to supervise their children until 6:15 pm, this is a sacred space, no food and drink
- If your child is in 5th-8th grade band, please report at 6:15 pm
- Dismissal after the program: students will be directed to return to their teachers and parents can pick up their child from the teacher
- Following the program a cookie reception will take place at St. Aloysius School

In Christ’s Peace,

Angie Krauss

Holy Spirit Sharing:

- My holy spirit moment was witnessing a Kindergarten big first snowfall recess! Kiddos told me it was the most amazing day ever and the BEST recess of their WHOLE LIFE the sense of wonder through their eyes is like nothing else.

Message from ELC Administrator Julie Simmons:

Greetings ELC Families:

Wishing you all a very blessed and special Christmas! **We will be closed for the holidays December 23-January 3rd.**

A Family Blessing

**Lord of all,
Bless our families.**

Be they formed by blood or by
circumstance,
Make them holy.

May we find you

In our relationships.
In our marriages, in our families,
In our households, in our
communities,
In our global humanity.

**May we look across
all that divides us**

And see family,
And embrace as a family does.
And love as a family ought to.

For where two or three gather
in your name,
There are you.

Amen.

(originally printed by Catholic Relief Services)

Peace be with you,
Julie

Mark your Calendars:

- Dec 17:** K-8th Grade Christmas Program- 6:30 pm @ St. Al's Church
- Dec 19:** Advent Reconciliation- 10:00am @ St. Al's Church
- Dec. 20:** **Red** and **Green** free dress
- Dec 23-Jan 3:** Christmas Break- School Closed/ELC Closed
- Jan 6:** School Resumes/ELC & Montessori Resumes
- Jan 16:** Epiphany All School Mass- 10:15am @ St. Al's Church
- Jan 20:** Martin Luther King Day- No School/ELC Closed
- Jan 26-Feb 1** Catholic Schools Week-More info to come
- Jan 31:** Friends and Family All School Mass- More info to come
- Feb 6&7** Open House
- Feb 13:** Teacher In-Service Day- No School/ELC Open
- Feb14:** Teacher In-Service Day- No School/ELC Closed
- Feb 14:** ELC Parent/Teacher Conferences-No Childcare- More info to come
- Feb 26** Ash Wednesday All School Mass- 12:15pm @ St. Al's Church

Important Notes & Reminders:

- **Lost and Found:** Please remember to check the lost and found for any items you may be missing. The lost and found will be cleaned up and donated on December 20th.

Community Connections:

Please note all of the wonderful opportunities in the parish bulletin for prayer this Advent season!

Mission Advancement - Friendraising & Fundraising:

- **Annual Fund: We are more than half way to our goal!** We now have \$16,625 of our \$30,000 Annual Fund goal, and we would love to see 100% family participation! Follow the link or submit your gift at school to GIVE TODAY! See class competition details below. Join us as we move *Full STEAM Ahead!*
- <https://forms.donorsnap.com/form?id=5eb13d25-a237-418d-8ef9-d4d42ab76fcc>
- **K-8 Class Competition: 3rd grade has taken the lead with 30% family participation!** The first K-8 class to have all families make a donation to our Annual Fund will receive a one-day ALL CLASS FREE DRESS PASS AND A POPCORN & HOT CHOCOLATE PARTY!!!! (One donation per family will count for any classes in which you have children.) Students will receive small prizes along the way as they reach 25%, 50%, and 75% family participation!
 - **Results as of 12/12/19:**
 - Kinder AM: 23%
 - Kinder All Day: 21%
 - 1st Grade: 18%
 - 2nd Grade: 19%
 - MAC: 26%
 - **3rd Grade: 30%**
 - 4th Grade: 19%
 - 5th Grade: 17%
 - 6th Grade: 19%
 - 7th Grade: 9%
 - 8th Grade: 22%
- **ELC Class Competition: The Koalas have taken the lead with 42% family participation!** The first ELC class to have all families make a donation to our Annual Fund will receive a CLASS PARTY with age appropriate snacks!!!! (One donation per family will count for any classes in which you have children.) Students will receive small prizes along the way as they reach 25%, 50%, and 75% family participation!
 - Results as of 12/6/19:
 - Giraffes: 13%
 - Teddy Bears: 26%

- **Koalas: 42%**
 - Pandas: 0%
 - Chickadees: 18%
 - Owls: 33%
 - Blue Jays: 7%
 - Hawks: 6%
 - Tigers: 18%
 - Montessori East: 33%
 - Montessori West: 38%
- **Christmas Cards ON SALE NOW!** We have partnered again this year with our wonderful St. Al's Parish Knights of Columbus to bring you Christmas cards featuring the artwork of our Keep Christ In Christmas poster contest winners from last year. Each \$18 set contains 12 cards with unique artwork and 12 envelopes. If you would like cards that feature just one student's artwork, please contact Cami Carlson for details at ccarlson@stalsschool.org or 509-489-7825 ext. 238. Please complete the attached order form and submit with payment to Mrs. Kelly or Mrs. Webb at the upstairs front desk.
 - **Social Media and Website:**
 - With all of the Holy Spirit Moments occurring around school during the Christmas season, please document those moments and send photos to Bri Barbieri at bbarbieri@stalsschool.org. When taking photos please use the **square mode** on your phone or device. Thank you!
 - Please remember to "like" and "share" our Facebook and Instagram (@st.alsgonzaga) posts! Also, be sure to tag your posts of your students with the hashtag #*wearestals*. Your efforts make a huge impact on the scope of our marketing audience. Thank you!

Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Christmas Program:**
The annual K-8 Christmas Program will be on Tuesday, December 17 and WE NEED YOUR HELP!
 - I am offering **DOUBLE volunteer hours** to help with tear down and clean up of the pews after the program (8:00 pm).
- *PLEASE NOTE:** In order to claim double volunteer hours for this, you will need to check out with Dawn Manfred before leaving the church. Please enter single amount of hours and they will be doubled once approved in Track it Forward.
- Christmas Program Cookies:
 - Volunteers are still needed to help plate cookies on Tuesday, December 17 at 9:00 am. And to help with the reception after the program.
 - Please have cookies dropped off in the cafeteria by 9:00am.

To sign up please follow this link:

<https://www.trackitforward.com/site/378748/events>

- **Baking for volunteer hours opportunity:**
 - **Staff Luncheon:** Thank you to all the volunteers that helped with set up and clean up of the luncheon and for all of the delicious food that was brought in!
 - **Christmas Program Cookies:** We will need cookie donations for the Cookie Reception that will be held at St. Al's School after the Christmas Program. If you would like to donate, please follow the link below to sign up through Track it Forward. When signing up please, remember that every 2 dozen cookies = 1 volunteer hour.

<https://www.trackitforward.com/site/378748/event/511514>

- **Catholic Schools Week:**
Catholic Schools Week runs from Sunday, January 26 through Friday, January 31 and it is always a fun week of celebrating our school and community! Here is a list of volunteer opportunities that will be available during this time:
 - Sunday, January 26: Parish Thank You Mass
 - Wednesday, January 29: Staff Appreciation Breakfast
 - Friday, January 31: Special Persons Day

Please watch for more information and sign-ups after we return from Christmas break and in emails from your class Room Parent.

- **Auction:**
Our next auction meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8 @ 6pm at the Steam Plant. Please RSVP to Aleisha Webb at awebb@stalsschool.org.

Community Contribution Programs:

- **Amazon Smile:**
When you are doing any of your holiday shopping on Amazon, remember to go to smile.amazon first! If you have not yet signed up for the Amazon Smile Program, NOW is a great time! Please go to www.smile.amazon.com/91-1433780 or smile.amazon.com every time you shop online, and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to St. Al's School.

STAG Pride/Kudos/Prayers:!

- Heavenly Father we pray for the K-8 Christmas program that it will fill the children and families with your love and hope.

Attachments:

- St. Al's Church Bulletin