

St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic School

Monday News

December 9, 2019

"A cheerful disposition is good for your health " ~ Proverbs 17:22

Message from Principal Angie Krauss:

Dear Families,

It has been such a blessing to visit the classrooms and see all the preparation for the Advent season in full swing! I so enjoy Advent prayer in both hallways and in the infant/toddler building during this time of year. I invite you to join us for Advent prayer in the main hallways both upstairs and downstairs and take a moment to relish in the joy of the children and the promise of Christ's birth.

Last Friday, St. Nick visited the students and spread his love and joy with our school! As I watched a "staff angel" put notes on student lockers, it hopefully reminded our students that they are a gift and special! Daily, I am grateful for all the ways our staff truly educates the whole child and tries to foster a love of Jesus Christ that will stay with them long after they leave St. Al's school.

We have our ELC Christmas Program on Thursday, and I am looking forward to seeing the children sing and share their joy with everyone. The following week on Tuesday, the K-8 program will occur at St. Als Church. I know all the extra time, effort, sweat, patience and grace it takes to pull these off, and I want to say, "Thank you to staff and parents for making lasting memories for your children."

Thank you for all you do to support your children and our school. We are blessed to work with such incredible families.

In Christ's Peace,
Angie Krauss

Holy Spirit Sharing:

- "My holy spirit moment was having a cocoa party with our first grade buddies."
Sixth Grade

Message from ELC Administrator Julie Simmons:

Advent Greetings ELC Families:

We are so looking forward to sharing our Christmas program with you this Thursday!
Our performances will be in this order:

Chickadees classroom 2:00 p.m. in the cafeteria
Preschool Owls/Blue Jays 4:00 p.m. in the Activity Center
PreK Hawks & Tigers 4:20 p.m. in the Activity Center
Montessori 4:40 p.m. in the Activity Center

Please also join us immediately after your child's performance in the cafeteria for our cookie social.

And just another reminder that we are holding Advent Prayer on M, T, and F mornings at 8:45 a.m. in the preschool building, and the toddlers are singing Christmas carols with Mr. John Hart immediately after Advent Prayer on Mondays and Fridays. If you can steal away for a few moments to join us, we'd love to have you here!

Make it another wonderful, Holy Spirit Moment filled week!

Blessings,
Julie

Mark your Calendars:

Dec 9: Immaculate Conception Mass 12:15 parish Mass
Dec 12: ELC/Mont Christmas Program
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 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
Feb 14: 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:

- **Family Directory:** If you would like a copy of our directory, please stop by the front office and pick one up.
- **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:

Catholic Charities is putting on a Winter Carnival fundraising event on Friday, December 13th from 4-6pm at Gonzaga Prep for elementary school children. The carnival will include unlimited games, hot cocoa, popcorn and a showing of the 1966 classic, The Grinch! Tickets are \$5 and we have family discounts available.

Mission Advancement - Friendraising & Fundraising:

Annual Fund: We already have \$12,430 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.

<https://forms.donorsnap.com/form?id=5eb13d25-a237-418d-8ef9-d4d42ab76fcc>

Join us as we move *Full STEAM Ahead!* Please email Cami Carlson if you did not receive a copy of the annual report, ccarlson@stalsschool.org, or pick one up at any of the main desks (upstairs, downstairs, or Garco gym).

K-8 Class Competition: 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 12/6/19:**
 - Kinder AM: 8%
 - Kinder All Day: 11%
 - 1st Grade: 9%
 - 2nd Grade: 10%
 - **MAC: 17%**
 - 3rd Grade: 15%
 - 4th Grade: 13%

- 5th Grade: 3%
- 6th Grade: 6%
- 7th Grade: 0%
- 8th Grade: 14%

ELC Class Competition: 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: 0%
 - **Teddy Bears: 26%**
 - Koalas: 0%
 - Pandas: 0%
 - Chickadees: 6%
 - **Owls: 25%**
 - Blue Jays: 7%
 - Hawks: 0%
 - Tigers: 12%
 - Montessori East: 8%
 - **Montessori West: 31%**

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 time, 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:

- **ELC Christmas Program:**

The annual ELC Christmas Program is on Thursday, December 12 and we are looking for 3 parent volunteers to help with set-up from 12:30-1:30 and then from 4:00-5:30 to help with set up and passing out of cookies. If you are interested in helping with either of these volunteer opportunities please contact Aleisha Webb at awebb@stalsschool.org.

- **Christmas Program:**

The annual K-8 Christmas Program will be on Tuesday, December 17 and WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are still in need of 2 volunteers to help with tear down on Monday, December 16 at 11:00 and 3 volunteers for both set up (8:45 am) and tear down (8:00 pm) on Tuesday, December 17. Each volunteer opportunity will take between 30-45 minutes but will earn you 1 HOUR of volunteer time! To sign up please follow the link listed below:

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

- **Baking for volunteer hours opportunity:**

- **Staff Luncheon:** This Friday, December 13 we will have another staff luncheon! Please follow the link below to sign up to bring in items needed.

<https://www.trackitforward.com/site/378748/event/515552>

This luncheon will be hosted by Montessori and the 1st grade class! If you are interested in helping with set up or clean up, please contact your class Room Parent

- **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>

- **Auction:**

Our next auction meeting will be on Wednesday, December 11 @ 6pm. 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 throughout this 2nd week of Advent let us share the peace of Christ with those we see each day!
- Heavenly Father we pray for the ELC and K-8 Christmas programs that they will fill the children and families with your love and hope.

Attachments:

- St. Al's Church Bulletin
- C.C. Christmas Carnival Flyer