

Newsletter  
December 21, 2023  
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#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

**Dec. 25th - Jan. 1st** No School - Christmas break  
**Tue., Jan. 2nd** School Resumes  
**Wed., Jan. 3rd** School Staff Mass  
**Wed., Jan. 10th** ~~Mrs. Bautch's 2nd Gr. Mass~~  
**Wed., Jan. 17th** Mrs. Eynck's 1st Gr. Mass  
**Sat. Jan. 20th** Snow Ball  
**Jan. 28th - Feb. 3rd** Catholic Schools Week

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Arise!**

*Arise, my beloved, my dove, my beautiful one, and come!  
For see, the winter is past, the rains are over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth...  
Song of Songs 2:10-12*

**Reflection:**

From *LivingFaith* daily Catholic reflections:

For those of us in the northern hemisphere, it may seem strange to be singing this biblical hymn, as autumn withers and winter sets in. To learn the secret of this spring-flavored reading, we must look to today's Gospel where Luke recounts the first meeting between Jesus and John the Baptist—both in the womb—both conceived beyond all probability or even possibility: one from a virgin, the other of an elderly woman. God-with-us is revealed in their beautiful encounter. Indeed, the joy and wonder of God-with-us is the song that fills our hearts at this point in Advent. We carry a solemn inner joy that will soon burst forth at the Christmas feast when we can no longer keep silent but must overflow with praise and joy. God is with us!

***Lord, at your call, we arise; at your birth, even in midwinter, new life springs forth among us.***

- Mary Marrocco

*Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a • Psalm 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 • Luke 1:39-45*

Blessings,  
Mrs. Sowada

#### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that helped make the Christmas program a success. A special thank you to Ms. Kara Kreamer and Mrs. Kim Orbeck for all the work they put in, the teachers for being accommodating with the practice schedule, Mr. Kevin Shay for setting up and taking down risers and for setting up the gym for the reception, Mrs. Gail Kokett for creating the program sheet, 4th grade students for handing out programs, Mrs. Sue Gully for taking pictures, Mrs. Julie Voit for baking cookies, and the Home and School officers - Mrs. Reba Leither, Mrs. Angela Rushmeyer and Mrs. Amy Casey for helping out with the reception following the program. It was a great day!!

#### ADVENT ACTIVITIES

**Friday, December 22nd - Pajama Day and Student Sing A-long in the Morning** (with a Christmas treat to follow)



#### ADVENT FUNDRAISER FOR TANZANIAN ORPHANAGE

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Chipole Tanzanian orphanage. We raised over \$1800!! That is amazing!!

#### CHRISTMAS PROJECT THANK YOU

On behalf of the HFS faculty and staff, we would like to thank everyone who donated to the Christmas Project. We are truly blessed to have such generous families in our community. We all appreciate your gifts!! Thank you also to Jillian Scharmer who organized the project!

#### SCHOOL MASSES

The next school Mass will be on Wednesday Jan. 3rd at 9:00 am. and prepared by the staff. Due to the Abbatial Election at St. John's Wednesday, January 10th, there will be no school Mass that day.

### **LUNCH/RECESS DUTY**

Parents are asked to check in the office on their assigned days by 11:20 in order to help out in the lunchroom for the last few minutes with the first lunch group. Recess duty will be from 11:30 - 12:30. Please make sure to sign out when you are done. Thank you for helping us out! If you have made arrangements with a sub or another family to cover for you, please notify the office of any changes. Be sure to have your safe environment training up to date!

### **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:**

Fri. 12/22	Adam & Angela Rushmeyer
Tue. 1/2	Nick & Kelly Korn
Wed. 1/3	Brett & Jillian Scharmer
Thur. 1/4	Adam & Stefani Burandt
Fri. 1/5	Scott & Tracy Schneider

Only one parent is needed to help at recess

### **RECESS SUBS**

If you are unable to help with recess on your scheduled date it is your responsibility to find a sub. If you get a sub please compensate them \$12.00 for the day. Checks should be made payable directly to the sub and can be left in the office.

### **Subs**

Rachel Blenker 320-836-2831  
Jillian Scharmer 320-309-0347  
Stacy King 320-290-2283  
Karen Neidermeier-Gill (T/TH ONLY) 320-428-8021

### **SNOW BALL**

**Mark your calendars for the 8th annual Snow Ball Fundraising event on Sat., January 20th, 2024!** There will be a dinner, silent auction and live auction. Raffle and dinner tickets are still available in the school office if you need more.

### **BOOK CLUB**

Book club for the 4th and 5th grader students will meet from 2:45-3:45 on the following dates:

February 6th  
April 9th

### **ART CLUB**

Holy Family School will once again offer an art club after school to our 3rd- 5th grade students. Information and registration forms were sent home last week in the take

home folders. Art Club will meet from 2:45-3:45 on the following dates:

January 9th  
March 5th  
May 7th

### **CSW SCHOOL DANCE**

The Catholic Schools Week dance will be held Friday, February 2nd. We are looking for donation items in the price range of \$15-20 for Dice Game, \$5-10 range for bonus prizes for the straw game and \$1-\$2 prizes for the straw game ( Candy, Gloves, School Supplies, books etc.). Please drop off any donations in the school office when school resumes in January. Thank you very much!!

### **SPOTLIGHT ON FAMILY**

**Please be sure to send a family photo if you haven't already done so.** Email to [hfamily@albanytel.com](mailto:hfamily@albanytel.com)

### **The Eiyneck Family**

Gary and MaryKay Eiyneck live near St John's University and have six children. Gary is a bricklayer in Mpls, MaryKay is the 1st grade teacher at HFS, Breyden is a junior at NDSU, Grace attends Alexandria technical college, Alexis is a junior at Albany HS, Nolan is in 8th grade, Lindsey is in 5th grade at HFS and Amelia is in 1st grade (and her Mom is her teacher!). They enjoy attending each other's sporting events and have a big family garden that everyone helps with. As a teacher MaryKay loves getting to know the students and their families. Lindsey loves the kindergarten buddies and Amelia's favorite is the playground.



***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!***

