

Newsletter
September 21, 2023
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Tue., Sept. 26th	School Spirit Day
Wed., Sept. 27th	Mr. Sopcyk's 3rd Gr. Mass 9:00 a.m.
Wed., Sept. 27th	Early Dismissal
Fri., Sept. 29th	HFS Picture Day
Wed., Oct. 4th	No School Mass - priests on retreat
Fri., Oct. 6th	Blessing of your Pets (tentative)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Embracing Everyone God of all, who is our brother? Who is our sister? You taught us that all people, from all walks of life, from all religions and cultures, are our brothers and sisters. We desire to hold all people in our arms, embracing them and loving them as our brothers and sisters: feeding the hungry, freeing the oppressed, healing the sick, and loving the outcast. Help us, Lord, to live as one human family. Amen (taken from 365 *prayers for Catholic Schools*).

Blessings,
Mrs. Sowada

DROPPING OFF K-5TH GRADE STUDENTS IN THE MORNING

Parents, as we are finishing the third week of school, we ask that all K-5th grade students be dropped off at the main school doors instead of bringing them into the school (unless they are attending Childcare). We are finding that some students are having a difficult time transitioning when you leave them. It may be hard to adjust to this at first, but it really is for the best if students are not escorted downstairs nor to their classrooms. Thank you!!

EARLY DISMISSAL NEXT WEEK

Next Wednesday, September 27th, is our first early dismissal day of the school year. We are waiting to get confirmation from the Albany Public school transportation department to find out the bus pick up time. As soon as we know that, we can email everyone with the exact dismissal time for Holy Family students.

2023-2024 HFS BOARD MEMBERS

Thank you to the following parents serving on our school board this year: Aaron Goebel, School Board Chair, Vice Chair, Joe Stangler, Secretary, Heather Cruz, Nate Brever, Heather Cruz, Ben Mergen, and Amy Casey.

HOME & SCHOOL INVITATION

Parents, please join us for our 1st Home & School Meeting (our parent association) **Thursday, Oct. 12th at 7:30 p.m. It will either be in person or virtual depending on the committee members schedules All are invited to participate!** Participating in our Home & School is a great way to get involved in our school community! Thank you to Angie Rushmeyer, President, Reba Leither, Vice President, and Amy Casey, School Board representative, for being on the Home & School Committee. **We are still looking for someone to be the secretary.** If interested, please contact Mrs. Sowada for more information Thank you!

SCHOOL MASSES

Please join us this school year for our school Masses on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. The next school Mass is Sept. 27th, and will be led by Mr. Sopcyk's 3rd grade class. There will be no school Mass Oct. 4th due to the priests being on retreat. All are welcome to attend our school Masses.

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.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Fri. 9/22	Joe & Trista Stangler
Mon. 9/25	Jeff & Catherine Statz
Tues. 9/26	George & Abbey Dupuy
Weds. 9/27	Early Dismissal

Thurs. 9/28 John & Kristie Schiffler
Fri. 9/29 Scott & Tracy Schneider

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 320-845-4268
Jillian Scharmer 320-309-0347
Stacy King 320-290-2283
Karen Neidermeier-Gill (T/TH ONLY) 320-428-8021

NEW HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL WEBSITE

Thank you to Mrs. Sue Gully for all of the time and work she put into developing the new website for our school.

Check out Holy Family School's new website at

<https://www.holyfamilyalbany.org>

It contains information about upcoming events, news, general information about Holy Family School, teacher bios, resources and more.

HOLY FAMILY FACEBOOK

Be sure to follow and like Holy Family School's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyalbany>

The Holy Family School Facebook page is updated regularly with photos of students' activities, projects and accomplishments and information about upcoming events.

CASH RAFFLE AND FALL FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars for the 4th annual Fall of Fortune cash raffle with a grand prize of \$15,000!!! and the Fall Festival event Saturday, October 14th on the school grounds. Please return any sold tickets so we can keep track of each ticket. If you need more to sell, contact the school office. **For every 20 tickets sold, the family will receive a \$5 DQ certificate.** Please see the Fall Festival Event flyer in today's folder for more information. Thank you!!

HFS LIBRARY LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Our students at HFS love to read. This means many books are taken off of the shelves in the library and need to go back. We are in need of a volunteer or two to reshelve the books each week. If you would be willing to help with this task weekly or biweekly please contact Mrs. Huckenpoehler in person or by email dhuckenpoehler@holyfamilyalbany.com.

BOOK CLUB

Holy Family School will once again offer a book club after school to our 4th and 5th grade students. Please return registration forms and fee so that the correct number of books can be ordered. The first book club meeting will be Tuesday, October 3rd.

ART CLUB

Holy Family School will once again offer an art club after school to our 4th and 5th grade students. Information about the club will be sent home soon with the first meeting November 7th.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to be in compliance and be able to volunteer at HFS, all parents are required to go through the Safe Environment Training. This includes Recess & Lunch Duty. If a parent is not current with Safe Environment, he/she will be expected to find a sub who is current with the training to cover his/her Recess/Lunch Duty. The family is charged \$12 per time a sub covers your duty. Information regarding logging into Safe Environment was sent home in the Fall Packet, or call the school office if you have questions.

PICTURE DAY

Picture order forms are being sent home today in the folders. Picture day is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 29th. You can also order online

<http://vando.imagequix.com/G9TRM9D>

Keyword: 24HFALB

CELEBRATING THE FEAST DAY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

When: Friday Oct. 6 at 2:00 PM (tentative date)

Where: The Holy Family School Playground

What to do: Please bring your pets in for a blessing!

All pets need to be on a leash and should be able to tolerate being around a lot of people and animals. If you would like to crate your animal that would work also. We will all meet on the side of the school for the blessing of our pets. Children are able to go home with their families and pets after the blessing.

AFTER SCHOOL DISMISSAL

Just a friendly reminder that we are asking parents to park in the East Parking Lot (by the gym) at the end of the day to pick up your children. The teachers will walk them out to the sidewalk where they can meet you. We will not be allowing students to walk through the parking lot to the cars. Pick up time is 2:40-2:45. If you are running late, please come to the main school entrance to

pick up your child. Thank you!

Stork Corner!

This year I would like to add a “stork corner” to the newsletter. If your family welcomes a new baby to the family we would like to know and share the news. Please notify the office with birthdate, gender, baby’s name and weight and I will include it in the newsletter.

SPOTLIGHT ON FAMILY

Please be sure to send a family photo if you haven’t already done so. Email to hfamily@albanytel.com

The Burg Family

Ben and Theresa Burg have two children. Mia is in Kindergarten this year and she has a younger sister Makayla. They live on a small hobby farm near St Martin. The girls like to ride bike/tricycle, swim in their pool, play on their playground (built by their Dad), and ride horse.



In the winter they like making snow forts and being pulled on the sled by their dog, Willow. As a family they enjoy camping, fishing, tubing, hiking and snowmobiling and family movie nights. Especially watching Frozen and Minions. Here is what they have to say about HFS “We are excited for Mia to be a part of a school community where love and prayer is a part of every day”.

Welcome to HFS!!