

You are a piece  
of God's plan



# The Weekly Nativity Newscast

May 27, 2022

## Upcoming Dates

**June 8-10** Vacation Bible School

**June 11**

❖ Festival t-shirt design due

**June 6-30** Summer Band

**July 11-28** Summer School

**August 4**

❖ Meet the Teacher Night, 6-7:30

**August 8**

❖ First Day of School

**August 12 and 13**

❖ Augustravaganza

❖ No school on August 12<sup>th</sup>

**October 10-14** Fall Break

Nativity Catholic School  
3310 S. Meadow Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46239  
Telephone: 317-357-1459  
[plamott@nativityindy.org](mailto:plamott@nativityindy.org)  
<https://school.nativityindy.org>

## Great Endings and New Beginnings

The 2021-22 school year has flown by! We made it through this year filling in the pieces of God's plan! The faculty and I would like to thank you for placing your faith and trust in us to educate your child academically and in our faith. We respect the sacrifices your family makes to send your child to Nativity and we will continue to put your child's Catholic education as a priority. The 2021-22 school year was a very busy year and you, as our partners in education, played a great role in making it a success!

Although it is a hectic time of year, it is the time when we most realize how blessed we all are to be part of the ministry of Nativity. Parents and teachers commit their time and energy every day toward creating a nurturing environment in which children can thrive!

We wish our 37 eighth grade graduates all of God's blessings as they journey on to new places. Eighth grade graduation is a time for celebration and reflection on the impact faith-based education has made on each student, and parents proudly see their child as a Nativity Graduate rooted in CHRIST.

We wish you all a very happy, safe and enjoyable summer. Please be sure to take time as a family to talk, play, and pray together. I look forward to seeing you all in August.

In Christ's peace,

Terri Bianchini and Jill Geisendorff  
Principal and Assistant Principal

## Highlights of the 2021-22 School Year

- DEAL Days (Drop Everything and Lead) returned after a hiatus due to the pandemic. Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students did a beautiful job leading our younger students in the 7 Habits.
- Students read OVER 86,592,037 words and passed over 4,616 Accelerated Reader quizzes. We focused on our Faith by celebrating Advent, Christmas, Lenten, and Easter seasons.
- Students in grades 1-5 spent 874 hours answering 174,673 math problems on IXL Math (web-based math site). These problems covered 7,798 skills!

## Highlights of the 2021-22 School Year continued

- Celebrated dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)
- Celebrated Cinco de Mayo
- One Nativity Eighth Grader was awarded the Presidential Scholarship from Roncalli for scoring in the top ten on the High School Placement Exam.
- Proudly celebrated Catholic Schools Week and prayed the Living Rosary together.
- Celebrated two all-school prayer services led by our Student Lighthouse Team
- Second graders celebrated their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion
- Students competed in the annual CYO Music Contest.
- Students showed how they are "A Piece of God's Plan" by serving others with 11 service projects – each one organized by a grade level.
- Each student received a birthday blessing in church during their birthday month
- Knights of Columbus prepared a fresh, delicious breakfast for ILEARN test takers
- Nativity students participated in the Scripps Spelling Bee and Roncalli's Quest for Excellence.
- Students shared their God given talents while performing in the Christmas and Spring Concerts, the Talent Show and the Middle School Musical (Elf, Jr.)
- Graduated 37 eighth graders
- Nativity CYO sports teams finished their seasons with several trophies and a reputation of being stellar athletes and sportsmen and sportswomen.
- Nativity Archery Team made it to the Worlds Tournament for Archery in the Schools Program (NASP).

## New Beginnings

### New Faculty and Staff

- We wish the very best to Mr. Boyle who is leaving Nativity to teach at Anderson High School. He will be much closer to home and will be able to have more family time.
- We wish the very best to Mrs. Boyle as well, who is leaving Nativity to teach at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. She will also be much closer to home and will be able to spend more time with her family, including Mr. Boyle.
- We wish the very best to Ms. Plata who is leaving Nativity to pursue a teaching position in a public high school. She has a desire to get back to her pharmacy roots and teach Chemistry.
  - Mr. Jeremiah Marshall will be our new middle school Science teacher. He comes from the public school setting and is excited to teach Science and STEM based activities to our middle school students.
- We wish the very best to Mr. Schlichte as he moves on to a new chapter in his life.
- We wish the very best to Mrs. Swift who is leaving Nativity to teach at St. Roch, her home parish. Her son will also attend St. Roch. We also wish the very best to Mrs. Collins who is leaving Nativity to teach at St. Jude. Her children attend St. Jude and they are also parishioners of St. Jude.
  - Mrs. Mary Halla will be one of our fifth grade teachers. Mrs. Halla has 11 years of experience teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade and is moving back into teaching after staying at home with her children, who attend Nativity. She is a dedicated teacher who is excited to get back into the classroom!
  - Ms. Samantha Richey will be our other fifth grade teacher. She worked with Nativity students who needed additional assistance this year, through Catapult Learning. We are enthusiastic about her new role at Nativity!

- We wish the very best to Mrs. Martin who is leaving Nativity to work in the business world as a payroll specialist. She will be working from home and is looking forward to spending time with family.
  - Mrs. Karen Sonnito will be our new fourth grade teacher. Mrs. Sonnito has experience working with public school students as an Instructional Assistant and is eager to have her own classroom at Nativity!
- We wish the very best to Mrs. Mathias as she moves on to a new chapter in her life.
  - Mrs. Raechel Kill will be our new kindergarten teacher. She will be moving from her role as technology teacher to teaching our young students. She is compassionate and looking forward to serving Nativity students in a new way.
  - Mrs. Zandra Deardorff will move from her STEM and REACH teacher role to fill the Technology position. Mrs. Deardorff has big plans to combine STEM and Technology into one class. She is also eager to work on some STEM activities with middle school students for the first time.
- We wish the very best to Mrs. Haines as she looks forward to a slower life in retirement. She worked for years as an Instructional Aide, and taught 4<sup>th</sup> grade Religion during this school year. She was happy she was finally able to call herself a “teacher.” Mrs. Haines was always cheerful about helping out in any capacity needed and will be missed.
- Last, but not least, we wish the very best to Ms. Bianchini. She was Nativity's principal for 14 years and worked in the Archdiocese for 40 years. She was planning to retire at the end of the year, but then a medical leave took precedence and she was unable to finish out her last full year at Nativity. She has worked with so many students and teachers over the years, guiding them academically, spiritually, and behaviorally. We will continue praying for her good health.

Our new principal is Ms. Jenny Enrietto. You will learn more about her in our newsletter next week. Our theme for next year will be “Done in God's Love”.



## Help Children Love the Mass

At each Catholic Mass, Jesus Christ becomes sacramentally present among us, feeding us with the fullness of love. Helping children know and love the Mass will help them experience His love throughout their lives.

**Prioritize.** A busy family can have competing activities throughout a weekend. Yet, going to church together sends a strong message to children that Mass is more important than any of them. Don't miss Mass on Sunday or Holy Days. If you know you'll be traveling for vacation, research nearby Catholic churches and Mass times beforehand.

**Prepare.** Discuss the Gospel before Mass and read Scripture together often. Help children perform a daily examination of conscience and go to Confession regularly to ensure everyone eligible can receive Communion.

**Pray.** Praying as a family is one of the ways to activate the graces we receive through the Sacraments. Start with a decade of the Rosary or traditional prayers before meals or bedtime. Our sacramental life sanctifies our everyday life.

**Sing.** Children (of all ages) can connect with the celebration of Mass through the hymns. See who can sing the loudest.

**Celebrate.** The Sacraments are channels of God's life, love, and grace. Write a special family prayer you can pray together to thank God for His many gifts after Mass. Afterwards, celebrate with a special dessert or fun family activity.

## Summer Office Hours

Summer hours for the School office will be **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.** You can pay lunch, extended care, walk-a-thon, or library fees. You may also pick up your child's medicine. Any medicines not picked up by June 1st will be discarded.

Report cards will be held for any family that owes over \$25.00. If you will not be returning next year, report cards and transcripts will be held until all your accounts are paid in full. Report cards for those families who have fulfilled their obligations will be mailed home in early June.

Summer hours for the Parish office will be Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.



## Reader Leader

Congratulations to our newest Reader Leader Millionaire, Devon Collett! We are proud of you, Devon, and all of our Reader Leaders and Junior Reader Leaders this year!

Please continue to read over the summer. We will notify families when the Accelerated Reader program is reset and ready for the 2022-23 school year.

## Camp Read S'more

Don't forget to visit your local Indianapolis Public Library branch this summer to sign up for **Camp Read S'more- the free summer reading program for kids** at <https://indypl.org/> Participants can win great prizes just for reading, including free tickets to local attractions, gift cards, and even a College Choice 529 scholarship! Fun summer workshops are also offered! Register now so you can begin logging your reading minutes **June 6 - July 30**. The Indianapolis Public Library also offers an **Adult Summer Reading Program- Read Outside**. You, too, can read, earn prizes, and attend summer workshops for adults. Check out the website for more info!



## Music Throughout the Summer

**Summer Band** is offered in part for beginners to get started before the school year! Veteran band students are also invited to attend. Summer band will be **June 6th-June 30th on Monday-Thursday from 10-11am.**

Summer Band sign up link <https://forms.gle/TrHR8AAwU6ta9xY78>

**Summer Private Lessons** Ms. Stutzman will also be offering lessons to veteran band students this summer to keep up their playing abilities. If interested, please email her at [pstutzman@nativityindy.org](mailto:pstutzman@nativityindy.org)

## Help Wanted

The Titan Cafe is hiring for the 2022-23 school year. The positions will be 2-3 days a week around 3 hours per day. Candidates must be able to work in a fast-paced environment, stand for long periods of time, and be able to lift up to 20 lbs. If interested please contact Brenda Beard at [bbeard@nativityindy.org](mailto:bbeard@nativityindy.org)

Extended Care is also looking for 2-3 more people to supervise children after school. If you are interested and available for 2-3 hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, please contact Kathy Lambert at [klambert@nativityindy.org](mailto:klambert@nativityindy.org) for more information.

Naturally, both of these positions require completion of Safe Parish and a background check.

## 7<sup>th</sup> versus 8<sup>th</sup> Kickball Game on Field Day

God blessed us with a beautiful sunny day on Field Day. Festivities were kicked off (pun intended) with the annual 7<sup>th</sup> versus 8<sup>th</sup> grade kickball game. Athletes were dressed in school colors, with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade sporting red t-shirts and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in black. Cheering crowds consisting of Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, as well as parents and staff, filled the air with excitement. The spirited co-ed competition was played in part by the Nativity girls who won the CYO Cadet City Championship!

With this level of competition, referees needed to be top-notch. Who better to fill the role than Missy Mendoza and Courtney Swift? Jenny Smith and Kristi LeBeau took some awesome photos. Coaches extraordinaire Maureen Hutt, Ali Leffler, Lisa Agresta, Shelly Cadwell and Sarah Mockaitis utilized their many years of molding and leading these kickball players to utmost advantage. This close contest ended in a win for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade with a score of 15-14! Thank you coaches, refs, players and fans!



## Attention Titan Kickball Families

Registration for 2022 Fall Kickball is now open for all girls in grades 3 through 8. You must register and pay online at [https://cyo.orgonline.com/Athletics\\_ParticipantRegistration.aspx](https://cyo.orgonline.com/Athletics_ParticipantRegistration.aspx)

All girls must be registered and paid by the deadline to avoid a late fee.

- The deadline for **3rd/4<sup>th</sup> grade is July 18th.**
- The deadline for **5<sup>6</sup> and Cadet is June 17th.**

Please get your daughters registered and paid ASAP!

Incoming 5/6th graders will have evaluations on **June 8th at 6 p.m.** Please plan on attending!

## United We Run CYO City Championship Meet

Nativity's track and field athletes competed in the CYO City Championship meet last week! Gathering for the annual competition were 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade athletes from across the archdiocese. The event lasted well into the evening, with the relays finishing about 10 p.m. last Wednesday. Nativity athletes combine with students from several other schools to form the "United We Run" team.

Congratulations to Nativity's top 8 finishers listed below!

- Girls
  - Cadet 4x100 - Becca Engel, Ali Richardson, Molly Mockaitis (4th)
  - Girls Long Jump (Cadet) - Becca Engel (6th)
  - 50M dash 5/6 - Avery Langston (2nd)
  - 100M and 200M dash 5/6 - Avery Langston (4th)
- Boys
  - Cadet 4x100 - Sam Smith, Trevor Kauffman, Karol Molina-Gomez (6th)
  - Long jump Cadet - Trevor Kauffman (4th)
  - 5/6 4x100 - Mason Conway, Matthew Stevens, Joel Elrod (6)

## Summer Fun Run

Attention all Nativity, St. Mark, and St. Roch students, parents and members. It is time again for our summer FUN RUN club. Any kids or adults interested in participating in our Cross Country team in the Fall, anyone who likes to run or just wants to have fun outdoors is invited.

We will meet every **Monday and Wednesday** evening during the summer months from **6:30-7:30 p.m.**, starting **Monday, June 6.**

On **Mondays** we meet at Clinton Young Elementary School, located at 5740 McFarland Road. Park in parking lot off of McFarland Rd. We meet at the baseball diamond area. On **Wednesdays** meet at Franklin Central H.S. located at 6215 S. Franklin Road on the second practice track area behind the main track area. We will run, play running games, work on our speed, running technique, distance and just have fun. All you need are some shoes to run! All ages are welcome including parents, siblings and friends. Hope to see you there!

Also, **sign-ups** for Fall sports are coming soon! **All incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders** are eligible to run Cross County in the fall. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help assist coaching, please contact: Christine Geier at [cmgeierr@yahoo.com](mailto:cmgeierr@yahoo.com) or Tyler Rich at [tyrich1977@gmail.com](mailto:tyrich1977@gmail.com)



## Free School Lunches Will Expire After This School Year



The school meals program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, school corporations across the country have been operating with the use of a federal waiver that allowed them to feed every child without charge through the end of this school year. The use of this waiver will **not** be available after this school year and corporations will return to the traditional eligibility requirements for free, reduced and paid meals. This means that for School Year 2022-2023, we will need to process free and reduced-price meal benefit applications. These applications will be available in your back-to-school packet.

The Food Services Department does have the ability to Directly Certify students who receive SNAP, TANF, some Medicaid, and/or are certified as homeless, migrant, or are wards of the state (foster children). Households who are directly certified will be notified in writing of the free or reduced-price meal status prior to the start of school and will not need to complete an application.

Meal benefit applications will not be available until **July 1\***. Households are encouraged to apply before the start of the school year to avoid unpaid meal charges. Students who are not approved for free or reduced-price meal benefits before the start of the school year will be classified as "paid status" and meal charges will begin to accumulate starting the first day of school. Meal charges accrued before the approval of a meal benefit application will be the responsibility of the household.

You do NOT need to complete an application if:

- ❖ You receive notification that your child(ren) are directly certified.
- ❖ You know your household does not qualify for meal benefits. (Please have money in your child's account on the first day of school.) Please direct questions to Mrs. Lee at [dlee@nativityindy.org](mailto:dlee@nativityindy.org).

\*Please note, applications received prior to July 1 will not be effective for the 2022-2023 school year.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## Free Summer Meal Locations

**USDA** Text "summer meals" or "verano" (for Spanish) to 914-342-7744 and receive an automated response to resources located near an address and/or zip code. The USDA National Hunger Hotline number has not changed. Individuals can still call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE to speak with a representative who will find food resources such as meal sites, food banks, and other nearby social services.

**No Kid Hungry** English: Text 'Food' to 304-304 or visit [NoKidHungry.org/help](http://NoKidHungry.org/help) to find free meals in your neighborhood.

Spanish: Texto 'COMIDA' al 304-304 o visita [NoKidHungry.org/ayuda](http://NoKidHungry.org/ayuda) para encontrar comidas de verano gratuitas cerca de ud.

## Calling 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Cheerleaders!

Calling all cheerleaders for CYO fall football cheer with the Johnson County Catholic Knights! This is available to any girls grades 5-8 for Nativity, and grades 3-8 from Our Lady of the Greenwood, Saints Francis and Clare, and Saint Rose. Registration is now open on the CYO website [www.cyoarchindy.org](http://www.cyoarchindy.org). Cheer is found under OLG; Dual school code: 170OLGD-IN. Please register as soon as possible as practices typically start end of July. Contact Susan Oslos at [susan@jgacounsel.com](mailto:susan@jgacounsel.com) or 317-457-2078 for information/questions. Go Knights!

## Augustravaganza News

**Sponsorship for Business or Family:** Terrific new sponsorship opportunities available for you. Please read the attachments for details. Contact Lisa Brassie at 317-361-8361 or [augustravaganza@gmail.com](mailto:augustravaganza@gmail.com) for more info.

**T-Shirt Design Contest:** Now is your chance to design this year's Augustravaganza t-Shirt! Submit your best logo/design for this year's festival t-shirt using one color ink and the words "August 12 & 13, 2022". The rest is up to you! Submission are due **June 11<sup>th</sup>**.

**Become a T-shirt Family Sponsor!** Check out the attachment for details.

**Children's games** at the festival can use any of the following: glasses, mugs, vases, etc. for the washer toss; new or gently used stuffed animals, books, and toys for the kids' prize table; and small toys for the punch board game. You can bring to the school office, the church narthex, or the Parish Center. Thanks!

## Roncalli High School News

**Roncalli Cheerleading Clinic** Roncalli Cheerleading Clinic will be held May 31-June 2 from 6-8 PM in the Roncalli High School Bubble Gym. Anyone interested in cheerleading, any experience level, going into grades 1-8 are welcome! The cost is \$50 per student. Sign up at <https://www.roncalli.org/athletics/summer-sports-camps> to reserve your spot and guarantee your t-shirt! **NOTE: This clinic is not for incoming freshmen.**

**Roncalli's Academic Summer Camps - SPACE IS LIMITED!** Roncalli will offer multiple academic camps this summer! For the first time, a **Psychology Camp (June 6-9)** will be offered for students going into grades 6-8. **Drafting & Woodworking Camp (June 13-16)** is back, and it's going to be for students in grades 5-8. A **Coding Camp (June 13-16)** will also be offered for the first time this summer, and students going into grades 6-8 are welcome to attend. Grades for all camps indicate the grade students will be in for the 2022-23 school year. Please contact Allie Ross at [aross@roncalli.org](mailto:aross@roncalli.org) for all official camp details.

**Purchase a 2022-23 Roncalli VIP Card** Find out how at the link below...all details are included!  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gVdG3txEubfOBXWdgGJsQ4nu3KySDgmyMFUVoAG7UwM/edit>

## Cathedral High School News

**Summer High School Placement Test Academy** Attention 7<sup>th</sup> graders! Reserve your spot now for this summer's High School Placement Test Academy. A one week class with direct instruction from Cathedral math and English teachers and two opportunities to take the test. Choose between June 13-17 or July 11-15. Register through Camp Cathedral: [gocathedral.com/campcathedral](http://gocathedral.com/campcathedral)

**Attachments:** Partners in Faith, May  
Augustravaganza Business and Family Sponsorship  
Augustravaganza T-Shirt Design Contest

## Nativity Catholic School Mission Statement

Nativity Catholic School, a ministry of Nativity Catholic Church, will LEAD through:

Love rooted in Christ;

Education focused on academic excellence and service to others;

Achievement through personal effort and perseverance; and

Development of mind, body and spirit.

### Vision

By inspiring greatness, all children of Nativity Catholic School will realize their worth and reach their fullest God given potential.

## Walk-a-Thon Sponsors 2021-22

We are grateful to the following businesses and organizations for sponsoring this year's Walk-a-thon. Please patronize our sponsors!

**Gold Sponsors:** Bose McKinney & Evans, LLP; Griffith Flooring Service; Hightower Graphics; Laura Kopetsky Tri-Ax; Southeast Family Dental, PC; Star Heating and Cooling;

**Silver Sponsors:** Beck Service Center; Braun's Fun Time Campers; Cathedral High School; Daming Excavating, Inc; Dexter Photography; Exclusives Salon; KinCo Exhaust; Kridan Hartman Supply; MM Contractors, LLC;

**Bronze Sponsors:** Arco Glass; Buck Creek Winery; Missy Mendoza, Century 21 Realtor; Nativity Archery; Nativity Athletics; Nativity PFO; Rail Abstracting; Roncalli High School; UFIT Fitness Studios

