



**HOLY NAME OF
JESUS SCHOOL**
A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER

GATOR Gazette

Volume 41 | Issue 18 | Date: December 16, 2022

WEEK AT A GLANCE

- Spirit Shirt Day (HNJ), 12/19
- School Mass/6W Sponsoring, 12/21
- Christmas Program (PK3-7th), 12/22
- Early Dismissal (LG-7th), 12/22
- No School (LG-7th), 12/23-1/6
- Spirit Shirt Day (HNJ), 1/9
- Pastoral Council Meeting, 1/11
- King Cake Day Kick-Off, 1/12
- Parent Teacher Conferences, 1/13
- No School (LG-7th), 1/13
- Martin Luther King Jr Day (No School), 1/16
- Re-Enrollment (LG-PK3), 1/16-20
- NWEA Testing (PK4-7th), 1/17-19
- School Advisory Meeting, 1/18

[View Full School Calendar](#)

Quick Links

[School Mass Live Streaming Link](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)

School Mission

Holy Name of Jesus School is an inclusive community dedicated to teaching children confidence, compassion, and integrity while staying committed to academic excellence and the Catholic faith.

Principal's Perspective

BY KIRSCH J. WILBERG

Dear Holy Name of Jesus Community,

As Christmas is fast approaching, HNJ has again received another blessing. Two years ago, we entered into a one-year lease with Loyola to rent the space for the current Little Gators classes to give HNJ time to create our own space. Six months into that lease, we were granted a 12-month extension. Additionally, we have been in the silent phase of our *Foundations for the Future* Capital Campaign for more than six months now to raise money to create permanent Little Gators classrooms on our campus.

At the same time, we have been planning the transition space needed to accommodate our Little Gators classes once the lease with Loyola expires and while construction occurs to create the new permanent space. That transition space is still in the planning phases and is close to being realized. However, we were informed this week that Loyola has extended our lease terms by another six months to extend through the end of the 2023 calendar year. We are very grateful to our partners in education for this! As we enter into re-enrollment season next month, we will send out more information regarding the transition plan. In the meantime, we wanted to provide this positive update.



Next week, we will celebrate the Christmas season as a community with Mass on Wednesday, Dec. 21 and Christmas performances on Thursday, Dec. 22. Thursday is an early dismissal day and students will be released to parents when their grade-level performances are finished. *There will not be a traditional carpool pick-up for Early Childhood on this day.* Dismissal will begin at 11 a.m. for students in 1st through 7th grade who are not picked up in the church after the Christmas performance. I can't wait to see everyone on campus!

This newsletter is also our last Gator Gazette until we return from the Christmas break. As a reminder, *school resumes on Monday, January 9, 2022.* I would like to extend a very Merry Christmas to you and your whole family. I look forward to what the new year will bring for Holy Name of Jesus School! There are so many blessings on the horizon!!

God Bless,

Kirsch J. Wilberg

To wonder...to achieve...to make a difference...together

Cognia Award Day Fun!



Alumni Spotlight

Thank you to those who attended the Alumni Happy Hour last night!



From the Bookshelf



A HUGE thank you to everyone who worked, shopped, or sent good thoughts to our recent Book Fair! While final numbers are yet to come, I know it was a big success from the excitement in our students' faces as they bought books! Growing a love of reading is one of the most important things we can give our children, and the Book Fair is an opportunity to do that (and it supports the HNJ Library!).

Thank you, thank you, thank you --- and Merry Christmas!

From the Swamp

7th Girls Basketball

The 7th-grade girl's basketball team improved their record to 3-0 with a 24-3 victory vs. Kehoe France Thursday afternoon. This marks the second game of the season where the gators held their opponent under 5 points for the entire contest. O'Hara Pejic led the gators in scoring for the third consecutive game with 10 points. Elizabeth Koveleskie added 6 points, while Zoey Ochoa, Raleigh Kennedy, Valentina Smith, and Elle Orgeron all scored 2 points apiece to round out the scoring. The gators look to remain undefeated when they face Christian Brothers Monday, December 19 at 4 pm.

5th/6th Girls Basketball

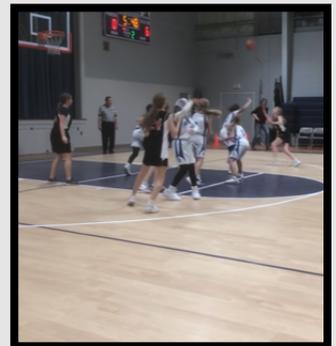
The 5th/6th girl's basketball team lost another close battle 12-8 vs. Kehoe France Thursday afternoon. Down 12-2 in the 4th quarter, our gators outscored the pioneers 6-0 in the final period with a couple of close misses that could have changed the outcome of the game. Raleigh Kennedy led the gator offense for the third consecutive game with 6 points while Bethany Chavez scored her lone bucket late in the 4th quarter. The setback gives our gators a 1-2 mark going into the second half of the season.

7th Boys Basketball

The 7th boy's basketball team evened their record to 2-2 with a 33-24 victory vs. Kehoe France Thursday afternoon. Greyson Taylor led the charge with 15 points and has led the gators in scoring for the fourth time in as many games. Egan Gallagher and Court Desobry scored 8 points apiece while Theo Patrias scored 2 points off an assist from Gavin Girgrah. Our gators will look to add to their winning streak when they return to action after the Christmas break.

5th/6th Boys Basketball

The 5th/6th boys basketball team loses a tough contest vs. Trinity Monday afternoon 22-19. The gators led by at least 10 points going into the third quarter but were unable to hold off the Titans final charge. Logan Edmond and Tyson Magee led the gators in scoring with 6 points a piece. Patrick Owen and Charlie Lyons had 2 points respectively while Jameson Erspamer scored his lone point on a free throw in the first half. The Gators will look to get back on track as they return to action following the Christmas break.



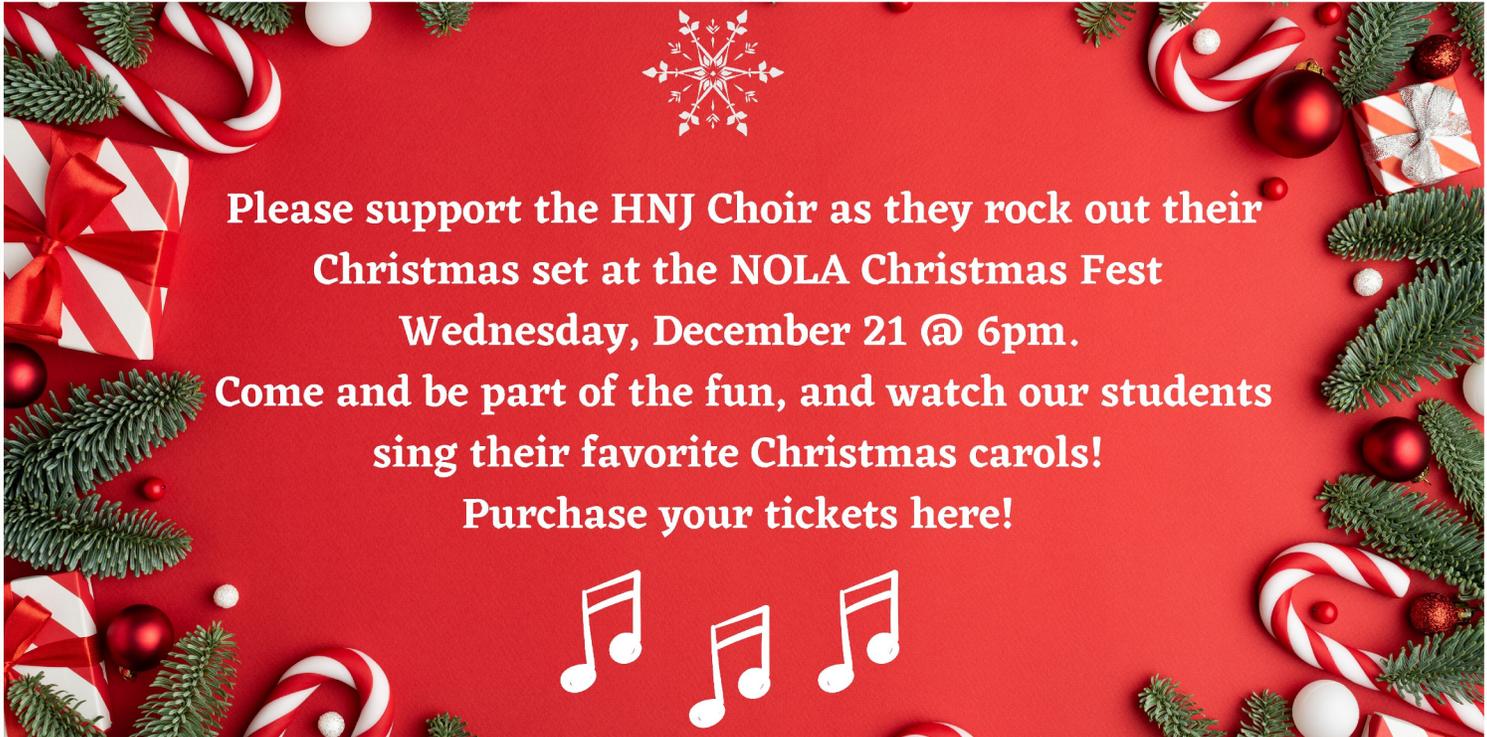
From the Swamp

6th/7th Soccer

The 6th/7th soccer team wins another close matchup 1-0 vs. St. George's Tuesday afternoon. The gators lone goal was scored by George Woodrow after a well-placed corner kick by Valentina Smith. The gator defense was led by Joseph Koveleskie, Cardell Ross, and Charlotte Dietz, June Lunsford, and Lee Morgan pitched a shutout as the keepers of the goal. Our gators will return to action after the Christmas break poised for another championship run in the NOAL.

4th/5th Soccer

Although the 4th/5th-grade soccer team suffered another loss, our gators drastically improved from the first match of the season. June Lunsford showed versatility and leadership excelling in both forward and defense. Lane Vodanovich also showed her versatility by playing both forward and goalie. George Woodrow and Benjamin Nalty played the whole game and never gave up and kept control of midfield. Go Gators!



**Please support the HNJ Choir as they rock out their
Christmas set at the NOLA Christmas Fest
Wednesday, December 21 @ 6pm.
Come and be part of the fun, and watch our students
sing their favorite Christmas carols!
Purchase your tickets here!**

LITTLE GATORS CORNER

Our Christmas party was a jolly good time! Little Gators had a surprise performance for parents and we had a surprise visit from Santa Claus. Thanks to everyone that made this special celebration possible. Merry Christmas!



From the School Counselor

Over the Christmas break, your family may be looking for activities to keep your kiddos busy while also ensuring their brains stay. Try a few of the following activities that also count as learning:



1. Baking/Cooking
2. Checking the Weather Forecast
3. Building with blocks, legos, magnetic tiles, etc.
4. Playing card games or board games
5. Doing puzzles
6. Engaging in Imaginative Play
7. Listening to Music or Podcasts
8. Coloring, Drawing, Painting, etc.
9. Reading or Listening to E-Books
10. Writing Letters
11. Cleaning and Doing Chores

SEND US YOUR YEARBOOK PHOTOS

PLEASE EMAIL ANY PHOTOS YOU WOULD LIKE TO
SHARE FOR OUR YEARBOOK TO MS. KRISTIN
WINCHESTER AT KWINCHESTER@HNJSCHOOL.ORG

THANK YOU!

Save the
DATE
PK3-7TH!

HNJ'S 7TH GRADE CLASS PRESENTS

Mom & Mister

JANUARY 21, 2023

1:00 - 3:00PM

HNJ

GAMES, SNACKS, FUN!

Google Form Registration after Christmas Break!



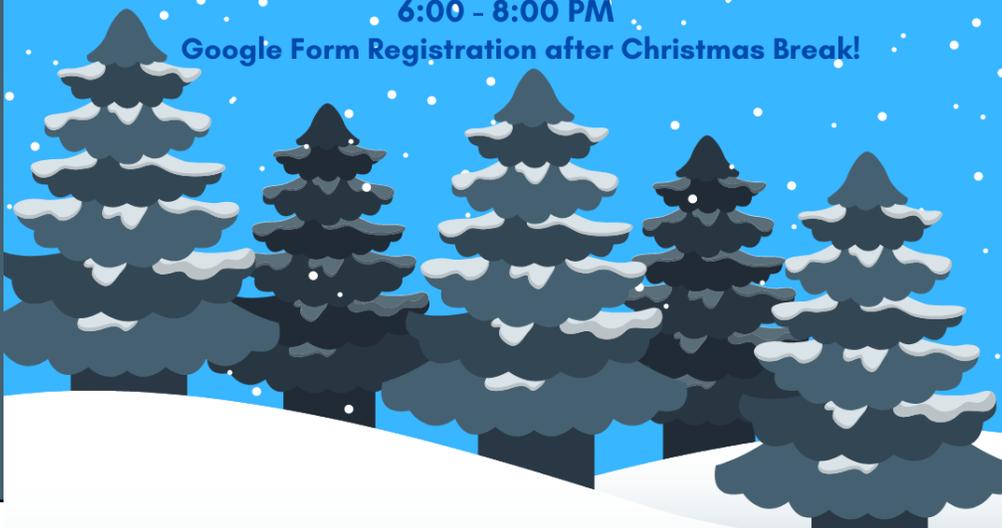
HNJ's 7th Grade Class Presents

Dad & Darling Dance

Saturday, January 21 at HNJ

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Google Form Registration after Christmas Break!



Save the
Date!
PK3-7th!

Health Notes from Nurse Abby

December is here- and winter viruses are too!

We hope everyone stays well during this busy and fun month before Christmas! If your child has mild cold/cough symptoms that allow them to remain in school, please remember to medicate them prior to drop-off to keep them comfortable during the day (fever of course not included). We will call home for any symptoms that are disruptive to the class and your child's participation. If you have any questions about the administering of over-the-counter medications at school, please refer to the handbook or reach out to Nurse Abby as always at adonnelly@hnjschool.org.



Admissions

FUTURE GATOR



Reminder, if you have a Future Gator who will be applying for the 2023-2024 school year, you will need to complete the New Student Application.

The priority deadline for New Student Applications is December 22, 2022. Please help us spread the word to family and friends who are interested in applying! Please reach out to Maggie Zschiedrich at mzschiedrich@hnjschool.org with any questions.

HNJ Annual Giving

Help us reach our goal of \$100,000



**MAKE A GIFT AT
HNJSCHOOL.ORG
/GIVING**

**ANNUAL GIVING
GIFT CATALOG
2022-2023**

**YOUR GIFT
WILL SUPPORT**



**TO WONDER...
TO ACHIEVE...
TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE...
TOGETHER**



GOAL 3

Retain highly qualified teachers and provide ongoing professional development

GOAL 1

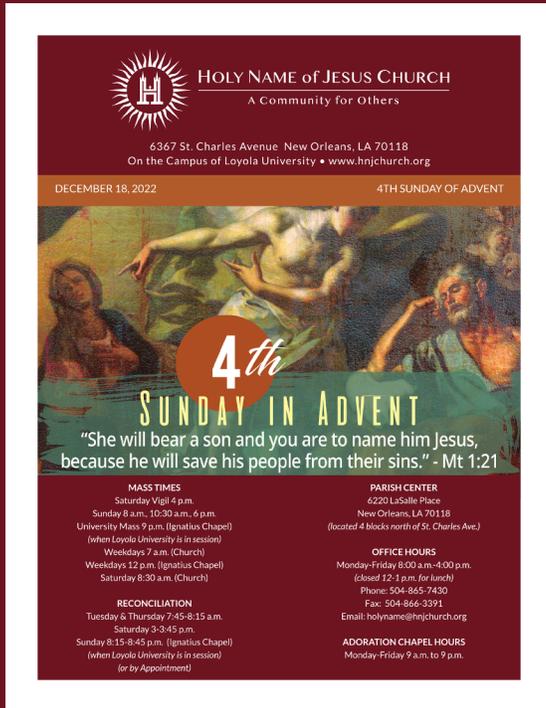
Provide innovative academic programs and student support services

GOAL 2

Maintain state-of-the-art technology to support our curriculum

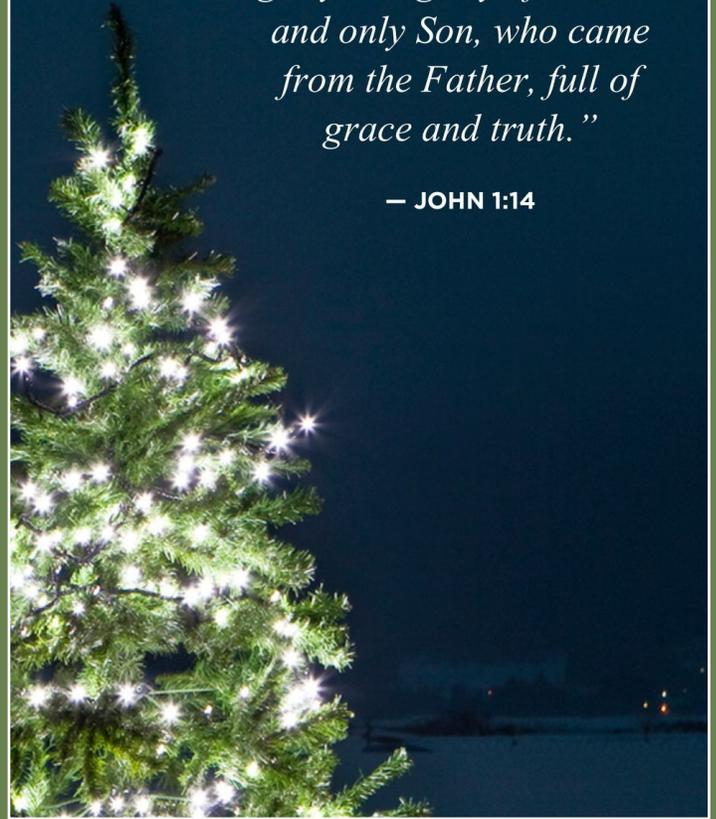


CLICK TO READ THIS WEEK'S HNJ CHURCH BULLETIN AND JOIN US FOR MASS



*"The Word became flesh
and made his dwelling
among us. We have seen his
glory, the glory of the one
and only Son, who came
from the Father, full of
grace and truth."*

— JOHN 1:14



SUPPORT HNJ BY SHOPPING WITH AMAZON SMILE

When you shop at Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate to Holy Name of Jesus School. Click the link below to get started.

[HNJ Amazon Smile Link](#)

If you have the Amazon app on your phone, please make sure to select our name under "Holy Name of Jesus Parish" and set it to "allow notifications."

Shopping with Amazon Smile is quick and easy! Make sure to use "Smile" every time you shop Amazon.

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Parish.**

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazonsmile



HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER

Mission

Holy Name of Jesus School is an inclusive community dedicated to teaching children confidence, compassion, and integrity while staying committed to academic excellence and the Catholic faith.

Core Beliefs

- Find God in everyone and everything
- Strive for personal excellence
- Are boys and girls for others
- Open eyes with faith, open ears with truth, and open hearts with love

Academic Vision

Holy Name of Jesus School fosters academic excellence in an inclusive environment where our community celebrates and supports all members through student development, innovation, and social justice.

Motto: To wonder, to achieve, to make a difference, together

Decisions: Student-centered

In implementing this academic vision, Holy Name of Jesus School is committed to:

GOAL #1

Meeting the needs of ALL students by utilizing data to differentiate instruction in order to grow as individuals academically, spiritually, and socially

GOAL #2

Delivering engaging, collaborative, project-based opportunities where students develop an inquisitive approach to learning

Goal #3

Providing ongoing opportunities to highlight, promote, and celebrate our own and other's backgrounds, cultures, and differences

Learn more about Holy Name of Jesus School

www.hnjschool.org

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