

# The Gator Gazette

Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

**NOVEMBER 28, 2023**



## PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Holy Name of Jesus Community,

I pray everyone had a blessed and peaceful Thanksgiving. I am personally very thankful for my ministry at Holy Name of Jesus School, the Jesuits (particularly Fr. Mark), our extraordinary faculty and staff, our school families, and, most importantly, our students. The HNJ community brings me joy on a daily basis.

All school leaders in the Archdiocese of New Orleans schools participate in a Professional Growth Program. As part of this, periodically a formal evaluation is done of the leader. This year, my job performance is being evaluated so that I may be able to recognize better my strengths and learn ways to improve to better serve our community.

[Please use this link to complete the family survey.](#) The survey is anonymous and the results go directly to the Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation. Once compiled, they will be shared with me so that I may use them to set goals for the future.

Thank you for taking the time to do this. We ask that all surveys be submitted by Friday, December 8, 2023, so the Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation can review them in a timely manner.

Lastly, please be sure to mark your calendars with all of our December events! It is sure to be another fun month with lots of opportunities for families.

God Bless,

Kirsch J. Williams

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



# What's Important This Week & Next

## Tuesday, November 28

- #iGiveCatholic Day
- Art to Remember Delivery

## Thursday, November 30

- Men's Club Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

## Friday, December 1

- Little Gators & Early Childhood Santa Pictures
- School Mass (2nd-7th), 7H sponsoring, 8:30 a.m.
- Liturgy of the Word (PK4-1st), 1H and PK4F sponsoring (Willoz Auditorium)
- Men's Club Christmas Tree Sale

## Saturday, December 2

- Men's Club Christmas Tree Sale
- NOLA Holiday Parade (Balloon Carriers)

## Monday, December 4

- HNJ Spirit Shirt Day

## Tuesday, December 5

- Birthday Book Club (December)

## Thursday, December 7

- Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass, 5:30 p.m.
- HNJ Community Dinner, 6:30 p.m. (Parish Center)

## Friday, December 8

- School Mass, Immaculate Conception (2nd-7th), 7L sponsoring, 8:30 a.m.
- Loyola Women's Basketball Game, 12:30 p.m.
- Movie Night - Polar Express, 6 p.m.

## Monday, December 11

- HNJ Spirit Shirt Day

## Thursday, December 14

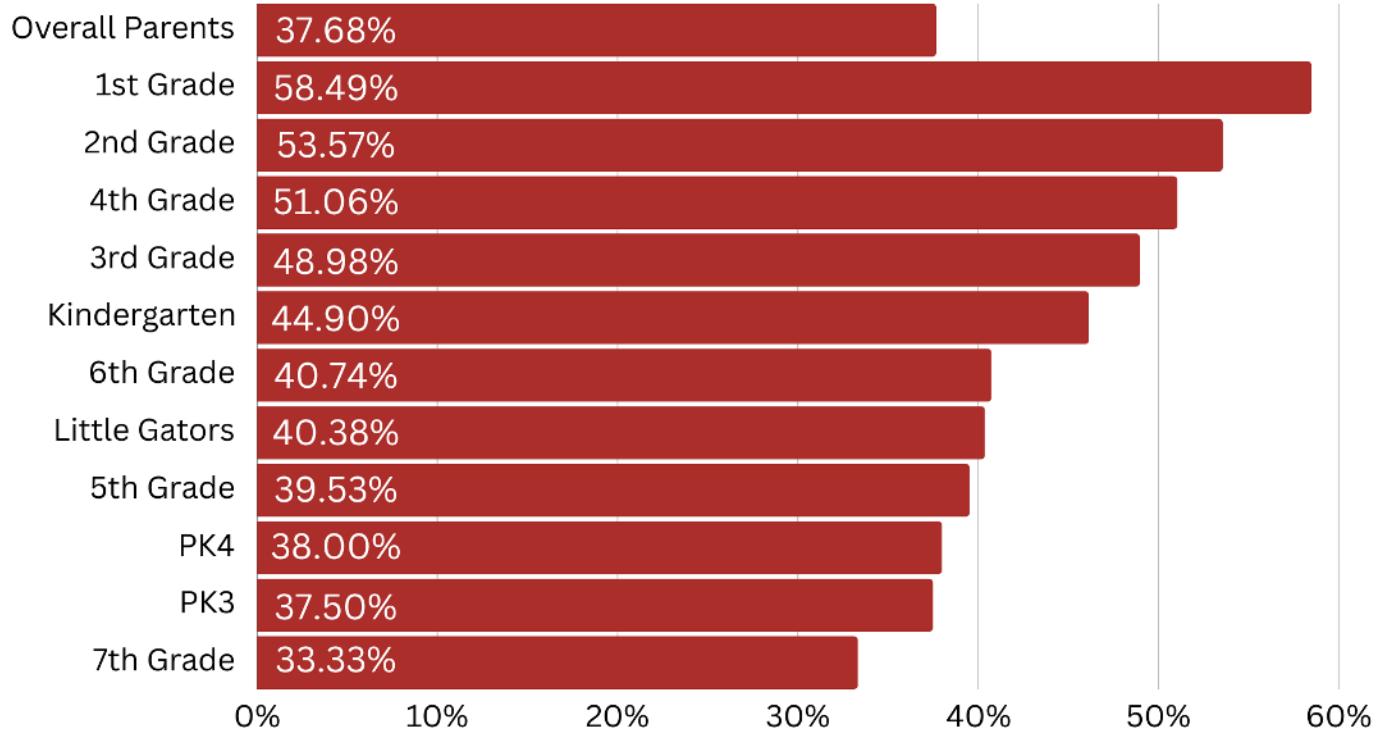
- Choir Performance at Lambeth House

## Quick Links

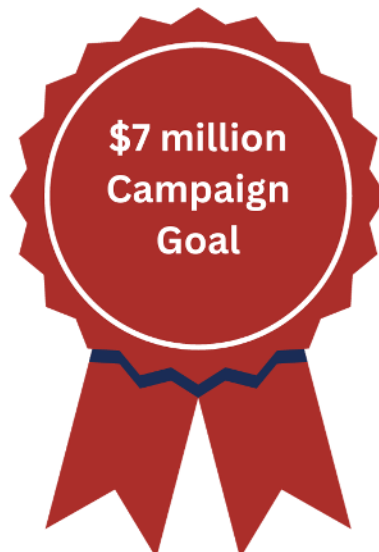




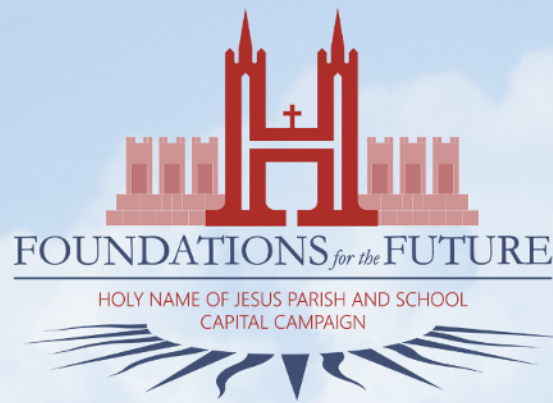
# Capital Campaign Parent Leaderboard by Grade



## Help us Reach our Campaign Goals!



By helping us get to 100% Parent Participation, you not only help us reach our \$7 million campaign goal, but you also help us show that our **WHOLE COMMUNITY** is **ALL IN** when we approach Major Foundations for Grant Funding for our Gym.



## OPERATION HOMESTRETCH TO THE FINISH LINE!

THANK  
YOU

### School-Wide Incentives

**50% Parent Participation**

**All students have  
"Hilarious Hair & Hat Day"**

**75% Parent Participation**

**All students get an  
Ice Cream Party**

**90% Parent Participation**

**Free Dress for the  
Whole School for One Week**

**100% Parent Participation**

**School-Wide Party & Celebration Fest**

### WOW Grade Level Incentives

**75% Parent Participation in a Grade Level**

**All students in grade level get a Cookie  
Cake party at end of the school day**

**100% Parent Participation in a Grade Level**

**All students in grade level get  
Free Dress for One Week**





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

Support Holy Name of Jesus  
School on Giving Tuesday  
#iGiveCatholic

**HNJSCHOOL.ORG/MAKE-A-GIFT**



HOLY NAME OF  
JESUS SCHOOL

**Please take a  
few minutes  
to answer a  
brief survey  
on our Capital  
Campaign.**



**All parents are asked to scan  
the QR code to take online  
survey.**

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





## Counselor's Corner

This month in Life Skills, students have been learning about the spirit of gratitude. Practicing gratitude has been shown to improve overall happiness and well-being. Reading books about gratitude can be a wonderful way to reinforce this concept at home. For older students, encouraging your child to keep a gratitude journal can also be beneficial. Feel free to join in and share your own gratitude reflections as well!





# **\*Little Gators and Early Childhood Only\***



**PAT GARIN**  
**PHOTOGRAPHER LLC**

139 Broadway Street, New Orleans, LA 70118 \* (504) 866-4910  
info@patgarinphotographer.com

## **SANTA PHOTOS - HOLY NAME OF JESUS**

☐ **Package 1 "Santa's Special Package" .....\$50.00**  
2-5x7 Prints; Photo Ornament; Digital Image (emailed)

☐ **Package 2 .....\$35.00**  
2-5x7 Prints; Digital Image (emailed)

☐ **Package 3 .....\$25.00**  
Digital Image ONLY (emailed)

**Add Ons:** (can only be **ADDED** to package)

- **Wallet Size Key Chain** \$10.00
- **3 ½ x 5 Magnet** \$10.00
- **Christmas Ornament** \$25.00
- **8x10 Print** \$30.00

Student Name:	
Homeroom:	
<i>Parent Email Address:</i>	

Package Selected: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Cash \* Check (Payable to Pat Garin Photographer LLC)

\*Venmo (@PGPLLC)

@PGPLLC



venmo

# HNJ MEN'S CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

CHIU FAMILY  
YARD

DECEMBER  
1ST & 2ND



For more details and to Pre-Order,  
visit the Men's Club website:  
<https://www.hnjmensclub.org/shop>





# CASTING CALL



ROALD DAHL'S  
**Matilda**  
THE MUSICAL JR.

GRADES 1 - 7

PRELIMINARY AUDITIONS

DECEMBER 4 - 7

3 - 6PM

CALLBACKS

DECEMBER 8

3 - 5PM

## SIGN UP FOR A TIME SLOT



AUDITION PACKETS AVAILABLE NOW  
SEE MR. GREG TO OBTAIN ONE

Scan Me to Sign Up

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







# HOLY NAME OF JESUS COMMUNITY DINNER & VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023


6:30 p.m.

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH CENTER

All Holy Name of Jesus Parish and School  
families are invited as we celebrate the  
festive season and give thanks for our  
many wonderful parish volunteers.







*please join us for*

# SNEAUX

Loyola University Marquette Horseshoe

## 6 DECEMBER

6:00 - 8:00pm

Free entry

Enjoy cookies, pictures  
with Santa, train rides, hot  
chocolate, free shirts,  
Sneaux, learn about  
Christmas & holidays  
around the world and so  
much more!



# CHRISTMAS Donation Drive

DONATIONS SUPPORT THE HARRY THOMPSON CENTER



BRING YOUR ITEMS TO SNEAUX  
ON DECEMBER 6TH  
6 - 8 PM  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY

ITEMS THAT ARE NEEDED:  
HATS AND GLOVES

SPONSORED BY LOYOLA UNIVERSITY  
WOLF PACK FOR LIFE





YOU'RE INVITED TO

# HOLIDAY MOVIE NIGHT

A FUNDRAISER FOR THE THEATRE DEPT.



**8TH  
DEC**

**DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM  
WILLOZ FAMILY AUDITORIUM**

**POPCORN & HOT CHOCOLATE INCLUDED  
WITH EVERY TICKET PURCHASE**

Plus - a visit from SANTA  
and a Family Holiday Photo-Op

Tickets: [www.showtix4u.com/events/hnj](http://www.showtix4u.com/events/hnj)





**GRAB YOUR PAJAMAS AND SNUGGLE IN  
AS WE CELEBRATE THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS...**

**\$15  
INCLUDES MOVIE, POPCORN & HOT  
CHOCOLATE**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF THE  
NEW PROJECTOR FOR THE SCHOOL**

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





The 3rd Grade Brownies are collecting new,  
unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots.  
Please send your donations with your child to  
school. Collection boxes are located in the  
office.



The deadline is DECEMBER 14th!

Thank you!





# Music Notes...

## Interactive Field Trip

On January 31, at 10 a.m., all HNJ students in grades 2, 3, 4, and 5, will participate in an interactive concert with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO). Students have already been studying this Carnegie Hall link-up curriculum with Mrs. Ptak in their weekly general music classes by learning captivating music theory concepts, and engaging in creative activities through a deep exploration of the melodies, ideas, and themes of composers Antonín Dvořák, Igor Stravinsky, Jim Papoulis, Ludwig Van Beethoven, and Reena Esmail. Students will walk to the concert at Roussel Hall, Loyola University. Please be on the lookout for a permission slip google form for this music field trip!



## Holy Name of Jesus Church Christmas Concert

Select 3rd and 4th grade HNJ student vocalists will collaborate and perform at 7:00 p.m., December 21, under the direction of Colleen Maher. Please come and support our young singers as they join the Holy Name of Jesus Church (adult) Choir!

## Middle School Choir News

On Thursday, December 14, our HNJ Choir will proudly present their set list of Christmas carols at the Lambeth House, featuring JT Hassell, on the piano. Please wish our middle school singers the very best as they sing out in the community. This is a closed event.

Get your tickets, and come on out to Nola Christmas Fest **2024!** <https://nolachristmasfest.com/> Our HNJ choir is scheduled to perform on Thursday, December 21, at 6 p.m. on the main stage. All are welcome!



# GATOR ATHLETICS



## HNJ at the Loyola Women's Basketball Game!

The Holy Name community is invited to attend the annual Loyola Women's Basketball Day Game on Friday, December 8 when they take on LSU Alexandria at Loyola University Sports Complex. Following lunch at HNJ, students from PreK3 thru 7th grade will walk over to the game with their teachers for tipoff at 12:30pm and arrive back on campus about 2:30 pm. On game day, students will be allowed to wear their HNJ spirit shirt with uniform bottoms per spirit day guidelines in the handbook.

The cost for the event is free, but parents will have to submit a signed permission form Loyola Basketball Game **by 12pm on Wednesday, December 6 for your child to participate.** Please see your email from Coach Langston Terrel for the permission form. Special arrangements will be made for students who do not have a form submitted by the deadline. Concessions will be sold at the game if your child desires a snack while enjoying the action.

## HNJ Night at the Pelicans Game!

Come out and support our Pelicans as they take on the Utah Jazz on Thursday, December 28 at 7:00 p.m. Don't miss out on a fun night of basketball with Holy Name and the Pels. Please see the flyer on the next page for ordering information. **All submissions should be turned into the front office by Wednesday, December 6.** A portion of the ticket sales will benefit Holy Name of Jesus Athletics.







# HOLY NAME OF JESUS



## PELICANS VS. JAZZ

**THURSDAY, DEC. 28 • 7:00PM**

Don't miss out on a fun night of basketball with Holy Name of Jesus! A portion of the ticket sales will benefit Holy Name of Jesus.

**DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6**

**SUBMIT FORM TO: SCHOOL OFFICE**

### YOUR INFO

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name/Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ MC ☐ VISA ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

CVV#: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ CHECK ☐ MONEY ORDER

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Payable to: \_\_\_\_\_



LOCATION	#SEATS	PRICE	TOTAL
LOWER END		\$65	
BALCONY END		\$25	
PARKING		\$20	
TOTAL ENCLOSED			

LOCATION
Lower Sideline
Lower End
Balcony Sideline
Balcony End
HUB Club

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DENTON HUNTER AT 504-593-4748 OR DENTON.HUNTER@PELICANS.COM**

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



# HNJ PARISH UPDATES



**HOLY NAME of JESUS CHURCH**  
A Community for Others

6367 St. Charles Avenue New Orleans, LA 70118  
On the Campus of Loyola University • [www.hnjchurch.org](http://www.hnjchurch.org)

DECEMBER 3, 2023FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

"Be watchful! Be alert!  
You do not know when  
the time will come."  
- Mk 13:33

**MASS TIMES**  
Saturday Vigil 4 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.  
University Mass 9 p.m. (Ignatius Chapel)  
(when Loyola University is in session)  
Weekdays 7 a.m. (Church)  
Weekdays 12 p.m. (Ignatius Chapel)  
Saturday 8:30 a.m. (Church)

**PARISH CENTER**  
6220 LaSalle Place  
New Orleans, LA 70118  
(located 4 blocks north of St. Charles Ave.)

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
(closed 12-1 p.m. for lunch)  
Phone: 504-865-7430  
Fax: 504-866-3391  
Email: [holyname@hnjchurch.org](mailto:holyname@hnjchurch.org)

**RECONCILIATION**  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:30-8:00 a.m.  
(enter through side door of Church closest to Marquette Hall)  
Saturday 3-3:45 p.m.  
Sunday 8:15-8:45 p.m. (Ignatius Chapel)  
(when Loyola University is in session)  
(or by Appointment)

**ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS**  
Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

## Join us for Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church

### Weekday Masses

7 a.m. (Church)  
12 p.m. (Ignatius Chapel on  
Loyola University Campus)

### Saturday Vigil

4:00 p.m.

### Sunday Masses

8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

## GRANDPARENTS CLUB

Holy Name of Jesus School has formed a brand new grandparents club called the Grand Gators! The purpose of the club will be to give our grandparents an opportunity to become involved in the life of the school through volunteering, fundraising, event planning, and more. If you are interested in becoming involved, please complete the form linked below, and share your contact information with us. Thank you for your interest!

Families: Keep your Grandparents informed! Make sure to update your family's RenWeb account to add Grandparents' contact information so they can receive updates from HNJ.

**Click here to get involved  
with our Grandparents Club**



# Parent Teacher Club Updates

## Volunteer Interest Form

HNJ is extremely fortunate to have an amazing community that is able to produce fantastic events that benefit our students and families. However, these events cannot happen without help from parent volunteers. We know your time is precious and limited, and your support and help to make these events happen is greatly appreciated not only by the event chairs but by our children. Volunteering for HNJ events is also lots of fun; new friends are made and good times are had by all. All of these events are open to all families at HNJ (all are family friendly except the Tennis Tournament and Gala, which are for adults only!).

The school is asking all parents to consider becoming a volunteer to help plan and execute school events. We have created a Volunteer Interest Form so you can indicate specific areas of interest. **NOTE: this form is NOT the official volunteer sign-up form for the events.** The specific event sign-ups with time slots will be sent out closer to the events. This form is a planning tool for the PTC and event chairs to help us recruit leaders and committee members.

Thank you in advance for your help and support! Reach out to PTC President Ana Rice (anaerice@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you for your consideration!

[Click here to become a volunteer](#)





**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](http://www.hnjschool.org)**

**504-861-1466**