



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

Volume 51| Issue 28| Date: March 17, 2023

# GATOR Gazette

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Spirit Shirt Day (HNJ ), 3/20  
School Mass/2M Sponsoring, 3/24  
HNJ Gala, 3/25  
Spirit Shirt Day (HNJ ), 3/27  
Free Shoe Day for Auction Winners,  
3/29  
Free Dress Day for Auction Winners,  
3/30  
The Music Man Jr., 3/30-4/1  
School Mass/3F Sponsoring, 3/31  
Spirit Shirt Day (HNJ), 4/3  
People for the Day Auction Winners,  
4/4  
Women's Tennis Tournament, 4/5  
Living Stations of the Cross, 4/6

[View Full School Calendar](#)

### Quick Links

[School Mass Live Streaming Link](#)

## 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,

Today is the day! I am so excited that Holy Name of Jesus is kicking off the public phase of our *Foundations for the Future* Capital Campaign. We are at a very pivotal moment in our history, and we can't wait to share our progress and future plans with you. We are looking forward to involving all of our school families in our campaign now, as well.

That means each of you now has the chance to be part of this transformational moment in Holy Name history! Come check out our progress, discover our future plans, and enjoy food, fellowship, and family time with a free meal! Our students had a sneak peek of the video about our campaign yesterday morning. So, ask them! They will tell you how important it is to come find out more.

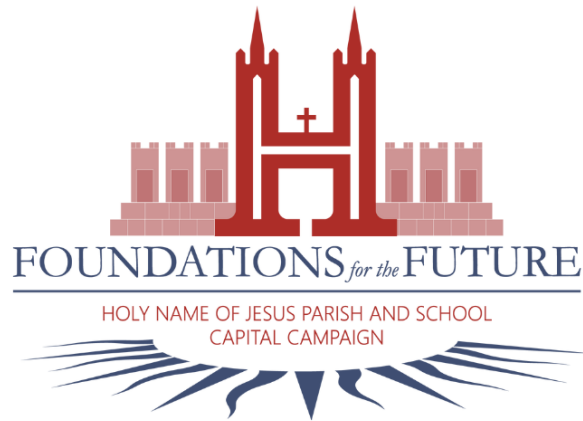
In case you missed the video invitation from Fr. Mark and me, you can watch it here: [Video Invitation](#).

See you tonight at 5 p.m. Don't forget to bring your kids! We want our students to be just as excited as we are! The future is truly theirs!

God Bless,

Kirsch J. Wilberg

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



*You're Invited*

**Father Mark E. Thibodeaux, SJ**

**Ms. Kirsch J. Wilberg**

and the

**Operational Chairpersons of *Foundations for the Future***  
personally invite you to attend a

*Holy Name of Jesus Parish & School*  
*Capital Campaign Kickoff Dinner & Presentation*

Friday, March 17, 2023

Dinner at 6 p.m. ~ Presentations at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Holy Name of Jesus School

Blamphin Family Basement & Somma Family Auditorium

Family Friendly ~ Children Welcome

*Spend an evening with friends.*

*Enjoy a complimentary seafood dinner & drinks.*

*View the public premiere of our Capital Campaign video.*



# TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!!



Holy Name of Jesus School

Department of Theatre

Proudly Presents...

MEREDITH WILLSON'S

## THE MUSIC MAN JR.

March 30 - April 1, 2023

The Somma Auditorium  
6325 Cromwell Place

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



## CHOOSE FROM 4 SHOWS:

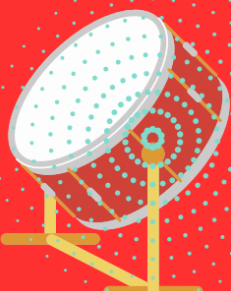


THURSDAY MARCH 30, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

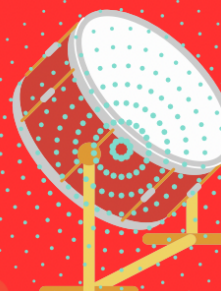
FRIDAY MARCH 31, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

SATURDAY APRIL 1, 2023 @ 2:00 PM

SATURDAY APRIL 1, 2023 @ 6:30 PM



GET THEM BEFORE THEY SELL OUT!!!!





# GATORS GO TO HOLLYWOOD

HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL GALA & AUCTION

MARCH  
**25**  
2023

**ST. CHARLES  
ROOM**  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY

SATURDAY  
**7:00**  
PM

DONATE AUCTION ITEMS

BECOME A SPONSOR

PURCHASE TICKETS

[WWW.HNJSCHOOL.ORG/GALA-AUCTION](http://WWW.HNJSCHOOL.ORG/GALA-AUCTION)



# GATORS GO TO HOLLYWOOD

## Call for Auction Items & Volunteers!

**HNJ's 2023 Gala & Auction – Gators Go to Hollywood – will be here before we know it and we could use your help!**

Do you have a contact at a business willing to donate tickets or experiences for our upcoming auction? Or what about that friend or family member with a new beach condo that would love to give it up for a night or two? Or perhaps you own a business and have personal services you'd like to donate?

Please consider donating goods or services to our live auction. No donation is too big or too small. Spread the word and help make this year's auction the most successful one yet!

### **Examples of some items we seek this year:**

- Local experiences and excursions, hotel packages
- Sports tickets, autographed memorabilia, sports gear
- Theater and museum tickets, art and music lessons, festival passes
- Vacation homes, fishing and hunting trips, Disney discounts
- Gift Certificates to restaurants, retail, professional services - just about anything!

To donate an item, please visit:

**<https://one.bidpal.net/hnjschoolgala/donate-item>.**

If you would like to volunteer to serve on our Auction Committee, please reach out to **Katie Baxter**, [khiatt06@gmail.com](mailto:khiatt06@gmail.com).

Thank you for your consideration and support!

**HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL  
WOMEN'S RETRO  
TENNIS TOURNAMENT  
APRIL 5TH AT CITY PARK**



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR**

- **DOUBLES TOURNAMENT**
- **BEGINNERS CLINIC WITH LOYOLA HEAD COACH MATT LLEWELLYN,**
- **FOOD, DRINKS, DJ, AND A GUARANTEED GOOD TIME!**

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR  
BEST VINTAGE/RETRO  
INSPIRED TENNIS  
WEAR!**



**REGISTER HERE!!**

# Health Notes from Nurse Abby



## Spring is here! And that means the pollen is too!

If your child requires a daily antihistamine or other medication to remain comfortable during the school day, please be sure to administer in the morning at home before sending your child to school. If you would like to keep a prescription or over-the-counter medication for your child at school on file for as needed administration, please refer to the [handbook requirements](#) and complete the necessary forms and email them to [adonnelly@hnjschool.org](mailto:adonnelly@hnjschool.org).



**HNJ's Summer Camp is now open for registration! Scan the QR Code to register!**

Camp is available for students going into PK4-7th Grade for the 2023-24 school year. Campers will enjoy a well-rounded camp experience with sports, water activities (including swimming for 2nd-7th Graders), Arts, STEM and more! It's a great day to register for CAMP GATOR!

# *Congratulations Gators*



The HNJ Academic team competed in the Archbishop Rummel High School Academic Rally on Saturday March 11. Fifteen area middle schools participated. The teams competed in four subjects: math, English, science and social studies.

## **HNJ team results:**

Carter Manalla, 1st place in math, English, science and social studies

Valentina Smith: 2nd place in math, English, science and social studies

Elle Orgeron: 3rd place in science and social studies

Vitoria Smith: 3rd place in English

Mackenzie Yanez: 3rd place in math

HNJ didn't place in the overall competition, but team members had a great time! Way to go Gators!

*From the Swamp*

**SAVE  
THE DATE**

**LEE GARDEMAL  
GATOR RUN**

Join us for the 42nd Annual  
Gator Run to benefit the HNJ  
Athletic Program

**More information to come!**

**04  
15  
23**



# *From the Swamp*



## **Basketball**

The 3rd-grade basketball team opened their season with an 18-10 setback vs. Victory Christian on Monday afternoon. Jillian LaFrance, Anders Erickson, Vera Bukaty, and Owen Holder each scored for the gator offense. The defense had a strong showing as well forcing over 15 turnovers throughout the contest.

The 4th-grade basketball team opened their season with a comeback victory vs. Victory Christian 14-12 on Monday. The Gator offense was led by Benjamin Nalty with 6 points. Ford Strickland controlled the middle of the paint with 4 points and Liam Lemoine added 2 points.



## **Track and Field**

The 1st-4th grade track team participated in the MHS-TA Skipper Invitational at Southeastern University on Saturday, March 11. Congratulations to the 1st/2nd boys team for coming in 1st in the team standings for the second consecutive week. Here are the top 3 finishers for the boys and girls divisions during the meet.

### **55 meters**

Peyton Johnson- 2nd

### **100 meters**

Peyton Johnson- 3rd

### **200 meters**

Peyton Johnson- 1st

### **400 meters**

Virginia Waldron- 2nd

### **800 meters**

William McCormick- 2nd

### **Shot Put**

Olivia Hand- 3rd

### **Long Jump**

Peyton Johnson- 2nd

Gabriel Gallant- 3rd

# *From the Swamp*

## 4 X 100 Relay

Liam Ortanez, Gabriel Gallant, Peyton Johnson, and Peter Blamphin-  
1st

## 4 X 100 Relay

Marian Keller, Olivia Hand, Virginia Davis, and Emery Davis- 2nd  
Chloe Casrill, Miya Ochoa, Emery Smith, and Khloe Hodge- 3rd

## 100 Meters

Khloe Hodge- 1st

## 400 meters

Khloe Hodge- 3rd

**Go Gators!**



## *Music Notes*



The Yale Gospel Choir performed for our HNJ students grades 1-7 this week! This was excellent timing for our students to have this enriching musical experience because in our weekly general music classes all lower school and middle school students are currently studying about Congo Square and learning African American spirituals.

The Middle School Choir had the change to sing Amazing Grace with the Yale Gospel Choir, check out the collaboration on social media!

Yale Gospel Choir with HNJ's Middle School Choir

A BIG thank you to Mrs. Ptak and Holly Graffagnini for organizing the assembly!

# LITTLE GATORS CORNER

**Little Gators celebrating St. Patrick's Day!!! The Luck of the Irish was on our side. It was a fun week with our gators.**

**Reminders:**

**Easter egg hunt on Thursday, April 6th! More information is coming soon.**



# From the School Counselor

Most students say that they're more stressed by schoolwork and tests than by anything else in their lives. 16-20% of students have high test anxiety, and another 18% have moderately high test anxiety.

Test anxiety increases mistakes, reduces reasoning and working memory, creates confusion, and lowers test scores. More importantly, it's harmful to the well-being of our children. Fortunately, there are strategies you can use to help your child feel more relaxed and confident heading into the test.



**1. Put Tests Into Perspective** – Encourage students to do their best, but remind children that test scores will not make or break their future. Tell them that they will always be loved and valued no matter what the test scores say. Explain that tests provide helpful information about what they're great at and what they still need to practice.


**2. Help Them Practice** – If your child is nervous, start by asking why they feel nervous. Consider doing practice tests that you can discuss together. Don't push your child to study for *standardized tests* – these tests are meant to measure what your child already knows.

**3. Provide Useful Test-Taking Tips** – Answer easiest questions first, and mark difficult questions that can be returned to later. Use the process of elimination by crossing off answers they know are incorrect. Read all answer choices carefully before selecting one. Answer all questions, even if you need to make an educated guess.

**4. Teach Calming Strategies** – Practice grounding exercises like the [5-4-3-2-1 method](#) prior to tests. Recite some [testing affirmations](#) the morning of a big test. Remind students that they won't know every single answer on the test, and that's okay!

**BONUS TIP: HELP THEM FEEL THEIR BEST ON TEST DAY**

- Choose movement and exercise
- Get plenty of rest
- Stick to your usual bedtime routine
- Avoid excessive screen time
- Provide a protein-rich breakfast in the morning, like oatmeal or eggs
- Keep conversation positive, encouraging, and lighthearted
- Share laughter and sing favorite songs on the way to school, if driving. Listen to our Big Life Journal playlists on Spotify!
- Leave your child with a big hug and words of encouragement



**5. Provide Encouragement** – Counter negative thoughts with a positive and encouraging statement: "You've practiced really hard and learned a lot this year. You might know a lot of the answers and get a higher score than you're expecting."

# **HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL WOMEN'S RETRO TENNIS TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP**



**APRIL 5TH @ CITY PARK**

**\*PLATINUM \$1,000  
INCLUDES 1 TEAM ENTRY, LARGE  
MAIN COURT SIGN,  
AD IN DITTY BAG**

**\*GOLD \$500  
INCLUDES MEDIUM MAIN COURT  
SIGN AND AD IN DITTY BAG**

**\*SILVER \$250  
INCLUDES SMALL MAIN COURT  
SIGN AND AD IN DITTY BAG**

**\*BRONZE \$100  
INCLUDES SMALL COURT SIGN  
AND AD IN DITTY BAG**



**EMAIL [LAURENCHIU03@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LAURENCHIU03@GMAIL.COM)**

# Community News

## WE ARE HIRING!

### FULL & PART-TIME POSITIONS INFANTS THROUGH 7TH GRADE

*We're looking for passionate individuals to join our team!  
Holy Name of Jesus School serves 530 students.*

#### REASONS HNJ IS A GREAT PLACE TO WORK:

- \*HAPPY, INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT
- \*COLLABORATIVE CULTURE WITH GROWTH MINDSET
- \*CONTINUAL CLASSROOM SUPPORT
- \*LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP
- \*OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH



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

Submit Your Resume to [gking@hnjschool.org](mailto:gking@hnjschool.org)

## Girls on the Run® AT HOLY NAME OF JESUS!

Tuesdays/Thursdays 3:30pm-5:00pm



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL  
SKILL DEVELOPMENT



CRITICAL THINKING  
EXERCISES



**FUN!**



register today: [gotrnola.org/programs](https://gotrnola.org/programs)

## Vincent's Gator Café Lenten Fish Fry

### Holy Name of Jesus School

Sponsored by the HNJ Men's Club in support of  
Troop 55.

**February 24    March 10    March 24**  
**6 pm until 8 pm**

Please pick up your order by 7:45 pm.

<b>Child Fish or Shrimp Plate</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>Adult Fish or Shrimp Plate</b>	<b>\$13</b>
<b>Adult Fish/Shrimp Combo Plate</b>	<b>\$14</b>

All plates include Potato Salad, French Fries,  
and French Bread.

Featuring Louisiana fish and shrimp.  
Cash or Check. Please make checks out to  
Troop 55.

For questions, please contact Daniel Quintana at  
(504) 715-3490.



**Click here to view the 2023-2024  
tentative school calendar**

Haase's

8119 Oak Street



Holy Name of Jesus School Uniform Sale

**70% off**

Smocks ~ Jumpers ~ Skirts ~ Outerwear ~

Boys Pants/Shorts ~ Tees ~ Polos

\$10 Personalization per item

While Supplies Last

All Sales Final

Shoes Excluded

Phonics  
Fluency  
Comprehension  
Love of Reading



## Learning to Read Program for 4-Year-Olds and Entering Kindergartners

In this fun summer program, your child will learn to read. Children learn letter recognition, beginning phonics, and easy sight words. Your child will learn to read simple words and short sentences and get excited about books and reading.

## Reading Skills Program for Entering 1st Graders

In this fun summer program, your child will learn to read independently. Children learn phonics and sight words and build comprehension skills. Your child will develop a love of books and reading and get off to a great start in first grade.

## Reading Skills Program for Entering 2nd Graders

In this fun summer program, your child will become a confident fluent reader. Children build solid phonics and word-attack skills, develop reading fluency, and improve comprehension. Your child will develop a love of books and reading and get off to a great start in second grade.

## Reading Skills Program for Entering 3rd Graders

In this fun summer program, your child will become a strong, enthusiastic reader. Children improve reading fluency and develop excellent comprehension. They build long-word decoding skills and expand their vocabulary. Your child will gain confidence, develop a lifelong love of books and reading, and get off to a great start in third grade.

Comprehension  
Writing  
Textbook Skills  
Vocabulary  
Reading Speed

## Reading and Writing Skills Programs for Entering 4th and 5th Graders

In these fun single-grade programs, your child will become a skilled, confident reader with strong comprehension skills in fiction, nonfiction, and textbooks. Students expand their vocabulary and learn to read more fluently and rapidly. They become better writers who can effectively communicate their ideas. As a result, your child will complete homework more quickly and easily, get better grades, and enjoy reading more.

## Reading and Writing Skills Programs for Entering 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th Graders

In these single-grade programs, your son or daughter will make substantial gains in comprehension in fiction and nonfiction and learn to read twice as fast. Students expand their vocabulary and learn the best way to take notes. They become stronger writers who can effectively communicate their ideas. As a result, your child will complete homework more quickly and easily, get better grades, and build confidence as a reader.

## College Prep Program for Entering 11th, 12th, and College Freshmen

In this program, students learn the skills they need to succeed in high school and college. Your son or daughter will double reading speed and improve comprehension, recall, and focus. Students become stronger writers and learn effective time management and study strategies that help them complete work efficiently, get better grades, and score higher on exams.

Source Code: 100-73-64560



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER

**Call 1-800-715-1498**

Mon.-Fri. 7am-8pm, Sat. 7am-6pm and Sun. 9am-5pm

Get A Head Start  
Ask About Our  
Spring Programs!

# 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 1**

Provide innovative academic programs and student support services

## **GOAL 2**

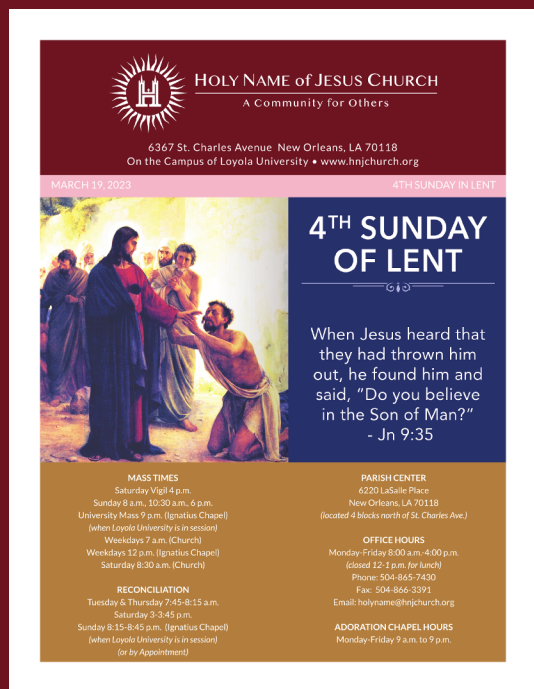
Maintain state-of-the-art technology to support our curriculum

## **GOAL 3**

Retain highly qualified teachers and provide ongoing professional development



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



"True faith means  
holding nothing back.  
It means putting every  
hope in God's fidelity to  
His Promises."

—Francis Chan,  
*Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by  
a Relentless God*

## 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.

### Support Holy Name of Jesus Parish.

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com),  
Amazon donates.

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

amazon smile



# 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