

The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

December 3, 2024

Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus Community,

Advent is a season of anticipation, hope, and joyful preparation. It marks the beginning of the liturgical year and invites us to slow down in the midst of life's busyness to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. As Catholics, we light the Advent wreath each week, reflecting on the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. These candles remind us that Christ is the light who shines in the darkness, bringing us the promise of salvation. For children, this is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the beauty of waiting with purpose—something so countercultural in a world of instant gratification. Advent teaches us that waiting is not empty but filled with faith and expectation.

In our school community, the Advent season encourages us to focus on acts of kindness, generosity, and prayer. Through small gestures, like creating classroom prayer chains, supporting those in need, or sharing moments of quiet reflection, we prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus at Christmas. Advent reminds us that this preparation is not only for a single day but for a lifetime of growing closer to God. May this season inspire all of us—students, families, and staff alike—to embrace the peace and joy that come from knowing Christ is near. Together, let us cherish the gift of Advent as we prepare to celebrate the miraculous gift of Emmanuel, God with us.

Our very own Pastor, Fr. Mark Thibodaux has published a book recently, *Hope and Light for Advent*, to help guide us with purpose through this precious season. [Click here to check it out.](#)

Also, our Loyola partner recently posted about a resource available on their website:

"Engaging in elements of St. Ignatius Loyola's Spiritual Exercises has become a vital part of our lives here at Loyola. One aspect that we value in particular is the Ignatian Examen. Not only has it been amazing to learn about one of St. Ignatius's most valuable practices, but it is a useful tool for anybody trying to find a moment of peace in the hustle and bustle of university life. The Examen allows us to reflect on the journey we are currently taking, what we are thankful for, what we need to ask God forgiveness for, and what our next most faithful steps might be."

May we enjoy the peace and joy of the season together!

God Bless,
Kirsch J. Williams

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





Important Dates

Tuesday, December 3

iGive Catholic Day (see flyer below)
Grand Gators Christmas Party 8:15 AM (see flyer below)
Sneaux at Loyola (see flyer below)

December 6-8

Men's Club Christmas Tree Sale (see flyer below)

Friday, December 6

Community Dinner (see flyer below)
2nd-7th Grade Mass 8:30 am (HNJ Church)
PK4-1st Grade Liturgy of the Word (Haase's Auditorium)
LG - Kindergarten pictures with Santa ([order form](#))

Saturday, December 7

Middle School Christmas Social (see flyer below)

Monday, December 9

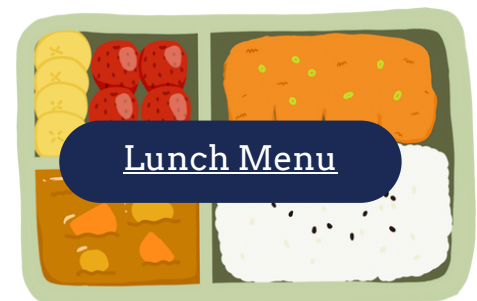
HNJ Spirit Shirt Day
2nd-7th Grade Mass 8:30 am (HNJ Church)
PK4-1st Grade Liturgy of the Word (Haase's Auditorium)

Tuesday, December 10

November Honorable Gators (8:05 AM)

Friday, December 13

Little Gators Cookies with Santa 2:00 PM
Holiday Movie Night - Elf (see flyer below)





COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

msubervielle@hnjschool.org

The Importance of Attendance

There is a clear connection between student attendance and student performance in school. Data shows that higher attendance equals higher achievement for all students. Talking to your child regarding the importance of attendance is crucial to his or her success. Chronic Absenteeism (missing more than 10% of days enrolled for any reason) is the single strongest predictor of academic and social decline in students. Children who miss school miss out on opportunities to learn, build lasting friendships, and develop the skills and attitudes needed to become good citizens and valued employees.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

- Let your child know that you think school is important.
- Take an interest in your child's school work.
- Limit and balance extracurricular activities.
- Provide a set time and a quiet, clean area for doing homework.
- Post the school calendar and notes on the refrigerator, or another prominent location.
- Set a regular bedtime schedule. Age should not be a factor.
- Provide your child with plenty of time to get ready for school.
- Don't expect your older children to stay home and act as babysitters for younger children.
- Set good examples and enforce rules.
- Have regular communication with the school. If your child is ill, contact the school and explain the reason for the absence.



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

ANGELLE DUFOUR,
EARLY CHILDHOOD
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SPECIALIST

adufour@hnjschool.org

The Parenting Center at Children's Hospital New Orleans is a valuable resource for parents and grandparents of children from infancy through adolescence. Their team of experienced Parent Educators is dedicated to helping families navigate the everyday challenges of raising children. Through free phone or email consultations, they provide guidance on topics like eating, sleep, welcoming a new baby, and communicating with teens.

In addition to personalized advice, the Center offers parenting classes, a lending library, and a playroom, creating a supportive environment for families to grow together. Whether you're looking for practical tips or emotional support, The Parenting Center is here to help parents grow with confidence.

For more information call 504.896.9591 or email chparenting@LCMChealth.org

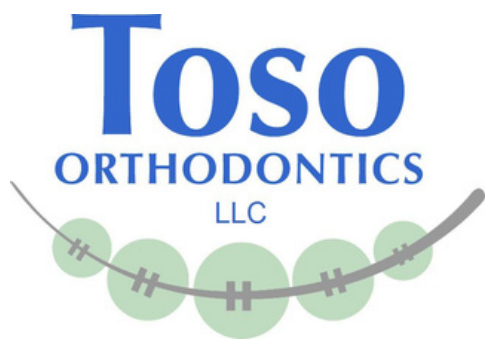
To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



GATOR ATHLETIC CLUB

The Gator Athletic Club board of directors would like to thank all 2024-25 corporate sponsors and members. There is still time to join the club and make an impact on all HNJ student-athletes and the Holy Name Athletics department. Join here: <https://www.hnjschool.org/gator-athletic-club>

Corporate Sponsors



The Rice Family



The Johnson Family

Gator Athletic Club Members

Adam Barnes
Patrick Braud
Matthew Cutrer
Abby Donnelly
Callie Folse
Tammy Gadzinski
Eric Gallagher
Leslie and Fielding James
Charles Jarreau
Russell Johnson
Jonah Keller
Jacob Keller
Becky & Josh Keller
Ashley Lusk

Charlie Mann
Michael McCormick
Allie Miller
Jami Montagnino
Chad Rice
Patrick Sheehan
Carson Strickland
Anderson Sunda-Meya
Langston and Mallory Terrel
Dr. Jamie Toso
Britny Trahant
James and Meredith Waldron
Sarah Worsley
Simon Zippert

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





#iGIVECATHOLIC

Join us
for #Giving Tuesday
12.3.24



**Give Now to
Support
HNJ School**

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



Sneaux

DECEMBER 3RD

6-8 PM

MARQUETTE
HORSESHOE



The forecast calls for Sneaux! Join UPB at their annual winter celebration. Enjoy cookies, pictures with Santa, train rides, hot chocolate, free shirts (student IDs required), sneaux, learn about Christmas & holidays around the world, and so much more!



HNJ goes to

SNEAUX

Tuesday, December 3rd from 6-8pm in the HNJ Church Horseshoe



Come join the
HNJ Art
Department and
build your very
own custom
snow globe!



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



HNJ MEN'S CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

CHIU FAMILY
YARD

HNJ School
6325 Cromwell Pl



DECEMBER
6th - 5pm-10pm
7th - 8am-soldout

Be sure to pre-order to secure your tree!
For more details and to order, visit the
Men's Club website:
<https://www.hnjmensclub.org/shop>



**Holiday
MOVIE NIGHT**
FRIDAY DECEMBER 13, 2024

Grab your PJs, cozy up, and join us for our
2nd Annual Holiday Movie Night featuring ELF
Enjoy the magic of the season on the big screen,
complete with festive treats and holiday cheer.

- \$15 per ticket
Includes admission,
snacks & a drink
- 6pm to 7pm -
Photos w/ Santa &
Buddy
7pm - Showtime

Click for
Tickets

The 7th grade class invites HNJ middle
school students
to a

Christmas Social

Saturday, December 7

6:30 - 8:30 PM
HNJ Basement

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!](#)



Send us your
family's
Christmas Card
to display in the
Front Office!

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



UPCOMING

SEVENTH GRADE

RESTAURANT FUNDRAISERS

SUPPORT THE HNJ SEVENTH GRADE CLASS TRIP THIS SPRING
BY PURCHASING FOOD FROM THESE LOCAL RESTAURANTS.

BE SURE TO MENTION HNJ!

October 29	BLAZE PIZZA 4:00 - 8:00 PM Freret St. Location Only
Must show this flyer November 9	PANERA BREAD All Day! 309 N. Carrollton Ave. Location Only
December 12	RAISING CANE'S 3:30 - 8:30 PM 3235 S. Carrollton Ave. Location Only
	BLUE OAK BBQ Details Coming Soon!
February 7-9	PEPPERONI'S CAFE Breakfast only for all three days

Contact Gwen Chavez for more information
gpeacoc@tulane.edu

FREE SPIRIT

HOLY NAME OF JESUS

COMMUNITY

Dinner



FOOD. FELLOWSHIP. FAMILY.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 AT 6:30 P.M.
HNJ PARISH CENTER
ENTER THROUGH ADORATION CHAPEL DOORS OR BACK PATIO
SPONSORED BY HOLY NAME PTC

SAVE THE DATE

'80s Totally Totally tennis

HNJ SCHOOL TENNIS + PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

March 26th, 2025

REGISTRATION DETAILS TO FOLLOW

MAMMA MIA!

at the
SAENGER

FEATURING THE SONGS OF ABBA

HNJ Family Theatre Night

Join us on Tuesday, February 11th as we take a trip down the aisle you'll never forget
to see the Smash Hit Musical, MAMMA MIA!

HNJ Families and Friends are invited - you may also purchase a ticket for just your
student, as chaperones will be on hand.

Your ticket includes round trip transportation to and from the Saenger and HNJ.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! Don't wait - we always sell out!

Scan For Tickets



You are the
DANCING QUEEN

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





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

DECEMBER 8, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

EVERY VALLEY
SHALL BE
FILLED.

LUKE 3:5

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS TIMES

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

RECONCILIATION

Wednesday & Thursday 7:30-8:00 a.m.
(Adoration Chapel)
Saturday 3-3:45 p.m.
Sunday 8:15-8:45 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)
(when Loyola University is in session)
(or by Appointment)

PARISH CENTER

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

OFFICE HOURS

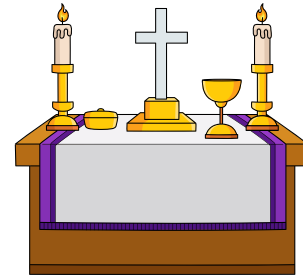
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
(closed 12-1 p.m. for lunch)
Phone: 504-865-7430
Email: holyname@hnjchurch.org

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG

Altar Servers Needed!



Interested in becoming an altar server at Holy Name of Jesus Church? Any students who have received First Communion are encouraged to sign up. We are in need of altar servers at all weekend masses. Please contact Kristy Christiansen at kristy.christiansen@gmail.com for details.



INTRODUCING THE ALL NEW HNJ SQUADLOCKER SHOP!



LOOKING FOR MORE HNJ GEAR?

THIS CONVENIENT ONLINE STORE IS ALWAYS OPEN! NO DEADLINES OR ORDER WINDOWS.
ALL SHOP PRODUCTS CAN BE CUSTOMIZED USING ANY OF THE BELOW NEWLY DESIGNED LOGOS.

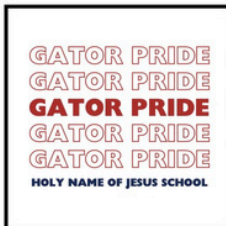
SHOW OFF YOUR GATOR PRIDE EVERYWHERE YOU GO!

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO SEE ALL THE GREAT OPTIONS!

ADULT, YOUTH, INFANT, AND TODDLER SIZES AVAILABLE



SWEATSHIRTS
TSHIRTS
SHORTS
SWEATPANTS
WATER BOTTLES
AND MORE!



NOTE: THESE ITEMS ARE NOT SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS.

SQUADLOCKER TSHIRTS ARE ALSO NOT CONSIDERED A SPIRIT SHIRT FOR SPIRIT DAY.



JLN
DIAPER
BANK
Diapers • Period Supplies
Adult Incontinence Products

Diaper Need Defined

Diaper need is the lack of sufficient supply of diapers to keep an infant or toddler clean, dry & healthy.

1 in 2



1 in 2 U.S. families cannot afford enough diapers to keep their infant clean, dry & healthy

3 in 5



3 in 5 parents miss work or school because they can't afford diapers to leave their baby in childcare

28%



28% of parents experiencing diaper need reported skipping meals to afford diapers

Did you know?
??

Without diapers, babies cannot attend childcare.

Without childcare, parents cannot attend work or school.

Diaper need has adverse health risks for children and stress, anxiety & depression for parents.

Little Gators will be collecting diapers for the Junior League drive for the next couple of weeks. Please drop diapers off at the Little Gators Entrance (Cromwell Pl) OR the Front Office (Calhoun Red Canopy)

Email Stephanie Rios for more information
srios@hnjschool.org

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



Let's Make a Difference... Together!



We are in an exciting time of growth here at Holy Name. Our enrollment is growing; our students are excelling academically and are being accepted into their high schools of choice; and this fall we will break ground on a brand new Little Gators Early Childhood Center, along with the first phase of our new school gym!

Our Annual Giving Appeal is something we do every year to support the school's annual operating budget. We rely on your gifts to help bridge the gap between what parents pay for tuition and what it actually costs to educate each student. This campaign is separate from our Capital Campaign, which raises funds for capital improvements. Gifts to the Annual Fund help support our Mission, including:

- Attracting and retaining highly qualified teachers with competitive salaries,
- Providing tuition assistance for families who need it,
- And equipping our students with the resources they need to strive for their personal excellence.

[Make a Gift!](#)

[View Our
Gift Catalog
Here!](#)

[Read the full letter from
our Annual Fund
co-chairs here!](#)

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





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

504-861-1466

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

