

# The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

November 11, 2025

## Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

Each of us needs to find what feeds our soul. That's why we provide so many different opportunities for our students at HNJ. This past week, I had the pleasure of coming in early and staying late to play with our state of the art lighting in our auditorium to produce moving light scenes to compliment the movement of the 80's music presented in HNJ Goes to the 80's.

At HNJ, I am doubly blessed. I love serving as Principal. I believe I have the best job in New Orleans! I work alongside the most amazing educators and the best Pastor in the world! We have the most engaged and supportive families and community. And, our Ignatian charism perfectly guides us.

Then, the icing on the cake is participating in my first love, live theatre! My first career was designing lights for rock concerts at the Pavilion at Cypress Bayou Casino back in the 90's. Designing lights feeds my soul. It provides an opportunity for my need for creative expression.

Finally, I woke up Sunday morning to attend choir practice and sing at the 10:30 Mass with my husband. I love my HNJ choir family, too. And, I love worshipping at Mass through song. But, that morning was special as I witnessed HNJ students, some of whom were in the play the night before, proclaiming the Word since it was a Family Mass. During the homily, many more HNJ Gators sat around the altar answering Fr. Mark's questions with confidence and intelligence.

These experiences make me smile. But, most importantly, they remind me of how crucial it is to provide a diverse set of opportunities for our students to be exposed to, so they too will be able to discover their loves and passions. Instilling wonder around leadership through Student Council, confidence through performance, discovery through project-based learning, and the importance of strong bodies from physical activity through our athletic department is a priority at HNJ for this reason.

My hope and desire is that all students discover what striving for personal excellence looks like for them using their God given talents, and that through that discovery, they find peace and purpose. I know I have!

God Bless,  
Kirsch J. Williams

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



# Upcoming Important Dates



## **Monday, November 10 - Friday, November 14**

Gator Fest Spirit Week (see flyer below)  
Gator Fest Collection Week (see flyer below)

## **Thursday, November 13**

Loyola Basketball Game, 12:00 PM (1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Grade)

## **Friday, November 14**

Early Dismissal for ALL Students  
Gator Fest 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM  
6:00 PM - Gator Fest Kick Off Pep Rally



## **Saturday, November 15**

Gator Fest 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM  
11:00 - Kindergarten Performance  
11:30 - First Grade Performance  
12:00 - Second Grade Performance



## **Sunday, November 16**

Gator Fest 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
12:00 - Third Grade Performance  
12:30 - Fourth Grade Performance

## **Monday, November 17**

No School for Students  
Gator Fest Clean Up / Family Day of Service

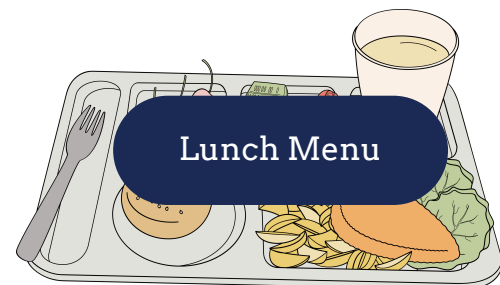
## **Friday, November 21**

NO LATER GATORS



## **Monday, November 24 - Friday, November 28**

Thanksgiving Break - No School





# Music Notes

The HNJ music department is pleased to announce that grades K-4 will present grade level student performances during Gator Fest. Student performances will be in the auditorium so please bring your child to the auditorium 20 minutes prior to his/her start time. Here are the class performance dates and times. Please email Mrs. Ptak at [eptak@hnjschool.org](mailto:eptak@hnjschool.org) with any questions.



Saturday, November 15  
11:00-11:05 Kindergarten  
11:30 - 11:35 1st grade  
12:00 -12:05 2nd grade

Sunday, November 16  
12:00-12:05 3rd grade  
12:30-12:35 4th grade



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,  
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

[msubervielle@hnjschool.org](mailto:msubervielle@hnjschool.org)

### THE EFFECTS OF TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME

Today's children have grown up with a vast array of electronic devices at their fingertips. They can't imagine a world without smartphones, tablets, and the internet.

The advances in technology mean today's parents are the first generation who have to figure out how to limit screen time for children. While digital devices can provide endless hours of entertainment and educational content, unlimited screen time can be harmful. Here are some ways parents can help curb the negative effects of too much screen time:

- Educate yourself on electronics and the devices your child uses
- Model healthy electronic use
- Create "Technology-Free Zones" in your home (i.e. the dining room table, in the car, in bedrooms, during family fun nights)
- Set Aside Times to Unplug (i.e. an hour before bedtime)
- Schedule "Screen Free Night" for the whole family once a week or month
- Use Parental Controls
- Explain Why You're Limiting Screen Time
- Encourage Other Activities
- Make Screen Time a Privilege



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





# SUPPORTING STUDENT ATHLETES & GATOR PRIDE

# HNJ GATOR CLUB ATHLETIC CLUB

## WELCOME, HNJ FAMILIES!

The Gator Athletic Club (GAC) brings our community together to champion HNJ student-athletes, boost school spirit, and build memorable traditions. When families join, every Gator benefits!

## WHY JOIN THE GAC?

- Supports all HNJ sports by helping fund equipment, uniforms, coaching, and facility needs
- Boosts school spirit & tradition through pep rallies, spirit gear, athlete spotlights, and game-day fun
- Builds community with family-friendly events and volunteer opportunities
- Member perks like early sign-ups, surprises, and spirit merch drops

## JOIN THE GAC TODAY!

Make a big impact with a simple step. Scan the QR code to join or learn more.



## WHAT'S AHEAD

GATOR FEST  
PHOTO  
STATIONS

"MEET THE  
GATORS"  
FEATURES

SPIRIT  
RALLIES

FAMILY  
ENGAGEMENT  
EVENTS

NEW FAN  
GEAR

ATHLETE  
SPOTLIGHTS



# GATOR FEST

## SPIRIT WEEK

November 10 - 14, 2025

Get ready to show your Gator pride all week long as we count down to GATOR FEST! Each day has a special theme, so get creative, have fun, and show your school spirit!

MONDAY

### **Gator Fest Throwback Day**

Kick off the week with a blast from the past! Wear your favorite Gator Fest or HNJ spirit shirt from any year. Let's see those vintage tees and classic designs!

TUESDAY

### **Dress Like a Construction Worker Day**

Our theme this year is Gators Under Construction! Grab your jeans, flannel shirts, safety vests, hard hats, and boots! It's time to build some fun!

WEDNESDAY

### **Safety Colors Day**

Let's light up the halls in bright yellow and orange! Go bold with neon shirts, tutus, hats, and accessories. The brighter, the better!

THURSDAY

### **Pajama / Favorite Outfit Day**

Get cozy and comfy! Wear your favorite pajamas or your go-to comfy outfit. It's the perfect midweek pick-me-up!

FRIDAY

### **Gator Fest Shirt Day**

Show your 2025 Gator Fest pride! Wear your official 2025 Gator Fest t-shirt as we kick off the big weekend!

**Note:** Students may wear their 2025 Gator Fest shirt any day this week if they'd like, or stick with their regular school uniform.

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



# We're digging up HNJ's Cutest Pet!

Submit a photo of your pet to the office  
by 11/13 to enter.

Submit 4x6 or 5x7 photo. Write student's name,  
homeroom, and pet name on back of photo. No frames.



# John Bukaty Custom Gator Art Raffle

New Orleans artist John Bukaty will be on site at Gator Fest to live paint a custom Gator-themed piece. One lucky winner will get to take it home! Come watch him create this masterpiece and buy a chance to win it!



**Raffle Tickets:  
\$10 per chance**



**Winner will be drawn at  
5:30 p.m. on Sunday,  
November 16**

*The winner need not be  
present to win*

**Gaming License: G-0004386**





# HOLY NAME OF JESUS GATOR FEST 2025

**NOV. 14 (6-10PM), 15 (10AM-10PM) & 16 (11AM-6PM)**

**FOOD \* RIDES \* GAMES \* MUSIC**

**ALUMNI NIGHT**

**\*\*FRIDAY\*\***

**NOV. 14**

**PRESENTED BY**

**Gordon Arata**

Attorneys at Law



## MUSICAL LINEUP:

**FRIDAY, NOV. 14 \* RED HOT GENTILLY PEPPERS , 7-10 PM**

**SATURDAY, NOV. 15 \* THAT'S SO FETCH, 7-10 PM**

**SUNDAY, NOV. 16 \* CRESCENT KINGS, 3-6 PM**

### FOOD BOOTH SPONSORS



### BEER & STAGE SPONSOR



### CHAMPAGNE BOOTH SPONSOR



### ENTERTAINMENT SPONSORS



### GAME BOOTH SPONSORS & FRIENDS OF GATOR FEST

A&L Sales \* Arabi Sling & Rigging \* Big Dog Movers \* Blue Plate Mayonnaise \* Brother Martin High School  
Coburn Supply Company \* Cool Air, Inc. \* Crane Rehab \* De La Salle High School \* Donald Ellis \* FQR Realtors  
Hancock Whitney \* Holy Cross School \* Jefferson Feed Pet & Garden \* Kehoe Automotive \* Kirsch and Mark Williams \*  
Magelland Group LLC McEnergy Residential \* NOLA Motorcars \* Ochsner Health \* Pat Garin Photographer LLC \*  
Pat LeBoeuf Insurance \* Production Fastening Systems \* Raymond James \* Schexnayder Wealth Advisors \*  
Southkick Rolf Preservation Works Sternberg, Naccari & White \* The Strickland Family \* True Title \* The Zainey Family

**GATOR FEST NEEDS YOU!!**

# **VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP**

**ALL FAMILIES ARE ASKED TO SERVE  
TWO 2-HOUR SHIFTS.**

**CLICK THIS FLYER TO SIGN UP TODAY!**

**WHEN YOU ARRIVE TO WORK YOUR SHIFT, YOU  
WILL HAVE A QR CODE TO SIGN IN TO LET US  
KNOW YOU WORKED. FOR EVERY SHIFT  
WORKED, YOU WILL BE ENTERED INTO A  
PRIZE DRAWING FOR A  
\$1,000 TUITION CREDIT OR CASH PRIZE!**



# **Gator Fest Needs Your Donations!**

**November 4**

**November 6**

**November 10**

**November 11**

**November 12**

**November 13**

**November 14**

**We are collecting used books, gently used games/prizes/puzzles, stuffies, cans, individually wrapped sweets and juice boxes!**

**\*Sweets only accepted November 13/14**

# Gator Fest Sports Auction!



Dear HNJ Community,

This year, Gator Fest will again have the Sports Auction Booth. In 2024, with the support of our Holy Name Family, the booth was a great success. Once again, I am reaching out to the HNJ community to ask if you have any connections to items that can be auctioned off as prizes throughout Gator Fest weekend.

Items of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Saints tickets, memorabilia, or paraphernalia
- Pelicans tickets, memorabilia, or paraphernalia
- Jesters tickets, memorabilia, or paraphernalia
- Tulane (football, baseball, basketball) tickets, memorabilia, or paraphernalia
- LSU (football, baseball, basketball) tickets, memorabilia, or paraphernalia
- Loyola Athletics tickets, memorabilia, or paraphernalia
- UNO baseball or basketball tickets, memorabilia, or paraphernalia
- Sports camp vouchers
- Gift certificates (City Putt, golf courses, restaurants, tennis facilities, etc.)
- Health and wellness memberships

All donations can be turned in to Mrs. Becky Keller in the office. The deadline to submit donations is November 10th. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at [davidblamphin@gmail.com](mailto:davidblamphin@gmail.com).

Please submit any donation with the attached Gator Fest Donor Form. Any donor with a gift of \$50.00 or higher will have their name placed on a banner located in the Sports Auction Booth.

Thank you for all of your support. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Gator Fest next month.

Go Gators,

David Blamphin

Co-Chair Sports Auction Booth



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



*Let's get creative!*

# Made by Me

# BOOTH

*at Gator Fest*



## JEWELRY & ACCESSORIES

**Earrings** – clay studs, glitter resin shapes, pom-poms, tassel dangles

**Friendship Bracelets** – beaded or woven / HNJ colors

**Beaded Keychains / Bag Tags** – initial beads, sports themes, or mascot colors.

**Hair Bows / Scrunchies / Resin Clips** – school colors or glittery/funky fabrics.

**Button Pins** – with fun sayings, doodles, or school spirit designs

**Beaded Rings** – trendy with glass or plastic beads



## FUN & SEASONAL

**Resin Key Chains** – glitter, pressed flowers, or school colors

**Bookmarks** – laminated with doodles, tassels, or school themes.

**Seasonal Items** – Christmas Ornaments, Mardi Gras Sunglasses

**Tie-Dye** – Pet Bandanas, Tees, Socks, Hats

**Mini Plant Pots** – painted or decoupage

**Mini Canvases on Easels** – painted inspirational quotes or mascots.



## GATOR FEST FAVORITES

Slime Jars (already made, labeled)

Bath Bombs | Scented Candles

Seasonal Soaps

Face Glitter



## START CRAFTING!

*Text Callie Folsie to Donate*

**504-250-8185**

Be sure to check out these custom sunglasses made by the Grand Gators!



Holy Name of Jesus School

# FOOD DRIVE

**STARTING  
NOV. 12<sup>TH</sup>**

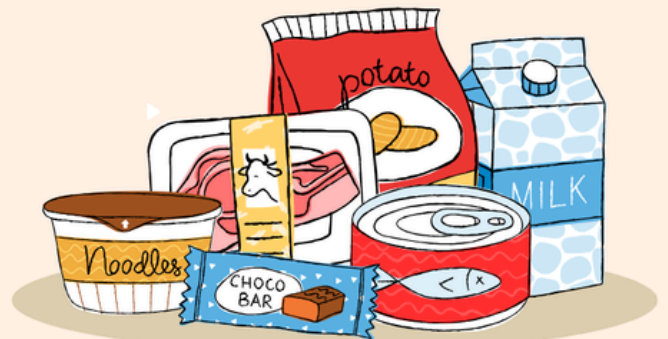
## ITEMS NEEDED

- PreK3-Canned Gravy
- PreK4-peanut butter
- Kindergarten-cornbread mix
- 1st-cranberry sauce
- 2nd-green beans or peas and canned veggies
- 3rd-canned yams or canned sweet potato
- 4th-rice
- 5th-cornbread stuffing in a box
- 6th-box of macaroni
- 7th-box of mashed potatoes with gravy

We are excited to announce our annual Food Drive, where we come together as a community to make a positive impact on the lives of those facing food insecurity.

## DROP-OFF LOCATION

-  **Holy Name School**  
6325 Cromwell Place, New Orleans, LA  
70118



Design By William Baxter

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



# November is Native American Heritage Month



Here are a few informational texts you can enjoy reading together as a family.



# REGULATE & RELATE: A SERIES FOR PARENTS

Discover how to nurture calm connection and cooperation at home. This workshop series helps parents improve family dynamics by understanding emotional and nervous system regulation, building intentional connections and boundaries with their child, and breaking unhelpful cycles that no longer serve your family.

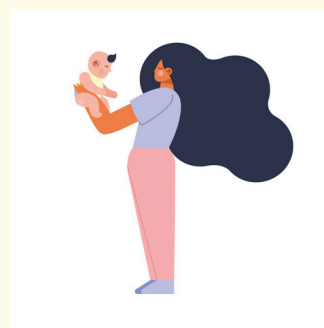
## Workshop Details:

- For parents of children ages 5-12
- Held virtually on Wednesdays 12pm-1pm
- First series will run from Nov.19-Dec.10. Parent may opt to be waitlisted for Spring series.
- To register, email [lmills@my.loyno.edu](mailto:lmills@my.loyno.edu) or call 504 535 4022. Feel free to reach out for questions!



## Participation is free!

To help us measure impact, participants will complete a short survey prior to and after the workshop.



# HNJ MEN'S CLUB

## Christmas Tree Sale



### The Best Holiday Décor Starts Here!



FRESHEST TREES IN TOWN — FARM TO LOT  
YOUR HOME WILL SMELL LIKE HOLIDAY MAGIC



WE DO THE HEAVY LIFTING — TRIMMING, CAR  
LOADING, AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE



BUY LOCAL — EVERY PURCHASE FUNDS  
PROGRAMS IN OUR COMMUNITY



#### WHEN

Friday, Dec 5th 5pm to 10pm

Saturday, Dec 6th 8am to soldout



#### WHERE

Chiu Family Yard

HNJ School

6325 Cromwell Place



RESERVE  
YOURS TODAY!



Scan or Click to Order



# HOUSE SYSTEM: NOVEMBER CHALLENGES

Click the symbol for each house to find instructions for the house challenge of the month. We look forward to building community with the house system this year!

## House of Excellence



## House of Reverence



## House of Service



## House of Truth and Light



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





1 in 2

caregivers struggle to provide their child with clean, dry diapers.



28%

of parents experiencing "diaper need" reported skipping meals to afford diapers.

2,800

amount of diapers a baby will use in the first year.



\$100

spent on diapers in a month.



3 IN 5

parents miss work or school because they can't afford the diapers required to leave their baby in childcare.



Without diapers, babies cannot attend childcare or participate in early childhood education.



Educated women and stable families are critical to solving the larger, systemic problems facing Metropolitan New Orleans.



Little Gators is accepting donations of diapers in collaboration with the Junior League of New Orleans' Diaper Drive. Please bring diapers to donate to the Front Office or Little Gators Entrance. Thank you for your support!

DIAPERS AREN'T BASIC.\*

\*They're essential.

Please support our DIAPER DRIVE

All funds and diapers donated benefit the Junior League of New Orleans Diaper Bank

# 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](mailto:kristy.christiansen@gmail.com) for details.



Questions? Contact Ms. Hughes

## HSPT Test Prep at HNJ

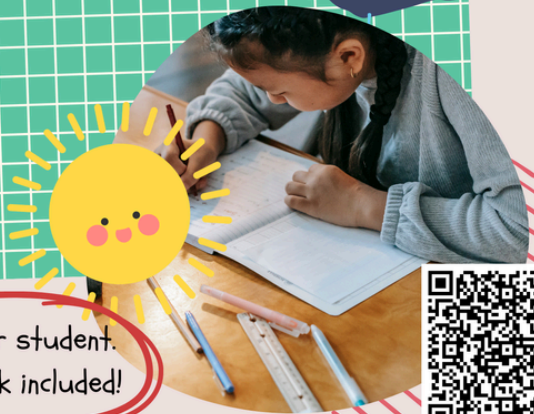
6:00 - 7:30 PM

December 2      December 4

December 9      December 11

December 16      December 18

Full, timed practice test Saturday, January 2



\$250 per student.  
Textbook included!



11.24.25 - 11.26.25

THANKSGIVING  
BASEBALL CAMP

9AM - 12PM BOYS 5-12 YEARS OLD

E.A. FARLEY FIELD LIMITED TO 120 CAMPERS \$135  
BROTHER MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL



TO REGISTER SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT  
[BROTHERMARTIN.COM/ATHLETICS/BASEBALL/](http://BROTHERMARTIN.COM/ATHLETICS/BASEBALL/)

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

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome



**TAKE  
THESE OUT  
OF HERE.**

JOHN 2:16

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

**MASS TIMES**

Saturday Vigil 4 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.  
University Mass 5 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)  
*(when Loyola University is in session)*  
Weekdays 7 a.m. (Church)  
Weekdays 12:30 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)  
Saturday 8:30 a.m. (Church)

**RECONCILIATION**

Monday & Thursday 7:30-8:00 a.m. (Church)  
Saturday 3-3:45 p.m. (Church)  
Sunday 4:15-4:50 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](mailto:holyname@hnjchurch.org)

**ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS**

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

[WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG)



**PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES**



**Eat a Steak**

But first, pay your dues. Your contribution keeps the beer cold, the steaks sizzling, and helps us host events and fundraisers all year.



**Join the WhatsApp Chat**

- Announcements and reminders
- Ask what time dismissal is
- Complain about carpool traffic
- Get a plumber recommendation



**Events All Year**

- Back to School BBQ
- Pumpkin Patch
- Haunted House
- Xmas Party
- Men's Club on the Avenue
- Crawfish Cook-Off



HNJ Men's Club  
WhatsApp group



ORDER YOUR

**HNJ**  
SINCE 1891

*HNJ Door Hanger*

DOOR HANGERS ARE NOW  
IN STOCK IN THE OFFICE!

\$35 EACH  
ORDER YOURS TODAY!

ORDER HERE

**HNJ Family Masses**

Mark your calendars for our Family Masses featuring family and child-centered liturgies.

September 7 ~ Grandparents Family Mass, 10:30 a.m.

September 21  
HNJ School 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat Family Mass, 10:30 a.m.

November 9 ~ Family Mass, 10:30 a.m.

December 24  
Christmas Eve Masses - 4 p.m. & 6 p.m.

January 25  
Catholic Schools Week  
Family & Alumni Mass, 10:30 a.m.

March 15 ~ Family Mass, 10:30 a.m.

April 5 ~ Easter Family Mass - 11:00 a.m.

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:

**2025-2026**

### GOAL #1

Empower Student  
Agency through  
Data-Driven  
Reflection

**2025-2026**

### GOAL #2

Cultivate  
Responsible, Ethical  
Learners in a  
Digital World

**2025-2026**

### GOAL #3

Build on Home-School  
Partnerships Rooted  
in Cultural  
Celebration

**Learn more about Holy Name of Jesus School**

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

**504-861-1466**

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