

The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

November 4, 2025

Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

Get ready! It's Gator Fest season!! We are incredibly blessed with a phenomenal team of parents and volunteers who pour their time, talent, and heart into bringing **Gator Fest** to life each year. This event is more than just a weekend of fun, it's a powerful expression of our community spirit and shared mission. Thanks to the tireless work of our planners and countless volunteers, Gator Fest raises **over \$100,000 annually**, helping us keep tuition affordable, provide tuition assistance to families in need, and invest in our exceptional faculty through continued salary growth.

To ensure another successful and joy-filled year, we ask each family to sign up for **two volunteer shifts** during the Gator Fest weekend. Your presence makes a real difference, both in the success of the event and in the lives of the students and teachers it supports. Click the volunteer flyer below to sign up for your shifts!

Thank you for the many ways you live out our call to be **Boys and Girls for Others**. Your generosity, enthusiasm, and love for our school bring our mission to life and make Gator Fest one of the most special weekends of the year!

Also, don't forget to purchase your ride bands and tickets at a discounted rate... details can be found in this Gazette. Be sure to read through the entire newsletter for information on donation collections and exciting Spirit Week opportunities for our students to enjoy!

The weather is supposed to be nice. The construction will pause. And the fun will be contagious!! I can't wait to see you next weekend!

God Bless,
Kirsch J. Williams

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



Upcoming Important Dates

Monday, November 3 - Thursday, November 6

Middle School Exams

Gator Fest shirts distributed - **students who purchased the 2025 Gator Fest T-Shirt may wear it with uniform bottoms any day between when they receive it and 11/14.**

Thursday, November 6

Gator Fest Collection Day (see flyer below)

Friday, November 7

End of First Trimester

HNJ Goes Totally 80's Performance, 7:00 PM

Art to Remember Orders Due

Saturday, November 8

HNJ Goes Totally 80's Performance, 7:00 PM

Sunday, November 9

Family Mass, 10:30 AM @ HNJ Church

Monday, November 10 - Friday November 14

Gator Fest Spirit Week (see flyer below)

Gator Fest Collection Week (see flyer below)

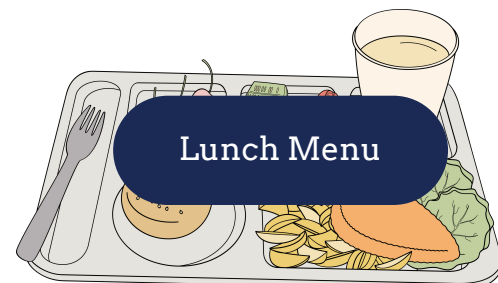
Thursday, November 13

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

Friday, November 14

Early Dismissal for ALL Students

Gator Fest 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM





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 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



Click or scan
here to find
your art!



Art to 
Remember

Order by **NOVEMBER 7th** for
FREE SHIPPING to HNJ

Last Week to Order
and receive free shipping



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The Parenting Center at Manning Family Children's presents

Navigating and Balancing Social Media

13-17 years old

**Thursday, November 6
5:30-7:30 pm**

An interactive workshop for teens and parents
\$20 per teen

Call 504.896.9591 or register online.



**Manning Family
Children's**
LCMC Health

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HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

PROUDLY PRESENTS...



Click Flyer to
Purchase Tickets



November 7 & 8 at 7pm

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED
BY GREG KATA

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SUPPORTING STUDENT ATHLETES & GATOR PRIDE

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

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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.

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HOLY NAME OF JESUS GATOR FEST 2025

Gordon Arata

Attorneys at Law

**PRE-ORDER YOUR ALL-WEEKEND RIDE BANDS
AND GATOR BUCKS TODAY!**

**DEADLINE:
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 AT 8 AM
SAVE MONEY & TIME WAITING IN LINE!**



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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.



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.

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



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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 decoupaged
 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



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 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!**



ALUMNI NIGHT
****FRIDAY****
NOV. 14

HOLY NAME OF JESUS GATOR FEST 2025

NOVEMBER 14, 15 & 16

FOOD * RIDES * GAMES * MUSIC

PRESENTED BY **Gordon Arata**
 Attorneys at Law



MUSICAL LINEUP:

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | 7-10 P.M.
RED HOT GENTILLY PEPPERS



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15 | 7-10 P.M.
THAT'S SO FETCH



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 | 3-6 P.M.
CRESCENT KINGS



ENTERTAINMENT SPONSORS



RGGC
 ESTABLISHED 2005



PLUSH APPEAL, LLC
 "THE MARDI GRAS SPOT"
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 2812 Toulouse Street
 (504) 482-6100

Mathes Brierre
 ARCHITECTS



FIRST
HORIZON BANK.

Chessina's
 CATERING & EVENTS

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November is Native American Heritage Month



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

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 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!**



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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@hnychurch.org

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

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

WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG

WELCOME

To the Brotherhood



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

PAY NOW



ORDER YOUR



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 7th 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

504-861-1466

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

