

The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

March 11, 2025

Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

As we step into this Lenten season, I've once again been reflecting on the word **Lent** and its connection to slowness. In several languages, *lent* means slow or in slow time. In music, *lento* is a directive to play at a slow tempo.

Slow. That's not a word I would use to describe this school year so far—or even the past few years! Life seems to move at a relentless pace, especially after the whirlwind of the Mardi Gras season. And yet, Lent invites us to do something countercultural: **to slow down.**

This sacred season calls us to deepen our connection with God, ourselves, and others through **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.**

- **Prayer** – Strengthening our love relationship with God (*Finding God in All Things*)
- **Fasting** – Honoring our love relationship with ourselves (*Striving for Personal Excellence*)
- **Almsgiving** – Deepening our love relationships with others (*Being People for Others*)

Lent is an opportunity for transformation, and within our school community, we will once again use a meaningful way to embrace it—through the Ignatian practice of **Pray-Dreaming.**

Here's how:

1. **Find a quiet space** and invite the Holy Spirit to guide you.
2. **Daydream in prayer** about these three things:
 - Imagine yourself as someone deeply in love with God.
 - Imagine yourself as someone who truly loves and values yourself.
 - Imagine yourself as someone who loves and serves others wholeheartedly.
3. **Let the transformation unfold.**

When we take time to pray-dream, we open ourselves to divine transformation—one that flows naturally from a heart touched by God's love. As Lent unfolds, may we all embrace this slow, intentional journey and discover the beauty in moving at God's pace.

Enjoy Embracing the Slow Pace of Lent!

God Bless,
Kirsch J. Williams

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





Important Dates



Tuesday, March 11

2nd Trimester Report Cards Emailed Home

Wednesday, March 12

Dippin Dots 7th Grade Fundraiser

LA Gator Program Information Meeting (see flyer below)

Friday, March 14

School Mass, 8:30 AM at HNJ Church (1st-7th Grade, parents welcome)

Liturgy of the Word, 9:45 AM in Haase's Auditorium (PK4-Kindergarten, parents welcome)

Boy Scouts Fish Fry (see flyer below)

Monday, March 17 - Friday, March 21

Kindergarten and 1st Grade F&P Benchmark Testing

Monday, March 17

HNJ Spirit Shirt Day

Tuesday, March 18

Trimester 2 Honor Roll and Honorable Gator, 8:05 AM in Haase's Auditorium

Wednesday, March 19

7th Grade Art Show (see flyer below)

Thursday, March 20

Boots and Bandanas Free Dress Day

Friday, March 21

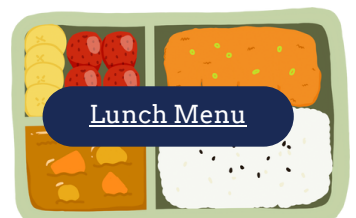
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Liturgy of the Word, 9:45 AM in Haase's Auditorium (PK4-Kindergarten, parents welcome)

Boy Scouts Fish Fry (see flyer below)

Saturday, March 22

Sunset in Sedona Gala (see flyers below)



WANT FREE MONEY FOR YOUR K-7TH GRADE 2025-2026 HNJ TUITION?

**\$5,243-
\$15,253**



LA GATOR PROGRAM FOR TUITION

The new LA Gator Program provides Educational Savings Accounts (ESA) to help families afford non-public school options.

Which HNJ Students Qualify for the 2025-2026 school year?

Students must reside in Louisiana and meet **ONE** of the following requirements:

- Entering kindergarten for **2025-2026 regardless of income, OR**
- Enrolled in a public or charter school in **2024-2025, regardless of income, OR**
- **From a family earning $\leq 250\%$ of federal poverty guidelines**

PARENT INFORMATION & SUPPORT SESSIONS

Thursday, Feb. 27, 8 a.m.
and Wednesday, March 12,
8:15 a.m. in the HNJ Parish
Center



FAQS

What if I'm not sure that my student qualifies?

We need all eligible families to apply! Even if you're unsure about qualifying or participating, submitting an application is crucial. High participation demonstrates the strong demand for school choice, helping secure future funding and support for a broader range of families.

Is this the same as the voucher program?

No. LA Gator is a brand new state-funded program that offers Education Savings Accounts for families. It is not a voucher program.

How does this fit into the HNJ Admissions process?

All students must apply, be accepted, and enroll in Holy Name of Jesus School before LA Gator funds can be used at HNJ.

What if my student already receives HNJ financial assistance?

If your student currently receives financial assistance directly from Holy Name of Jesus School, you must apply for the LA Gator program in order to continue qualifying for HNJ assistance in future years.

How much will I receive?

The LA Gator program provides between **\$5,243 and \$15,253** to each qualifying student to apply toward tuition.

How soon do I need to apply?

The application portal opens on **Saturday, March 1 at 9 a.m.** Applications are first-come, first-served, so don't wait! There is limited funding available for the upcoming academic year.

When will I be notified if my student will receive funds?

Families will be notified in the summer if their student's LA Gator application was approved.

Where do I apply?

Apply at lagator.la.gov or scan the QR code to the right.



**APPLICATION
OPENS MARCH 1**

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





Too Many Beads?

Bring in your unwanted Mardi Gras Beads and
Throws by Friday, March 14. We will donate
them to St. Michael's Special School

Wednesday, March 12 -
Friday, March 14

Donations can be brought
to the HNJ Lobby or
dropped off during morning
carpool



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

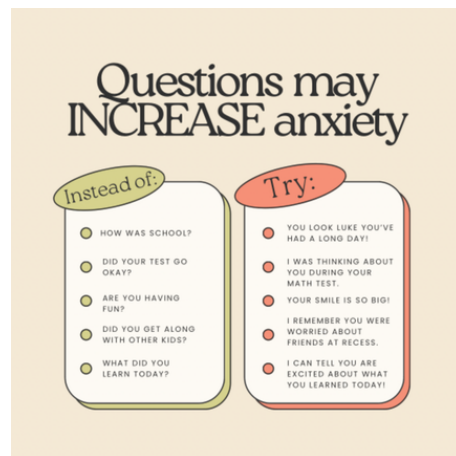
msubervielle@hnjschool.org

EMPOWERING CHILDREN WITH ANXIETY

When we allow children to struggle or to face anxious situations, we allow them the opportunity to overcome those challenges and come out feeling victorious!

Here's how parents can help:

- Offer opportunities for gradual exposure to situations that may lead to anxiety
- Work together with your child to complete a difficult task
- Create small-risk experiences
- Stand firm when your child complains or demands
- Compromise when a child may be uncomfortable
- Help your child work through and accept their errors
- Allow your child to experience natural consequences



Wildenhaus, Colleen. (n.d.). WHY YOU MUST STOP ENABLING CHILDREN WITH ANXIETY AND BEGIN EMPOWERING CHILDREN INSTEAD. Retrieved January 27, 2022, from <https://goodbyeanxietyhellojoy.com/empower-a-child-with-anxiety/>



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN HNJ ATHLETICS?

Spring sports have begun!

Friday, March 14

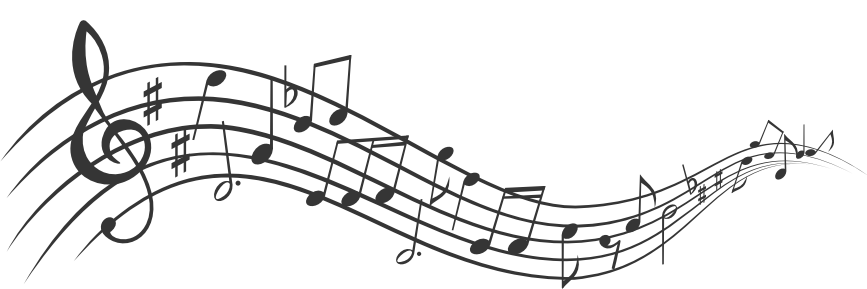
Softball game @ Ursuline, 4:00 PM

Saturday, March 15

Track and Field Meet @ Mandeville JH, 8:30 AM

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





Music Notes

March is Music In Our
Schools Month®

HNJ MUSIC

Every day, music educators across the United States are shaping lives by guiding students through a transformative journey of exploration, practice, and growth. While parents and the wider community get to witness the magic of performances, they often miss the powerful day-to-day moments of music education, connection, and discovery that truly make the process special.



What music is happening at HNJ School?

- ~Weekly interactive music classes offered to EVERY HNJ student grades Pre-K1 through 7th grade.
- ~Every day during assembly Ms. Williams works with all students grades 1-7 on singing and signing (ASL sign language) our liturgical songs.
- ~Third grade students learn how to play recorder. Some have earned "black belts" in our Recorder Karate curriculum.
- ~Interactive LPO music field trip for grades 2, 3, 4, and 5
- ~HNJ Choir sings weekly for Mass. ~Through the Jazz and Heritage Partnership Grant, HNJ will purchase a brand new set of tone chimes for our music classes and for student performances at the church.
- ~HNJ Choir attended a vocal workshop with VOCES8, a Grammy-nominated British vocal ensemble and is now preparing to compete in the Large Ensemble Festival Competition in April @ UNO.
- ~HNJ currently has over 60 students taking private piano, guitar, and voice lessons in our after school music program.
- ~Through the Jazz and Heritage Partnership Grant, HNJ will host guest artist, Joel Dyson, as she provides a music series open to grades 4-7.
- ~All 4th graders are learning how to play the ukulele and compose their own songs.

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



A
Sneak
Peek



Maeve Graffagnini & Catalina Rice
try on their Witch costumes



Our very own Kaitlin Daly
designing the set

INTO THE WOODS JR.

Tickets on Sale
Monday March 17th

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



HNJ TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK 1983 2025

**MONDAY
MARCH 24TH**

NEON NOTES

**SHARE NOTES OF
APPRECIATION**



[Click
Here](#)

**TUESDAY
MARCH 25TH**

"BREAKFAST CLUB"

TEACHER'S LOUNGE



**WEDNESDAY
MARCH 26TH**
WISH LIST WEDNESDAY

"MIX TAPE"

**SUPPLIES GIVEAWAY
IN THE LOUNGE**

[Click
Here](#)



**THURSDAY
MARCH 27TH**

"SAVED BY THE BELL"

**GRAB & GO
SNACKS & DRINKS**



**FRIDAY
MARCH 28TH**

"CHEERS"

**PTC PROVIDED LUNCH
PARISH CENTER**

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



LENT WITH THE PACK

Scripture-based reflections from Loyola community members emailed daily throughout Lent (March 5 - April 17, 2025)

Free to subscribe

in English

bit.ly/LWP2025Eng

in Spanish

bit.ly/LWP2025Spa



**Starts March 5
join anytime**



LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS Student Life and Ministry

questions: hrdarrou@loyno.edu

Join Loyola University New Orleans' Lent with the Pack as we reflect on the ways we are invited to Cura Personalis (or caring for the whole person) each day. Voices from across the Loyola community in English and Spanish share how they are inspired and renewed through scripture, and each reflection includes a prompt for your own prayer or reflection time.

Click the flyer to learn more!

Contact Hunter Darrouzet, Loyola's University Minister for Communal Reflection, at hrdarrou@loyno.edu with any questions.

Subscribe here to receive the daily reflections via email in English.

Suscríbete aquí para recibir las reflexiones diarias en español.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 55 Lenten Fish Fry

6 pm until 8 pm

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish Courtyard
631 State Street (NEW LOCATION
DUE TO HNJ CONSTRUCTION)**

(We accept cash, checks, Venmo, and Zelle)

Walk-up orders only.

Proceeds to support Boy Scout Troop 55 activities

Call Daniel Quintana with questions – (504) 715-3490

MARCH 14

MARCH 21

APRIL 11

<u>Menu Item</u>	<u>Price</u>
Adult Shrimp	\$15.00
Child Shrimp	\$12.00
Adult Catfish	\$15.00
Child Catfish	\$12.00
Shrimp/Fish Combo	\$16.00

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

Our food is outstanding because all fish and shrimp are Louisiana products.

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



**CLICK TO BUY TICKETS OR
BECOME A SPONSOR**

EARLY BIRD PRICE \$125 UNTIL 2/21/25 | \$150 AFTER 2/21/25

*Sunset in
Sedona*

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025
7PM - 11PM
VALS ON FRERET
SOUTHWESTERN CHIC ATTIRE



**HOLY NAME OF
JESUS SCHOOL**

Tuition/Cash
RAFFLE

Purchase a ticket for a chance to win your choice of either a \$5,000 tuition credit for the 2025-2026 school year OR a \$2,500 cash prize. Winner will be drawn on Tuesday, March 25, 2025. The winner need not be present.
Gaming License: G-0004386

**DEADLINE TO PURCHASE
TICKETS IS MONDAY,
MARCH 24 AT 11:59 PM**

**\$50 each
or 3 for \$100**

DONATIONS NEEDED

Auction 2025



**Beach Houses * Art * Vacations * Jewelry
Restaurants * Hosting Dinner Parties
Fun Family Experiences * Memberships
Spa Days * Gift Cards * Home Decor Items**

Click flyer to submit a donation!

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





Your child may be eligible for a K-12 private school scholarship

ARETESCHOLARS provides private K-12 scholarships exclusively to qualifying low-to-moderate-income students. The scholarships empower parents who otherwise have limited options to select a school that best meets their child's unique gifts, talents, and learning needs.

Maximum scholarship amounts: \$4,400 for grades K-8; or \$4,950 for grades 9-12.

Application period: February 25, 2025–May 31, 2025 (or until we receive 4,000 applications, whichever comes first)

Note: Applications are first-come, first-served, with priority given to returning students, and students using the Louisiana Scholarship Program Scholarship. An application does not guarantee a scholarship.

To be eligible for a scholarship in Louisiana, a student must meet the following income, residency, and prior school year requirements

1. Louisiana resident, *AND*
2. Enrolled in Louisiana public school for 2024-25, *OR*
 - . Entering kindergarten in 2025-26, *OR*
3. Received a TDC or Louisiana Scholarship Program award in 2024-25, *AND*
 - . Family income less than the following maximum amounts:

4

.

5

.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAX ANNUAL \$
2 People	\$52,875
3 People	\$66,625
4 People	\$80,375
5 People	\$94,125
6 People	\$107,875
7 People	\$121,625



Instructions to apply: visit www.aretescholars.org or scan the QR code to begin the online application process.

Questions? contact Mary Helen at maryhw@aretescholars.org



SAVE THE DATE

'80s Totally Totally tennis

HNJ SCHOOL TENNIS + PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

March 26th, 2025

[Click Here to Register](#)

Save the Date for the

7TH Grade Art Show

Wednesday,

March 19th

6pm-8pm

Holy Name of Jesus Church Engraved Bricks & Pavers

Our new entry plaza at Holy Name of Jesus Church will feature an installation of commemorative bricks and pavers that can honor or memorialize loved ones in a special way. Engraved bricks and pavers are the perfect gift for weddings, anniversaries, graduations, or birthdays as well as a meaningful memorial for a loved one who has passed away.

We have two size options available: 4x8 and 8x8. You can choose from several options, including text only or text with a choice of several clip-art icons. Mini replicas are also available for purchase.

BRICK DETAILS: The bricks are 4" x 8" and are engraved using state-of-the-art laser technology. The price for a 4x8 brick is \$400.

PAVER DETAILS: The pavers are 8" x 8" and are engraved using state-of-the-art laser technology. The price for an 8x8 paver is \$800.

MINI REPLICAS: Mini Replicas are available for purchase for \$25. The 4x8 brick replica measures 1.5 x 3 inches (about the size of a business card), and the 8x8 paver replica measures 3x3 inches in size. Mini replicas will be shipped to the HNJ Parish Center. You will receive a call from us when they are available for pickup.

Learn more at hnjchurch.org/bricks-pavers or scan the QR code below.



JOE & JANE SMITH
JANUARY 1, 2025



HNJ CAMP GATOR

RIISING PK4-7TH GRADE STUDENTS

JUNE 2-6: MESSY MASTERPIECES
JUNE 9-13: GALACTIC ADVENTURES
JUNE 16-20*: MID-SUMMER MARDI GRAS
JUNE 23-27: MAD SCIENCE LAB
JULY 7-11: SPORTS MASHUP
JULY 14-18: GATOR BUILDERS
JULY 21-25: ENDING SUMMER WITH A SPLASH

*NO CAMP ON 6/19 IN OBSERVANCE OF JUNETEENTH

HOURS

BEFORE CARE: 7:00-8:30
CAMP: 8:30-3:15
AFTER CARE: 3:15-5:30

[Click to Register](#)

PRICING

\$250/WEEK (\$200 WEEK OF 6/16)
BEFORE AND AFTER CARE \$100/WEEK (\$80 WEEK OF 6/16)

REGISTRATION

2/17 PRIORITY FOR CURRENT AND NEWLY ENROLLED HNJ STUDENTS
3/10 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



@CAMPGATOR_HNJ

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

March 16, 2025

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

UP THE MOUNTAIN TO PRAY.

LUKE 9:28

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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. (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.
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: holynam@hnpjchurch.org

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

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

WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG

The HNJ Yearbook Committee needs your photos!

We need pictures from this school year! If you have photos from any of these past events, or any future HNJ events, please submit them to us!

- HNJ Athletics
- Gator Fest
- Back to School BBQ
- Class Parties
- Field Trips
- Pure Imagination
- Choir
- Other HNJ Events!

GOOD
TIMES



Click the camera
icon to upload your
photos directly to our
yearbook photo
library!



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.

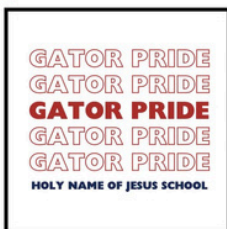
SHOW OFF YOUR GATOR PRIDE EVERYWHERE YOU GO!

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.



**JIN
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@hjnjschool.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!

