

The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

August 19, 2025

Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

We made history together last Friday in so many ways!

First, our Kindergarten and 1st-grade students joined the larger school community at Mass for the very first time. In response to new PK regulations in Bill 409, Kindergarten and 1st grade will now be part of our School Masses moving forward. (Beginning in October, our Pelicans, PK3, and PK4 students will participate in Liturgy of the Word). Our teachers prepared our youngest students beautifully, and they rose to the occasion with reverence and joy. The wonder in their eyes confirmed what we know to be true: they belong in full communion with the "big kids" as one united body of faith.

Secondly, we launched our very first **House Meeting**, a historic step for Holy Name of Jesus. As members of the Ignatian Network of Elementary Schools, we are connected to a tradition that emphasizes faith, justice, and service. Inspired by our Jesuit identity and enriched by our Sisters of Mercy heritage, we have created a House system uniquely designed for HNJ.

Last Friday, students collaborated to create a motto, chant, prayer, hand sign, and logo for each House. Their creativity, teamwork, and joy were a testament to the Spirit alive in our community. These foundational moments will echo for years to come. Future generations of HNJ students will carry forward these very chants and prayers as they live out the virtues of their House.

Finally, we extend deep gratitude to our Men's Club and all who came out on Saturday to help beautify our campus. Your commitment and generosity strengthen the bonds of community that make Holy Name of Jesus a school unlike any other.

As we enter our first full week of school, let us carry forward this spirit of unity, faith, and excitement. Together, we are building a school year filled with purpose, joy, and God's grace.

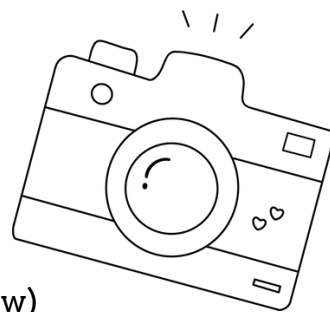
God Bless,
Kirsch J. Williams

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





Important Dates



Tuesday, August 19

Athletics and Choir Interest Meeting, 6:00 PM
(Choir: 5th - 7th Grade, Athletics: 3rd - 7th Grade)

Wednesday, August 20

PK3-3rd Grade Individual School Pictures (see flyers below)

Thursday, August 21

Little Gators, 4th-7th Grade Individual School Pictures (see flyers below)

Friday, August 22

School Mass, 8:30AM at HNJ Church (Kindergarten - 7th Grade, Parents Welcome)

Monday, August 25 - Wednesday, August 27

NWEA Testing (PK4-7th Grade)

New Orleans Speech and Hearing Screenings (see flyers below)



Tuesday, August 26

Grand Gators Meeting, 10:00 AM in Parish Center

Thursday, August 28

Kim4Kidz Occupational Therapy Screening (see flyers below)

Friday, August 29

School Mass, 8:30AM at HNJ Church (Kindergarten - 7th Grade, Parents Welcome)

House Meetings (2nd - 7th Grade)

Early Dismissal, No Later Gators (PK3-7th Grade)

Regular Dismissal for Little Gators

Faculty Professional Development (PK3-7th Grade teachers)



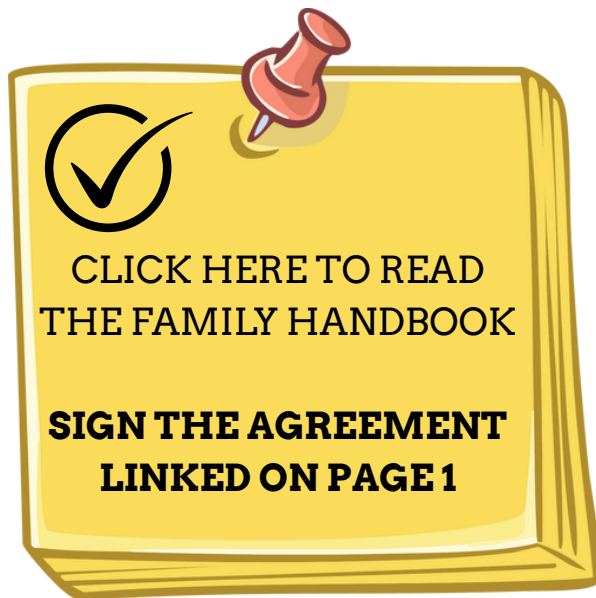
Monday, September 1

Labor Day - No School (Little Gators - 7th Grade)



- To do -

The items on this page are required to be completed for each student **BEFORE** the first day of school



HOUSE SYSTEM: MONTHLY CHALLENGES

Click the Poster 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 TRUTH AND LIGHT

CATECHISM QUEST: BUILDING OUR FAITH FOUNDATION!

Helping children (and adults!) learn and understand key concepts from the Catechism in a fun, interactive way!

MATERIALS NEEDED!

- ST. JOSEPH CATECHISM FOR YOUNG CATHOLICS (PICK THE VOLUME MOST SUITABLE FOR YOUR CHILDREN!)
- INDEX CARDS OR SMALL SLIPS OF PAPER
- PENS/MARKERS
- A SMALL BOWL



HOUSE OF REVERENCE

God's Fingerprints SCAVENGER HUNT

"Finding God in Everyone and Everything - Audobon Park"

TOOLS



HOW TO PLAY

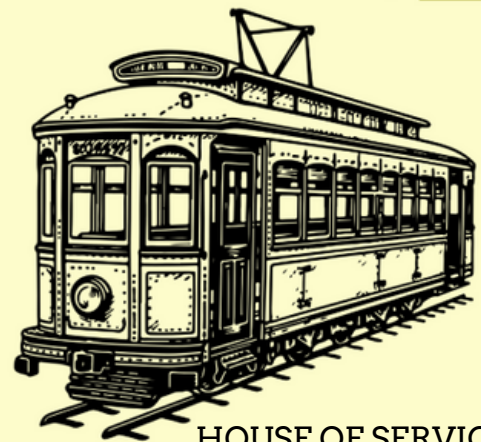
- 1) Make sure you have an adult with you
- 2) Look closely: Walk slowly and look all around you - up in the trees, down on the ground, in the bushes, etc.
- 3) Find the "Fingerprints": When you see something on your checklist, mark it off!
--Draw or describe the thing you found: For most items, draw a quick sketch or write a few words about what you found next to the item on your list
--Collect (if allowed): If the item has already fallen, you can gently place it in your bag
- 4) Think about God: As you find each item, take a moment to think about how it reminds you of God. Does it show His power? His beauty? His creativity?

HOUSE OF EXCELLENCE



The Five-Star Family Meal

Teaching that excellence is a habit of doing your best in everything you do, and it's a quality that can be practiced and perfected together as a family!



HOUSE OF SERVICE

The Streetcar Meal Express

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





WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN HNJ ATHLETICS?

[Click Here to Order](#)

Dear HNJ Families,

We are excited to announce that the Holy Name of Jesus **Spirit Shirts** for the 2025-2026 school year are now available for purchase! Starting **Monday, September 8**, students will be allowed to wear the spirit shirts every Monday, in accordance with the spirit shirt guidelines outlined in the student handbook. Toddler sizes will be made of lambskin, while youth and adult sizes will be crafted from dri-fit fabric. Please use the following link to place your order: [25-26 HNJ Spirit shirt](#).

We are also pleased to offer the new **"Proud HNJ Grandparent" car magnet** and the new **HNJ logo garden flag** for purchase. Please note that the deadline for all orders is Monday, August 25, at 8 AM. If you have any questions please contact Coach T at terrel@hnjschool.org.

We also have brand new door hangers coming soon! Stay tuned for more information!

Thank you for your continued support of our school community.

Go Gators!



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Music Notes

3rd Grade Music Class

If your child is in 3rd grade, he/she will learn how to play the recorder this year using our playful and instructional Recorder Karate curriculum. Please fill out this [RECORDER FORM](#) by **Thursday, August 14** so we can purchase your child's instruments as soon as possible.



Middle School Choir

If your child is in 5th, 6th, or 7th grade and loves to sing, we would love to have him/her join our HNJ Choir! The [Choir Registration 25-26](#) form is linked here and has information that will likely answer many of your questions.

We accept all HNJ **5th, 6th, and 7th grade** children regardless of experience, skill level, or voice type. Usually a large percentage of middle school students join, so please don't miss this opportunity.

Choir rehearsals are once per week from **3-4:30pm**. Our first rehearsal is **Thursday, August 14**.

If your child is interested in joining our first two rehearsals but not yet sure if he/she wants to commit, we would love for your child to come join us on both Thursday, August 14 and Thursday, August 21 in the music room to come see what choir is all about.

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COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

msubervielle@hnjschool.org

New Year Nerves

Is your student nervous for the first day of school? Check out these books on starting a new school year!

- Butterflies on the First Day of School by Annie Silvestro
- Clothesline Clues to the First Day of School by Kathryn Heling & Deborah Hembrook
- David Goes to School by David Shannon
- Franklin Goes to School Paulette Bourgeois
- I Don't Want to Go to School: Helping Children Cope with Separation Anxiety by Nancy Pando
- The New Bear at School Carrie Weston
- Peanut Butter's First Day of School by Terry Border

<https://youtu.be/eWXOurnVTYg>



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Speech and OT Screenings

Welcome to the 2025-26 school year! Holy Name of Jesus is offering Speech, Vision, and Hearing screenings as well as Occupational Therapy screenings the week of August 25.

New Orleans Speech and Hearing will provide screenings for speech, language processing, hearing, and vision for students from **PK through 2nd grade**. Additionally, vision and hearing screenings will be available for students in **Little Gators and 3rd-7th grade**.

Please note that students in grades **PK3** and **Kindergarten**, along with all **new students (PK4+)**, are **required** to be screened unless they are currently receiving services or have had a speech/hearing evaluation within the last year.

Occupational therapy screenings will be conducted by Kim4Kids for **PK3-7th grade students**. Please note that students in **PK4 and all new students (PK3+)** are also **required** to be screened unless they are currently receiving services or have had an occupational evaluation within the last year.

Hard copies of appropriate permission forms are going home in your child's schoolbag and can be found linked below. If you have any questions regarding the screening process, please reach out to Ms. Bri (bbegault@hnjschool.org).

PK-3, Kindergarten,
New Students

Speech and Hearing
Screening
REQUIRED

PK-4, 1st, 2nd Grade

Speech, Language &
Processing, Vision, and
Hearing Screening

Little Gators &
3rd - 7th Grade

Hearing and Vision
Screening



PK3 - 7th Grade

Kim4Kids
OT Screening



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Want to shout out some Gators in next week's Gazette?
Email text and photos to Kaitlin Southwick at ksouthwick@hnjschool.org

Gator Spotlight

Congratulations to **Peyton Johnson, Grade 5** for becoming a 3-time Junior Olympic All-American Champion! Peyton's impressive performances at the Junior Olympics include:

8th Place – Pentathlon
5th Place – 80m Hurdles
8th Place – Long Jump

Way to go, Peyton! Your hard work, dedication, and athleticism are truly inspiring!



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Room Parent Sign Up

Interested in Becoming a Room Parent?

Here's Why It's Worth It!

- BE MORE INVOLVED IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL EXPERIENCE
- HELP COORDINATE CLASS CELEBRATIONS, TEACHER GIFTS, AND SPECIAL EVENTS
- BUILD STRONG CONNECTIONS WITH TEACHERS AND FELLOW PARENTS
- GET INSIDER INFO ON WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM
- MAKE A MEANINGFUL IMPACT—WITH A TEAM! YOU'RE NEVER DOING IT ALONE
- IT'S FUN AND REWARDING—PLUS, KIDS LOVE SEEING THEIR GROWN-UPS PARTICIPATE!



Room Parent Meeting:
8/25 @ 8:15 AM
HNJ Basement



Holy Name of Jesus Picture Day



Wednesday - August 20th
PK3 through 3rd Grade

Thursday - August 21st
**Little Gators
4th through 7th Grade**

Orders Are Due on Picture Day
Payments Accepted: Venmo * Cash * Check

@PGPLLC



1-8x10



2-5x7



3.5x5
Magnet



Photo Key
Chain



Package Units



8-Wallets



Name & Year
On Wallets

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PAT GARIN PHOTOGRAPHER LLC

6505 Spanish Fort Blvd. * New Orleans, LA 70124

(504) 866-4910 * info@patgarinphotographer.com

www.patgarinphotographer.com

**Student's Name:****Grade Level:****Contact #:****Email Address:****HOLY NAME OF JESUS**

PACKAGE 1 (BEST VALUE)		
	1 - 8x10's 2 - 5x7's 4 - 3½ x 5's 8 Wallets + <i>Keepsake Magnet + Digital Image</i>	\$65.00
Package 2	1 - 8x10 2 - 5x7's 8 Wallets + Keepsake Magnet	\$55.00
Package 3	2 - 5x7's 2 - 3½ x 5's 4 Wallets	\$45.00
Package 4	1 - 5x7 2 - 3½ x 5's	\$35.00
Package 5	Digital Image Only (emailed)	\$50.00
Add On:		
	Name & Year on Wallets	\$5.00
	Retouch Image (remove blemishes)	\$10.00
Specialty Items/Prints: (ADD TO PACKAGE SELECTION ONLY)		
	Keepsake Magnet (3½ x 5)	\$15.00
	Photo Key Chain (Wallet Size Photo)	\$15.00
	8 Wallets	\$30.00
	1 - 8x10	\$30.00
	1 - 5x7	\$20.00
	2 - 3½ x 5	\$20.00
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED		\$

Any orders received after your assigned photo day will incur a \$10.00 late fee.

The sky's
the limit
AND THEN
SOME

Ready for action that's out of this world?
Join Cub Scouts for adventures that go above
and beyond anything you've done before.

COME JOIN PACK 55!



**It's a great time to be a Scout!
Come Join Pack 55 at Holy Name of Jesus!**

When: Wednesday, August 27th at 6:30pm.

Where: Holy Name of Jesus School Basement

For more information, contact:

Jimmy Treadway (Cubmaster): jttread1@hotmail.com

Santi Iturralde (Treasurer): santi120@gmail.com

Cub Scout Pack 55 is for boys in K-5th grades.

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HOLY NAME OF
JESUS SCHOOL
A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER



Men's Club General Meeting *Steak Night!*



Thursday September 11th at 6pm
HNJ Parish Center across from the school
Meeting starts at 6:30pm
Parking available at school

Join us for the first Men's Club meeting of the school year.
Come meet the new dads and find out what we do and
how to get involved.

Please be sure to *pay your dues* on the website,
hnjmensclub.org, to reserve your steak.

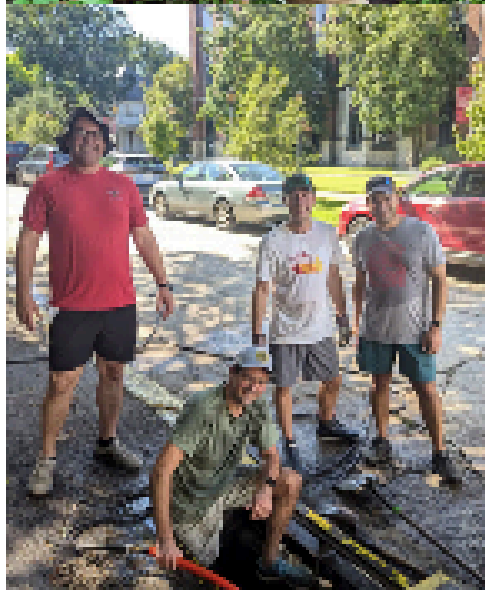


Scan or click the QR code to pay your dues

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THANK YOU TO THE DADS THAT CAME TO CLEAUP DAY!



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





GATORS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

GATOR FEST 2025

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2025

WE ARE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS ON OUR GATOR FEST TEAM!

Your gift of service is what makes this amazing event run smoothly, providing a fun, safe, enjoyable experience for our community. We are seeking volunteers to serve in various leadership roles to help organize and manage our event.



Scan QR Code or visit
hnjschool.org/gator-fest

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





GATORS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

GATOR FEST 2025

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2025

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE NOW OPEN!

Holy Name of Jesus School is hosting its 42nd Annual Gator Fest, Gators Under Construction, November 14-16, 2025. We are inviting businesses and families to partner with us in hosting this event, which supports the mission of our school.



**Scan QR Code or visit
hnjschool.org/gator-fest**

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



Holy Name of Jesus PTC

BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

Bring your blanket or chairs and
enjoy a back to school BBQ
dinner with HNJ families!



FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 26

6:00 - 9:00

VOLUNTEER SIGN UP



DINNER ORDER



PLEASE PRE-ORDER MEALS. A LIMITED NUMBER OF
MEAL TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT.
DRINKS AND DESSERTS MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE
EVENT. BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE WITH DONATION.



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

AUGUST 24, 2025

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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 3:45 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

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

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

WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG



Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Parents,

We're excited to announce that we've partnered with MySchoolBucks to provide a convenient and secure way to manage your child's school meal payments. With MySchoolBucks, you can easily handle meal payments using a credit/debit card or electronic check.

Using MySchoolBucks you can:

- Add funds to your student's meal account
- View meal balances & cafeteria purchases
- Receive low-balance alerts

Getting Started is Easy:

- Download the mobile app or visit myschoolbucks.com
- Click "Sign Up for Free" icon
- Fill in your information
- Get Started
- Select your state (Louisiana) and district (Holy Name of Jesus)
- Create your free account
- Add your student
- Add funds to your student's meal account

If you already have a MySchoolBucks account:

- Log into your existing account
- Click "District" at the top of the page
- Click "Add Another School District"
- Select your state (Louisiana) and district (Holy Name of Jesus)
- Add your student
- Follow account setup steps

If you have any questions about getting started with MySchoolBucks call (855) 832-5226. For any general questions please contact hnjlunch@messinascatering.com



MESSINASCATERING.COM | 504.469.7373 | 916 DAKIN ST. JEFFERSON, LA 70121

Save the Date

HNI GRANDPARENTS AND
GRAND-FRIENDS WEEK 2025

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Family Mass, 10:30 am at HNJ Church

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

PK3 and 3rd Grade Lunch with Grandparents

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

PK4 and 4th Grade Lunch with Grandparents

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

K and 5th Grade Lunch with Grandparents

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

1st and 6th Grade Lunch with Grandparents

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

2nd and 7th Grade Lunch with Grandparents

Grandparents Movie Night, 6:00 PM

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW



2025 - 2026 CATERING



We're thrilled to return to Holy Name of Jesus School for another amazing year! Messina's Catering is proud to once again partner with the school to provide a delicious and nutritious lunch program your students will love.

WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

Our school lunch program features a variety of meal options to keep your child excited about lunchtime, including:

HOT LUNCH	HANDHELD LUNCH	FRESH SALAD
HAMBURGER	CHEESEBURGER	

PRICING

PK3 - K: \$5.75/ meal

1st - 7th Grade: \$6.25/meal (larger portion)

All meals include a choice of
white milk or chocolate milk.

Hot, Handheld, Cheeseburger, and Hamburger Lunches include daily sides of: Vegetable, Starch or Fruit/ Dessert

1ST SEMESTER PAYMENT:

PK3 - Kindergarten: \$465.75
1st - 7th Grade: \$506.25

FULL YEAR PAYMENT:

PK3 - Kindergarten: \$977.50
1st - 7th Grade: \$1,062.50

Take Advantage of Our Convenient Pre-Payment Options!
Semester or full-year payments must be made by check only and are due by August 15. Please make checks payable to Messina's Catering & Events and include your child's name and grade in the memo line.
For daily lunch purchases, please create an account through MySchoolBucks at myschoolbucks.com. Instructions to follow soon.

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

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