

The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

January 6, 2026

Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

As we begin this new year, we are invited to pause, reflect, and renew our commitment to seeing Christ in one another. In every person we meet, students, colleagues, families, and neighbors, Jesus is present. We rarely know the burdens someone may be carrying, and often a smile, a kind word, or a moment of patience can be the very grace they need that day. Small acts of love matter more than we realize.

Looking back on 2025, we have so much to praise God for. It was a year marked by growth, achievement, and countless moments of grace within our community. These blessings did not happen by chance... they are signs of God's faithfulness at work among us. As we step into 2026, another year filled with promise and excitement, it is important that we carry gratitude for what has been into hope for what is to come.

In the Gospel, Mary shows us how to do exactly that. She "kept all these things, pondering them in her heart." Mary teaches us to hold onto God's goodness, especially when life feels busy or uncertain. Just as the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard, we too are called to proclaim, through our words and actions, the ways God's love continues to enter the world. The gifts do not end; they keep unfolding!

Love leads to joy, and joy leads to deep and lasting happiness. As a community, let us commit to spreading love generously, in our classrooms, offices, homes, and conversations. When love is shared freely, it multiplies, shaping hearts and strengthening our mission.

May this new year be one in which we recognize God's presence more clearly, respond with grateful hearts, and choose love in all that we do.

Happy New Year!

God Bless,
Kirsch J. Williams

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



Upcoming Important Dates



Monday, January 5 - Friday, January 16

Re-enrollment for LGO - 6th Grade Students (see email from Kaitlin Addison)

Tuesday, January 6

King Cake Day

Friday, January 9

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

Monday, January 12 - Tuesday, January 13

NWEA Testing (PK4-7th Grade)

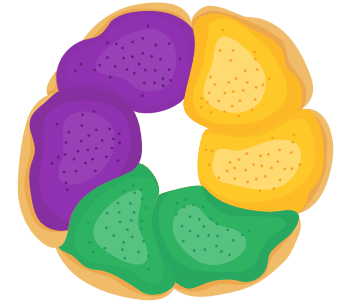


Monday, January 12

HNJ Spirit Shirt Day

Wednesday, January 14

Winter Sports Team Photos



Friday, January 16

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

Parent Teacher Conferences by teacher request (PK3 - 7th Grade) 1:00 - 6:00 PM

Normal Day for Little Gators

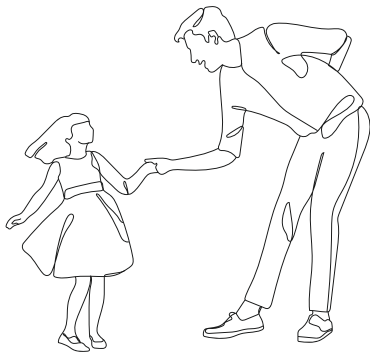
Monday, January 19

No School For Students - Martin Luther King Jr. Day



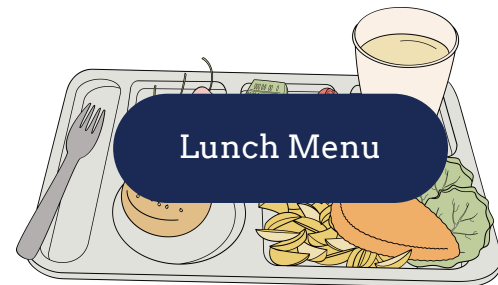
Thursday, January 22

Men's Club General Meeting, 6:00 PM



Saturday, January 24

Dad and Darling Night (see flyer below)





**HOLY NAME OF
JESUS SCHOOL**
A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER

January 5, 2026

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Families,

We remain dedicated to fostering personal excellence at Holy Name of Jesus School, a commitment that drives our consistent success. Our identity as a Cognia School of Distinction, along with our exceptional educators, programs, and collaboration with Loyola, continues to set us apart.



Academic Excellence & Growth

Over the past six years, our students have consistently shown academic growth in math and language arts, reflecting school-wide progress. We are proud that our students continue to surpass national averages in both math and English. This success is supported by our refined approach to teaching, assessing, and celebrating our Ignatian core beliefs. We continue to expand our diverse course offerings, including student-choice electives for middle school, an enhanced foreign language curriculum, a variety of athletic options, and an unmatched fine arts program.

Excitement for Our Foundations for the Future Capital Campaign Completion!

We are thrilled to share that all students attending Holy Name of Jesus School in the 2026-2027 school year will experience the benefits of our new facility! The projected completion date for this project—a long-held dream for our community—is May 2026. The new building will offer a host of thoughtfully-designed additions, including:

- A fully-equipped, regulation-size **gymnasium** with a concession stand, locker rooms, and coaches' offices
- An elevated **running track**
- A new **art studio** and **music room**
- A new full-sized **elevator**
- **New bathrooms** on the 2nd and 3rd floors
- Ten new **classrooms for our Little Gators and PK3 students**
- A new Little Gators playground, allowing for the **expansion of the existing Little Yard for K-2nd**
- Providing more space in the main building for **more purposeful spaces for PK4-7th Grade**



Tuition and Financial Planning for 2026-2027

We are grateful for your continued partnership and are happy to open re-enrollment for the 2026–2027 school year. Tuition and fees directly support competitive compensation for our dedicated teachers, sustain our exceptional academic programs, maintain low student-to-teacher ratios, and enable continued investment in our historic campus. Retaining talented educators is a top priority at HNJ, with approximately 70% of our budget allocated to salaries and benefits. In a profession that is historically undercompensated nationwide, we are committed to doing our part to better support and value our teachers.

For the 2026-2027 school year, we have taken steps to simplify the tuition structure for our families. While the tuition increase is in line with the national inflation rate to cover operational costs and increased salaries, we have structured our fees to provide significant value and transparency:

- **All-Inclusive Fee Structure:** Unlike many other institutions, HNJ does not charge separate fees for church parish support, technology, PTC, yearbooks, or payment plans.
- **Supplies Included:** To simplify your back-to-school experience, all school supplies are included in the cost of tuition.
- **Family-Centered Discounts:** HNJ is one of only a few schools in Uptown New Orleans offering a sibling discount for elementary and middle school students.
- **Simplified Building Fee:** The building fee is assessed per family rather than per student, regardless of grade levels. This covers all students in the family, including Little Gators and Early Childhood.



We understand that a tuition increase can present challenges. If this affects your ability to continue enrollment, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are committed to assisting and retaining our families as we expand our school. More information will be provided soon regarding the following.

- We offer a financial aid application, which can be completed through **FACTS**.
- We encourage all rising Kindergarten students to apply for **Arete and Aspiring Scholars**.

We are grateful for your continued partnership and are happy to open re-enrollment for the 2026–2027 school year.

May God continue to bless our school,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Mark E. Thibodeaux, SJ".

Rev. Mark E. Thibodeaux, SJ, Pastor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirsch J. Williams".

Kirsch J. Williams, Principal

Holy Name of Jesus School Re-Enrollment Timeline

Re-enrollment for current Little Gators through 6th Grade: January 5-16, 2026

New Students Accepted Rising Little Gators through Kindergarten: January 26, 2026

New Students Accepted Rising 1st through 7th Grade: February 2, 2026

2026-2027 Re-Enrollment Instructions: Holy Name of Jesus School

Dear Families,

Thank you for entrusting your children to Holy Name of Jesus School. Our students and families are essential to our community, and we look forward to welcoming you back. Please follow the instructions below to complete the re-enrollment process for the upcoming school year.

Important Dates & Fees

- **Deadline:** Re-enrollment must be completed by **11:59 PM on Friday, January 16th**.
 - **Registration Fee:** A **\$150** registration fee will be charged to your FACTS account upon submission.
 - **Late Penalty:** Failure to complete the packet and pay the registration fee by the deadline will result in a **\$500 late fee**.
 - **Enrollment Security:** To secure your child's spot for the 2026-2027 school year, the packet must be submitted, and the fee received. After the re-enrollment period ends, all vacant spots will be opened to new applicants.
-

How to Re-Enroll

The online process takes approximately 15 minutes. Your progress is saved if you pause and return later.

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. **Log In:** Access the [Family Portal](#) using your existing credentials.
2. **Navigate:** Click on the **Apply / Enroll** link in the left-hand menu.
3. **Select:** Click on **Enrollment / Re-Enrollment**.
4. **Open:** Select the link labeled **Click here to open Enrollment**.
5. **Start:** Locate your child's name and click **Start Enrollment Packet**.
 - Note: If your child is not returning, please click **Will Not Enroll**.
6. **Finalize:** The process is only complete once you have selected a FACTS tuition payment plan for next year and clicked **Submit**.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please do not hesitate to reach out. I am here to help!

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Addison

Director of Student Affairs and Outreach

kaddison@hnjschool.org



**HOLY NAME OF
JESUS SCHOOL**
A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER

2026-2027 Tuition Rates

Tuition for 1st-7th Grade Students

	Annual Tuition	Building Fee* (per family)	Registration Fee*	Total
1 Child	\$9,450	\$950	\$150	\$10,550
2 Children	\$18,428	\$950	\$300	\$19,678
3 Children	\$26,933	\$950	\$450	\$28,333

**Non-refundable*

Tuition for Early Childhood

	Annual Tuition	Building Fee* (per family)	Registration Fee*	Total
Youngest/Only Students:				
PK3	\$13,300	\$950	\$150	\$14,400
PK4	\$13,300	\$950	\$150	\$14,400
Kindergarten	\$11,300	\$950	\$150	\$12,400
Sibling Rate:				
PK3	\$13,300	\$0	\$150	\$13,450
PK4	\$13,300	\$0	\$150	\$13,450
Kindergarten	\$11,300	\$0	\$150	\$11,450

**Non-refundable*

Tuition for Infant, PK1, PK2 Students

	Annual Tuition	Building Fee* (per family)	Registration Fee*	Total
Youngest/Only Students:				
<i>Infant</i> (Under 12 months on 08/01/26)	\$19,220	\$950	\$150	\$20,320
<i>One Year Old</i> (Must be 12 months by 08/01/26)	\$17,000	\$950	\$150	\$18,100
<i>Two Year Old</i> (Must be 24 months by 08/01/26)	\$15,980	\$950	\$150	\$17,080
Sibling Rate:				
<i>Infant</i> (Under 12 months on 08/01/26)	\$19,220	\$0	\$150	\$19,370
<i>One Year Old</i> (Must be 12 months by 08/01/26)	\$17,000	\$0	\$150	\$17,150
<i>Two Year Old</i> (Must be 24 months by 08/01/26)	\$15,980	\$0	\$150	\$16,130

**Non-refundable*

Multi-student tuition discounts apply to students in 1st-7th only. Building fee is per family regardless of grade levels.

HNJ does not charge separate fees for church parish support, technology, PTC, yearbook, payment plans, etc.

All school supplies are included.

Tuition payment plans are annual, semi-annual, or 11 months from June to April. Families can opt to pay monthly or bi-monthly.

Tuition paid annually (by May 15, 2026) will receive a \$350 discount upon payment.

Tuition paid semi-annually (by May 15, 2026 and December 15, 2026) will receive a \$175 discount per payment.

The registration fee is due at re-enrollment to secure admission.

Students who withdraw after submitting the enrollment contract will forfeit all fees.

After May 1st, a student who withdraws will be responsible for all fees (\$1,100) and one month's tuition. All payments will continue per the agreement schedule signed at registration until this requirement is satisfied.

After June 1st, a student who withdraws will forfeit all fees (\$1,100) and is responsible for the total annual tuition for each student in the family who withdraws. All payments will continue per the agreement schedule signed at registration.



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

msubervielle@hnjschool.org

Good Sleep Habits

Now that the holiday season is over, it's time to establish our daily routines again! Getting enough sleep is essential for a child's academic success. Insufficient sleep can lead to difficulties in concentration and hinder their ability to learn effectively.

Effects of Insufficient Sleep on Academic Performance

Lack of sleep has been linked to lower academic achievement in middle school, high school, and college. It can also result in higher rates of absenteeism and tardiness. For optimal performance, most younger children (ages 5-12) require 10-12 hours of sleep per night, while adolescents (ages 13-18) need about 8-10 hours per night.

Tips for Establishing a Good Nighttime Routine

To help your child get back into a healthy sleep routine, here are some tips:

- **Consistent Bedtime:** Determine a consistent bedtime for your child and stick to it every night. A regular sleep schedule helps your child relax and fall asleep more easily. Consider setting aside time for a calming bedtime routine, such as taking a bath or shower, reading together, and tucking them in with a good-night message.
- **Limit Electronics:** Encourage your child to turn off electronic devices at least 1 hour before bedtime. The blue light emitted by screens can interfere with the body's natural sleep-wake cycle, making it harder to fall asleep.
- **Create a Calm Environment:** Ensure a quiet and calm setting in your home, especially when younger children are trying to sleep. Minimize noise and distractions to help them drift off peacefully.

By following these tips, you can help your child establish a healthy nighttime routine and ensure they are well-rested for school. Remember, a good night's sleep is the foundation for academic success!

For more information about developing a good sleep routine, click here:

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/healthy-living/sleep/Pages/Healthy-Sleep-Habits-How-Many-Hours-Does-Your-Child-Need.aspx>

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





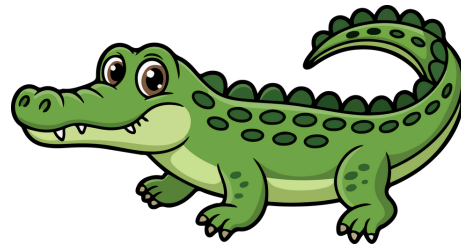
WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN **HNJ ATHLETICS?**

5/6 Girls Soccer Earn First Win of the Season

The 5/6 girls soccer team picked up their first win of the season with a 3–1 victory over Sacred Heart before the Christmas break. The Gators showed strong effort on both ends of the field, building momentum throughout the match.

Gia Phillippi, Grace Vodanovich, and Stella Miller each found the back of the net to lead the Gators' offensive attack.

Fresh off the victory, the Gators return to action this Tuesday against McGhee at La Salle Field #5. First kick is set for 4:00 PM as the team looks to continue its positive momentum.



MS Boys Soccer Earns First Win of the Season

The MS boys soccer team earned their first win of the season with a 4–0 victory over Trinity before Christmas break. The Gators controlled possession and created consistent scoring opportunities throughout the match.


Ben Nalty, Aiden Lawson, George Arch, and Gabe Gallant each scored a goal, while **Marcel Interbitzin** recorded two assists. **Ben Nalty** and **George Arch** also added an assist apiece.

The Gators will look to build on this momentum when they face St. Martin's on Friday, January 9, with first kick set for 4:00 PM at St. Martin's field.

GO GATORS!



**NEW ORLEANS
YOUTH HARMONY FESTIVAL**
Presented by:
HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL AND NOLA VOX
New Orleans A Cappella Ensemble



SIGN UP TODAY!

Learn to sing in harmony, build confidence and strengthen your vocal skills in a workshop lead by award winning quartet Bruouhaha.

February 27 & 28

SPONSORED BY THE JAZZ AND HERITAGE FOUNDATION GRANT. OPEN TO ALL HNJ MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS. REGISTER NOW TO HOLD YOUR CHILD'S SPOT FOR HNJ SCHOOL'S FIRST NEW ORLEANS YOUTH HARMONY FESTIVAL.

[HOLD MY CHILD'S SPOT/REGISTRATION FORM](#)



**NEW ORLEANS
JAZZ & HERITAGE
FOUNDATION, INC.**

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





THE HOLY NAME 7TH GRADE CLASS
INVITES YOU TO

Darling Dance

COME DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY WITH
YOUR HOLY NAME DARLING!

JANUARY

SATURDAY | **24** | 6PM - 8 PM
2026

HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

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





HNJ SCHOOL BRICK & PAVER SALE

Celebrate your family's connection to Holy Name of Jesus School with a custom brick or paver. Your personalized inscription will be placed at the Mother McAuley Entrance upon completion of our new building. This is a perfect way to make a lasting tribute to the students, families, alumni, and educators who built our HNJ community.



4x8 BRICK ~ \$400
8x8 PAVER ~ \$800



The HNJ Yearbook Committee needs your photos!

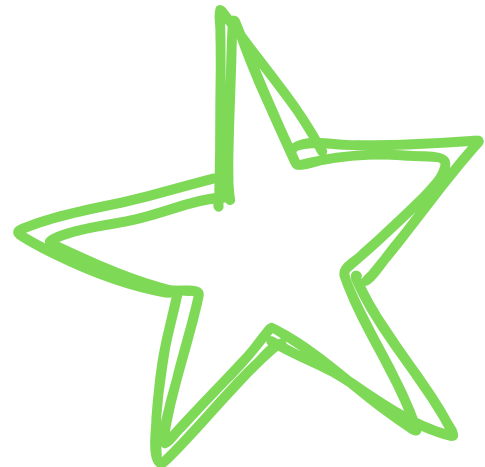
We need pictures from this school year! If you have photos from any of these past events, or any future HNJ events, please submit them to us!

- HNJ Athletics
- Gator Fest
- Back to School BBQ
- Class Parties
- Field Trips
- HNJ Goes Totally 80's!
- Choir
- Other HNJ Events!

GOOD
TIMES



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



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 HNJ Alumni Maggie Dunn, Eva Martinez, and Alexandra Sanchez for receiving the Inaugural service award at Ursuline Academy!



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.



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

JANUARY 4, 2026

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



WE SAW HIS
STAR AT ITS
RISING.

— MATTHEW 2:2 —

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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)

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

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)
(by Appointment)

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

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

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 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.



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!

