



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL WEDNESDAY WORD

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JANUARY 3, 2024 VOLUME: 46 ISSUE: 15



FROM THE DESK OF

Principal Galati

I had a wonderful vacation. I hope you did too. I had some time with my family in Seattle - just us. It's amazing how hard it is when your kids grow up to make that special time happen. We went to the Eagles/Seahawks game (*which was good news for the Hawks, but not so much for our team*), did a little shopping and, best of all, sat overlooking the water and just enjoying each other. We went to Mass at my brother's church. It's a beautiful thing to watch your brother on the altar on Christmas. Can't really explain that.

Had the **BIG** family together for Christmas dinner (all **23** of them). Overall, I can't imagine a better time.

And then I came back to school. I was teary eyed as I heard, "Hello, Mr. Galati!", "I'm glad to see you, Mr. Galati!", and even "Darn, we're back Mr. Galati!" I walked the halls and heard even greater excitement as children welcomed their friends and teachers back, shared stories of their time away, and began to prepare for upcoming events in their classrooms. I was reminded, yet again, that Holy Family is the family I choose. The place I want to be. The home away from home. Here I am surrounded by love, care, and faith that builds me up and carries me when things are difficult. I hope that your students feel this way. I hope that you feel this way.

I wish you a very blessed Christmas season and a New Year full of hope and joy. Know that we ARE your Holy Family and are ready to support you in any way we can:)

**WELCOME
2024
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

JANUARY

SLE and Virtue of the Month

from
the bottom
of our
Hearts
We
Thank
You

OUR HEARTS ARE FULL ...

Of Joy and Gratitude for the caring, generous families of HFCS. We so appreciate your efforts to provide each faculty and staff member with some extra Christmas cheer. The Christmas luncheon was a delightful way for faculty and staff to celebrate the yuletide and give thanks for our many blessings. We cannot thank you enough!

With love from your HFCS faculty and staff!



The Scholastic Book Fair is coming... see our [Book Fair Website](#) for more details and get ready for some fun!



Save the date! The annual Grandparents and Special Friends Tea and Celebration will be on

Thursday, February 1st, from 12:45-3PM.

Look for invitations, more details, and RSVP link in next week's Wednesday Word!

*Holy Family Catholic
School students are*

**RESPONSIBLE
DECISION MAKERS**

who model

PRUDENCE



Looking for a good gift idea?
It is Holy Family Night at the Blazer game on
Sunday, February 25th at 6pm.
Buy tickets for the whole family and enjoy the game
in a section dedicated to Holy Family.
**(See flyer attached for the link and use promo code 'family')*



PLEASE **JOIN US** for this month's PTO meeting:
Tuesday, January 16th @ 7pm in-person
at Celebration Hall OR via Zoom

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 854 0567 3172 Passcode: PTO
Can't come in-person? Join us via Zoom. We had a
great turn out last month and would love to meet more
of our great families. See you there!



FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH
with Principal Joe

Don't miss the first Cup of Joe of 2024!
Join Principal Joe Galati for a cup of coffee and an
informal chat about school happenings from 8:15-8:45am
on Friday morning, January 5th in Celebration Hall.
Bring your questions and comments!

JANUARY 2024



Basketball:

Games begin January 6th, for schedules:
Hot Shots ([here](#)) & **3rd-8th** ([here](#)).
Reminder that we need site monitors
to allow home games in our gym.
Please support our young athletes and sign-up [Here](#).

Track & Field:

We will open registration soon,
but first want to secure some coach support...

Please email if you are interested, there is
training provided, thanks for being involved!

GO CARDINALS!

Please reach out with any questions:
cyoholyfamily@gmail.com

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	JANUARY 2 SCHOOL RESUMES	3 9:05AM Late Start 9:15AM Staff Leads Student Mass BottleDrop BAG DROP	4	5 8:15AM CUP OF JOE with Joe
8	9	10 9:15AM 8th Grade Leads Student Mass 3:15-4:30PM 3rd-5th Grade OBOB Meeting	11	12 NOON DISMISSAL
15 NO SCHOOL MLK DAY	16 7PM PTO Meeting	17 9:05AM Late Start 9:15AM 3rd Grade Leads Student Mass	18	19
22	23	24 9:15AM 7th Grade Leads Student Mass 3:15-4:30PM 3rd-5th Grade OBOB Meeting	25	26 2:30PM PBIS ASSEMBLY

Our Mission Statement: Holy Family Catholic School is a community of learners: Students, staff, parents and parish engaged in the life long process of learning. Our commitment, rooted in the Gospel values is to pursue together creativity and excellence in all areas of spiritual, academic, and personal growth.

Accredited by Northwest Association of Accredited Schools

The Catholic schools of the archdiocese of Portland admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available at all the schools. They do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of their policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

State of Oregon Registered Private School

Send newsletter submissions to wedsword@holyfamilypdx.net Submissions due by NOON ON MONDAY prior to publication



POR

Vs.

HORNETS

**SUNDAY, FEB. 25
6:00 PM**

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NIGHT

Join us for Holy Family Catholic School Night as the Trail Blazers take on the Hornets! Use the provided link to get your special discounted ticket. All who use the provided link to get their ticket will get to shoot a free throw on the Trail Blazers court after the game. See you there!

VISIT:

**[Rosequarter.com/
groupnights](http://Rosequarter.com/groupnights)**

PROMO CODE:

FAMILY

ORDER DEADLINE:

Mon, Jan. 29

CONTACT:

AUSTEN BERGQUIST
503.963.3943
austen.bergquist@trailblazers.com



**HOLY FAMILY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

STARTING AT \$50

PARISH NEWS

BACKPACKS FOR KIDS

Turn in food to the parish center
or back of church by
Tuesday, January 9th



DONATE FOOD, CHANGE LIVES

Helping the SE Portland
Community through
Woodmere Elementary



Click or scan code to sign up

SAVE THE DATE!

The Knights of Columbus Holy
Family Council is hosting a free
throw event for boys and girls
aged 9-14 (as of 1/1/2024)

Friday, January 19th
4:30-6:00 pm



The competition is free. We are
partnering with SVDP and asking for a
donation of coffee or jelly/jam

All participants who pre-register will receive
a token for free ice cream from Cloud City

Pre-registration is now open, you can
register by scanning the QR code



For more information, contact Steve Tassinari at
HFKnights_Events@protonmail.com
or 503-515-1432



HONORING OUR PAST BUILDING OUR FUTURE

vator to our school.

We feel confident that we can proceed on the
priorities highlighted during the masterplanning
process. We will focus on three major project
areas:

- Constructing a new Parish Center and offices
located at the west of the church on our vacant
field. This will increase accessibility and will
add valuable, modern meeting spaces.
- Significantly upgrading the HVAC system in
the school to provide the best possible learning
environment for our students and teachers.
- Continuing to address important ADA access
in our facilities. The new parish center will be
ground level and offer unimpeded access unlike
our current, older center. In addition, a wheel-
chair ramp will be added for better access from
Celebration Hall into the ground floor of our
school and its bathrooms. As the success of our
Capital Campaign unfolds, we will add an ele-

We pray and hope this vision brings joy to your heart as we plan for our parish future. All of us are key stakeholders to achieve these plans. We look forward to sharing more about our fundraising goals to begin this work in 2024.



For January 7th--- -

As the Magi followed the light of the star, we too follow the light of Christ that we may be a community of welcome, a people of generosity, and a dwelling place for God.

Let us pray that in this new year of grace that the Spirit will transform of all our gifts and our work into signs leading to Christ's presence. Thank you for being a gift to our Holy Family! May the New Year be blessed with Christ the Light!

Epiphany Home Blessing

Epiphany is a customary time to bless homes and families. This blessing often includes a "chalking" of the front door with the year and the letters, CMB. These refer to the legendary names of the magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, or to the Latin phrase, Christus mansionem benedicat ("May Christ bless this house").

Another tradition is to take the first Christmas card received that bears the image of the Magi and tape it above the inside lintel of the front door. Both traditions remind us to seek and welcome Christ every time we pass through the doors. - - -The family and friends, holding lit candles, gather outside - front door of the home is open, and all sing a song; "O Come All Ye Faithful."

Then, a leader invites all to make the Sign of the Cross and introduces the ritual.

Leader: As the magi followed the light of the star, we too follow the light of Christ to be a place of welcome, a people of generosity, and a dwelling place for God. Let us ask God to open our hearts so that, as the doors of this home are opened to neighbor and traveler, this family may be a source of welcome for all in need and a place where Christ is found.

Leader: Let us consecrate this door and the home it protects to Christ. Let this door be the threshold that leads both ways to the blessings of God.

The oldest & youngest persons of the household may take turns inscribing the following on the outside lintel of the front door:
20 +C +M +B + 20

As they do this, **a reader proclaims John 1:13-14** Another family member places an Epiphany card over the front door inside the house as another **reader proclaims: Matt 2:9-11**

All sing an appropriate song, such as, "We Three Kings," as they follow the family into the main gathering space of the home. Participants place their lit candles in appropriate places throughout the room.

Leader: Christ taught us to call upon the Father, and so we pray: Our Father...

Prayer of Blessing

Leader: Blessed are you, God of all creation, for you give us shelter from the cold and the light of your Word to brighten the night. We come bearing no gifts for everything is a gift from you. All we can offer is our love for one another and our faith in your Son. Bless this house and all who come to it. May this home and this family be a light for all who are lost and afraid, a place of peace and hospitality for those in need, and a sign that you are indeed God with us. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN!

All sing "Joy to the World."