

St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic School

Monday News

November 18, 2019

"We are at our best when we are grateful." ~Matthew Kelly

Message from Principal Angie Krauss:

Dear Families,

I am grateful to our amazing staff for all the extra work they did last week while Dawn and I attended a very insightful training. The conference focused on how to adapt to cultural differences in an effective manner so you can better meet the needs of the students and families you work with. We are excited to share our learnings with our colleagues and families.

I hope you all received our annual report that was mailed out last week. I would like to thank our advancement team and Rachel Kalous for their hard work on this incredible publication. If you did not receive one, please let our Advancement Director, Cami Carlson know. I encourage each family to make a gift to our annual fund. Each gift is important to our operating budget and helps ensure our financial stability and ability to fund all the diverse programs within our school. Follow this link or submit your gift at school to bless St. Al's with an annual fund gift.

<https://forms.donorsnap.com/form?id=5eb13d25-a237-418d-8ef9-d4d42ab76fcc>

Every year, we host a diocesan junior high dance where we invite local Catholic schools to St. Als. This is a wonderful opportunity for our junior high students to meet new friends and have fun. As you will notice on the dates listed below, we will be hosting the dance on Friday for 7/8 graders. In addition this Friday is individual picture retakes.

A reminder that next week, on Wednesday Nov. 27, the K-8 program will dismiss at noon and the ELC program closes at 3pm.

As I reflect on my relationship with God, I am filled with gratitude for his gift of unconditional love. This fills me with so much hope and love. This week, take a moment and ask your child what they are thankful for. It is a wonderful way to start preparing your hearts for the Advent season.

In Christ's Peace,

Angie Krauss

Holy Spirit Sharing:

- “My holy spirit moment was when I gave a thank you note to a friend. Their response made me so happy and was exactly what I needed.” Third Grade

Message from ELC Administrator Julie Simmons:

Greetings ELC Families:

Last Wednesday, our staff had the opportunity to gather for a spiritual retreat led by Joanne Duffy, past principal and current SEEL (Spiritual Exercises for Everyday Living) Director for St. Aloysius Parish.

Our topic focused on review of the seven sacraments of the Church, and in particular the healing sacrament of reconciliation, which gives us the opportunity to engage with Christ through his Church. We shared times we’ve needed to ask for forgiveness, and we shared times we’ve needed to forgive others. As we prepare for the Advent season, the month of November is a wonderful time for us to reflect on our relationships and to open ourselves to the grace that is God’s gift of His life and His love.

“Gratitude opens the heart...it is not always easy, but it’s simple to practice. What am I grateful for today...?”
~Vinita Hampton Wright

Grateful for all of you!
Blessings,
Julie

Mark your Calendars:

Nov 22: Individual Picture Retake Day/ Jr. High Dance
Nov 26: Pie Social- ELC @ 2pm
**Nov 27: Early Dismissal- K-8th&Mont 12pm Dismissal/
ELC Closing at 3:00pm**
Nov 28&29: Thanksgiving Holiday- School Closed/ELC Closed
Dec 9: Immaculate Conception Mass 12:15 parish Mass
Dec 12: ELC/Mont Christmas Program- Please see attached flyer
Dec 17: K-8th Grade Christmas Program- 6:30 pm
Dec 19: Advent Reconciliation- 10:00am @ St. Al’s Church
Dec 23-Jan 3: Christmas Break- School Closed/ELC Closed
Jan 6: School Resumes
Jan 16: Epiphany All School Mass- 10:15am @ St. Al’s Church
Jan 20: Martin Luther King Day- No School/ELC Closed
Jan 26-Feb 1 Catholic Schools Week-More info to come

Jan 31: **Friends and Family All School Mass-** More info to come
Feb 6&7 **Open House**
Feb 13&14 **Teacher In-Service Day-** No School/ELC Open
Feb 26 **Ash Wednesday All School Mass-** 12:15pm @ St. Al's Church

Important Notes & Reminders:

- **Picture Retake Day:** If you were absent on picture day and/or you need to have retakes this Friday, November 22nd is the day to have your pictures done. Make sure if having retakes you bring your old ones back to exchange for new ones. Children who are having their pictures taken may wear "nice" free dress. Order forms are available at the front office.
- **Family Directory:** If you would like to be in our family directory, please fill out the attached sheet.
- **5th-8th Grade Basketball:** The Season runs from December 2 through the end of February and practices are two days a week and for most teams from 3:00 to 4:30 (a few teams may practice from 4:30 to 6:00) in the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Garco Gym .

Community Connections:

Please check the Parish bulletin for an insert written by Father Peter Byrne SJ reflecting on his experience at the United States/ Mexican border. This is a powerful reminder of how to pray for families that are suffering.

Mission Advancement - Friendraising & Fundraising:

- **Annual Fund:** You should have received our 2018-19 annual report in the mail last week. Our annual Fund goal this year is \$30,000 and we would love to see 100% family participation! Follow the link or submit your gift at school to GIVE TODAY!

<https://forms.donorsnap.com/form?id=5eb13d25-a237-418d-8ef9-d4d42ab76fcc>

Join us as we move *Full STEAM Ahead!* Please email Cami Carlson if you did not receive a copy of the annual report. ccarlson@stalsschool.org

- **Social Media and Website:**
 - Be sure to check our Instagram stories for upcoming events and school information.
 - We are still looking for Tackle Football and 7th Grade volleyball pictures, please send them to bbarbieri@stalsschool.org.

- Please remember to “like” and “share” our Facebook and Instagram (@st.alsgonzaga) posts! Also, be sure to tag your posts of your students with the hashtag *#wearestals*. Your efforts make a huge impact on the scope of our marketing audience. Thank you!

Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Staff Luncheon:**

Thank you to all that participated in the staff luncheon on Thursday! If you have dishes you brought in, they are clean and waiting at the upstairs front office.

- **Christmas Program:**

The annual K-8 Christmas Program will be on Tuesday, December 17. We will need volunteer help on both Monday, December 16 to help set up and tear down risers at the church and on Tuesday, December 17 to help set up risers at the church and plate cookies at the school. Please follow the Track it Forward link below to sign up for any of these opportunities:

<https://www.trackitforward.com/site/378748/events>

We will need cookie donations for the Cookie Reception that will be held at St. Al's School after the Christmas Program. If you would like to donate, please follow the link below to sign up through Track it Forward. When signing up please, remember that every 2 dozen cookies = 1 volunteer hour.

<https://www.trackitforward.com/site/378748/event/511514>

Please email Aleisha Webb at awebb@stalsschool.org with any questions you may have.

- **Auction:**

Thank you to all that signed up on the committee sheets that were available at the front office! We will be sending out communications and contacting you individually as we go through the planning process.

Our next auction meeting will be on Wednesday, December 11 @ 6pm. Please RSVP to Aleisha Webb at awebb@stalsschool.org.

Community Contribution Programs:

- **Box Tops:**

As you are doing your Thanksgiving dinner shopping, please remember to watch for Box Tops on the labels of the products you buy. Any Box Tops labels you scan

need to be scanned within 14 days of purchase. The November Box Tops contest will be going on until Wednesday, November 27 and the winning class will be announced at Monday Morning Prayer on Monday, December 2.

Box Tops information packets will be coming home with your child today! These packets include information on printed Box Tops, Scanning Box Tops, and participating products.

- Amazon Smile:

Help support our school! If you have not yet signed up for the Amazon Smile Program, NOW is a great time! Please go to www.smile.amazon.com/91-1433780 or smile.amazon.com every time you shop online, and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to St. Al's School. Our most recent Amazon Smile donation for August 1 through October 31 is \$98.01. Thank you!

STAG Pride/Kudos/Prayers:

- Heavenly Father we pray a prayer of Thanksgiving this week as we prepare to spend time with family and friends.
- Thank you God for all of the Holy Spirit moments you provide to us each day!

Attachments:

- Parent Directory Form
- Parking lot procedures
- St. Al's Church Bulletin