

HOWLER - Thursday, December 1, 2022

1 message

Pope Francis Global Academy <schoolmessenger@pfgacademy.org>
 Reply-To: Pope Francis Global Academy <schoolmessenger@pfgacademy.org>
 To: jthyen@pfgacademy.org

Thu, Dec 1, 2022 at 5:12 PM



The Howler

News from Pope Francis Global Academy

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022

[PFGA WEBSITE](#) - Please visit the school website often for the latest news

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Saturday, December 3 – Catholic High School Entrance Exams
- Saturday, December 3 – Mistletoe Market – 9 am - 3pm in the gymnasium
- Tuesday, December 6 – St. Nick's Day
- Tuesday, December 6 – Tree Lighting and Student Council Hot Cocoa Sale
- Wednesday, December 7 – Picture Retake Day
- Thursday, December 8 and Friday, December 9 – Santa's Workshop
- Thursday, December 8 – School Mass (Feast of the Immaculate Conception)
- Monday, December 12 – School Mass (Our Lady of Guadalupe)
- Friday, December 16 – Student Council Christmas Sweater Contest (Red & Green Out of Uniform Day)
- Friday, December 16 – Reconciliation (all classes 3rd and up) beginning at 1 pm
- Wednesday, December 21 – Another Red & Green Out of Uniform Day (Wear your Wolf Christmas shirt!)
- Wednesday, December 21 – All School Christmas Program at 6 pm at St. Pascal Church
- Thursday, December 22 – 11:30 Dismissal (no after school EDP will be available)
- Thursday, December 22 – PJ Day
- Friday, December 23 – Sunday, January 8 – NO SCHOOL for Christmas Break

ARE YOU HOLIDAY SHOPPING ONLINE? SET UP AMAZON SMILES AND LIST US AS YOUR "CHARITY OF CHOICE!"
 If you are planning to do any shopping with Amazon this holiday season, PLEASE take a few minutes to set up Pope Francis Global Academy as your "Charity of Choice" in Amazon Smiles. It's super simple...rather than going straight to Amazon, go instead to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smiles) and set Pope Francis Global Academy up as your "charity of choice." Then, when you shop, AmazonSmile will donate a portion of your eligible purchase price to our school! It's so easy to do! Even if you've already filled your cart in Amazon.com, when you switch the address to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smiles), your items should still be in your cart! Just switch before checking out and we should get the credit! Thank you!

MISTLETOE MARKET THIS SATURDAY!
 Come get a jump on your holiday shopping at our Annual Mistletoe Market, presented by our wonderful Parents' Club as a fundraiser to support all their efforts for our students, staff and families! The event will run from 9 am - 3 pm and be held in our school gymnasium.

This year, we're also a stop on the Northwest Side Shopping Trolley, running on the same day!

A printable flyer is [HERE](#).

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE MISTLETOE MARKET

Our Annual PFGA Mistletoe Market Christmas Bazaar is **THIS Saturday, December 3** in the school gymnasium and our hard working committee is in desperate need for your help! There are shifts on Friday afternoon for setting up, and also various shift options/jobs available for Saturday between 7 am and 5 pm.

Volunteers do NOT need to be Virtus compliant to help with the Mistletoe Market.

Sign up to help with set up and other needs here: <https://signup.com/go/KKEVyr>

COOKIE WALK CONTRIBUTIONS

One fun aspect of the **Mistletoe Market** is the "Cookie Walk!" This is an opportunity to purchase a box or two of **HOME MADE CHRISTMAS COOKIES!**

Parents are asked to make and deliver Christmas Cookies to Julie Molenda at the school. Those cookies will be packed into variety boxes and sold as part of the Market. Parents receive a 1/2 hour of volunteer hours for each dozen cookies (up to a max of 5 hour) they make and contribute. [HERE IS THE COMPLETE INFORMATION](#)

Mark Your Calendars! **6th ANNUAL** Mark Your Calendars!

Mistletoe Market

Saturday, December 3

9 am to 3 pm

POPE FRANCIS GLOBAL ACADEMY
 6143 West Irving Park Road
 (This year, we're a stop on the Northwest Side Holiday Trolley!)

Come shop for the holidays!
 We are featuring a variety of vendors of handmade soaps and jewelry, gourmet baked goods, wooden artwork, knitted and crocheted items, holiday decor, children's books and toys and more! There will also be a hot cocoa bar, "cookie walk," pictures with Santa, and raffle prizes. Plus, entrance is free!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE STUDENTS OF PFGA THROUGH THE **Parents' Club**

ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Join us on Tuesday night, December 6 for our **Annual School and Parish Tree Lighting Ceremony** and a spot of hot chocolate, brought to you by the Student Council!

Please bring an ornament to hang from home which is appropriate to be hung on one of the many outdoor Christmas trees that will be set up between the church and the school and on the lawn! (you likely won't get the ornament back)

This is a **FREE** event but there is a small "tip" for hot chocolate.

Join us for the **Annual Christmas Tree Lighting**

Tuesday, December 6

Gather with school families and parishioners outside between the church and school to decorate the trees, enjoy some fellowship, and toast the season with a cup of hot chocolate served up by our Student Council members.

6:30 * Decorating begins
 (Bring an ornament suitable for outdoors to place on your classroom tree)

6:40 * Hot Chocolate bar is open
 (Student Council will take tips which will be donated to a charity of their choice)

7 pm * Christmas Tree Lights go on!
 (People can stick around and socialize until 7:30)

The tradition of decorating and lighting of these trees goes back to the days of St. Pascal School. We're excited to continue the tradition this Christmas season!

THIS IS NOT A DROP OFF EVENT.

PARENTS' CLUB ORGANIZING A GROUP TEACHER AND STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT

A flyer and envelope will be coming home in tomorrow's folders explaining how you can contribute the a **Group Teacher and Staff Christmas Present being organized by our Parents' Club**. Please read through [THIS FLYER](#) to learn how you can contribute either online with a credit or debit card or through a cash or check contribution made through the front office.

PICTURE RETAKES DECEMBER 7 AT 8:15 AM

After seeing your photos, if you would like your student to do RETAKES, send the picture packet back to your student's teacher letting them know you want to do retakes.

Any students who were absent on the original picture day will be sent down to be photographed.

Every student who attended school on the original picture day took a photo. If you DID NOT pre-order school photos and would like to, information on how to purchase photos is listed on a SCHOOL PHOTO CALENDAR which every student received. There is a code provided which will be needed when ordering.

FUNPAC REMINDER

You were recently sent a "FUNPAC" of school photo themed goodies which is a small offshoot fundraiser done through Van Gogh School Photos. If you are interested in purchasing that FUNPAC, please see the reminder flyer that went home in today's folder which explains how you can pay for your goodies. If you do NOT want to purchase the FUNPAC, please send the whole thing back to school with your student. They'll give it to their teacher and we'll send it back to Van Gogh. Thank you for your support!

SANTA'S WORKSHOP INFORMATION WENT HOME TODAY IN THE FOLDERS

Our Parents' Club will host their annual Santa's Workshop event on Thursday and Friday of next week, December 8 & 9. The flyer and envelope that went home today will fully explain how your student can participate in this in-school sale of small Christmas gifts the kids can purchase for their family members. Your teachers can answer your questions about this event.

CLUBS, EXTRACURRICULARS, AND SPORTS

BASKETBALL GAMES SCHEDULE

We'll have an updated b-ball schedule to publish after Thanksgiving.

PICK-UP BASKETBALL LEAGUE (PARENTS AND ADULTS 18+)

When: Monday evenings, 7:30pm - 9:30pm
 Where: PFGA Gym

Parents and adult family members of students are invited to join in pick-up basketball games on Monday evenings starting at 7:30pm in the PFGA gymnasium. We will meet each Monday throughout the school year. For more information and to add yourself to email comms regarding basketball, please email Ian Barbo (ian_barbo@gmail.com).

PARENTS CLUB NEWS

- **SANTA'S SECRET WORKSHOP**
 Santa's Workshop is returning to PFGA on December 8 & 9. This is an in school shopping opportunity for the students to pick up **small gifts for everyone on their list**. Please send your child with a small amount of cash on the day that their class will attend. (your teacher will let you know which day) Most items cost between \$1-\$10.
 We need lots of parent volunteers to make the Christmas magic happen. You'll help the kids do their shopping. **PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST BE VIRTUS TRAINED AND COMPLIANT TO VOLUNTEER DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**. Sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/OtoJApP>
- **SANTA'S WORKSHOP SET UP AND PARENTS' CLUB MEETING**
 Join Parents' Club to help set up the workshop on Wednesday, December 7 at 6 pm. You DON'T need Virtus training for the set up. Then, stick around for a Parents' Club meeting. Enter through gym door off the Dakin Street lot.
- **GREAT WOLF LODGE OUTING**
 Save the Date for the Wolves take on Great Wolf Lodge!!! Sunday, January 15, 2023. (Monday, January 16 is a day off of school in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day). Discounted room blocks and further information will be available soon!
- **PARENTS' CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE**
 For the benefit of our new families, just a reminder that our Parents' Club hosts a private Facebook Group for our PFGA Families! If you're on Facebook, stop by and send a request to join the group! The group name is **PFGA Parents' Club**
- **SPIRITWEAR SHOP IS STILL OPEN**
<https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#flockers/pfga-spirit-wear-store>

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

There are many ways you and your extended family and friends can support PFGA, especially during the Holidays!

- **WIN BIG IN OUR QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE!**
 Be sure to get over there and buy your tickets NOW at [Trattoria Porretta](#) anytime their dining room or pick up window are open! The raffle takes place EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT at [Trattoria Porretta](#) at 3656 North Central.
- **THE MARKET DAY FUNDRAISER**
 Parents, friends, parishioners, and friends can order products available from the Market Day website, 24/7! Just like other popular eCommerce sites, customers pay on-line. Market Day accepts all major credit cards. [MARKETDAY.COM](#)
- **AMAZON SMILES**
 If you shop on Amazon, go instead to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smiles) and set Pope Francis Global Academy up as your "charity of choice." Then, when you shop, AmazonSmile will donate a portion of your eligible purchase price to our school! It's so easy to do!
- **COCA-COLA GIVE PROGRAM**
 This is a relatively new program...if you purchase any Coke/Dasani products, you can quickly and easily set up an account to log the numbers found under the caps of qualified products!

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAM DECEMBER 3

If you have an 8th grader, your teachers have already told you about the Catholic School Entrance Exam which is given on ONE DAY, December 3, at all of the Catholic High Schools throughout the city and suburbs. More information can be found on the Archdiocese of Chicago website, here: <https://schools.archdiocese.org/curriculum-and-resources/catholic-high-schools/catholic-high-school-admission-information>

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

- HighSight (Due March 25): <https://www.highsight.org/apply/>

PARISH NEWS

PARISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Enjoy the sounds of the season at the annual Our Lady of the Rosary Music Ministry's Christmas Choir on Friday, December 16 at 7 pm. [ENGLISH FLYER. SPANISH FLYER](#)

BULLETIN

Check out the most recent bulletin for [Our Lady of the Rosary Parish](#) for all sorts of good information, upcoming events, and Mass times!

ST. PASCAL WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Anticipated Mass
 4:00 PM - Saint Pascal

Sunday Masses

8:00 AM - Saint Pascal
 10:00 AM - Saint Pascal
 6:00 PM - Saint Pascal (Spanish)

NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

JUMP ON THE HOLIDAY TROLLEY DECEMBER 3

Shop local on Saturday, December 3 taking the Six Corners Northwest Side Trolley to various stops INCLUDING our very own Mistletoe Market!

It's FREE and fun for the family!

NORTHWEST SIDE

DEC. 3RD

FREE RIDES
 11:00AM - 5:00PM

Holiday Trolley

Shop local and enjoy more than just a trolley ride!

- Free Rides Noon - 5PM
- Visit from Mrs. Claus
- 4 Trolley's
- Carollers
- Raffle prizes

More details about the event www.seccomms.com

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

You may be familiar with the Christian non-profit organization called Feed My Starving Children. It's an amazing organization that sends dry-packaged, high protein meal packets out to many impoverished areas of the world. Kids over a certain age can volunteer with their families...their locations are pretty far out in the burbs, but it's such a nice way for a family to do "CHRISTMAS" together. You will be packing up these dry packaged meals, sealing them up and boxing them up for shipment. We encourage you to check it out as a volunteer opportunity.

TONIGHT AT 7 PM they are hosting a virtual program highlighting how Christmas is celebrated around the world. There will surely be a pitch for donating financially, and you'll probably make it onto their mailing list from registering your email address. But, it's probably worth it because this group REALLY does have their finger on what is happening around the world and seeing how these various countries celebrate Christmas would be interesting to you and your kids!

More info and the registration link are here: https://www.fmsc.org/christmas-around-the-world?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=catw-2022-3&utm_content=text-link

TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE HOWLER

Please send all submissions to the Howler by Tuesdays at 12:00PM to info@pfgacademy.org

6143 West Irving Park Road • Chicago, Illinois 60634

773.736.8806

www.pfgacademy.org

