



DECEMBER 2, 2021 (Did you notice this? 12022021)

PFGA WEBSITE- Please visit the school website often for the latest news

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Friday, December 3 – Santa's Workshop wraps up (during school)
- Saturday, December 4 – Catholic High School Entrance Exam
- Sunday, December 5 – Mistletoe Market Parents' Club Holiday Market
- Wednesday, December 8 – Parents' Club Meeting
- Thursday, December 9 – Annual Tree Lighting Event
- Thursday, December 16 – Picture Retakes
- Thursday, December 16 – Prospective Family Thursday Tour
- Thursday, December 16 – Virtual Christmas Program Premiere
- Friday, December 17 – Pajama Day
- Friday, December 17 – Classroom Christmas Parties and Movies
- Friday, December 17 – Early dismissal at 11:30 (NO EDP)

SCHOOL NEWS

MASK REMINDER

PLEASE be sure that your students have a mask on their face as they leave the car in the morning, and an extra in their backpack. Thank you!

WOLF PRINTS STUDENT NEWSPAPER – DECEMBER ISSUE

Our Wolf Prints December Issue will be distributed to students tomorrow during the school day. [HERE is an advanced copy!](#) This creative team is learning a lot about gathering content and composing a monthly newspaper AND the yearbook! And, they're having a lot of fun doing it! Thank you to Mrs. Doles, the media club sponsor.

OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING DECEMBER 9

Please plan to join us for some holiday cheer next Thursday night at 6:30. Please bring an outdoor appropriate ornament for your student's classroom tree, and enjoy a cup of Hot Chocolate, compliments of the Student Council! [DETAILS ARE HERE](#). We are also in need of some help to get all the trees up on Monday and Tuesday. [SIGN UP HERE TO EARN HOURS](#).

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENTRY EXAMS THIS SATURDAY

Most of our 8th graders will be taking the Catholic High School Entrance Exam this Saturday morning at the Catholic High School of their choice. Please join us in prayer that they all go in confident and relaxed and do the best that they are able!

ABSENTEE & RETAKE PICTURE DAY IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

Anyone who was not at school on Picture Day, OR anyone who is unhappy with their photos, once they arrive, will have another opportunity on December 16. Further information is forthcoming.

STATE TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS – DONATIONS BEING MATCHED 3:1 NOW!

If you normally have a tax bill for the State of Illinois, as most of us do, you can earn a 75% tax CREDIT on any donations you make toward the **Empower Illinois** State Tax Credit Scholarships program. That means that if you owe Illinois \$1,000 in taxes on your annual returns, if you donate \$1,000 into our PFGA Empower Illinois account, you can use \$750 of your donation (that's 75%) as a credit to pay that amount of your tax burden when it comes to doing your tax returns!

AND, RIGHT NOW, your donation will be TRIPLED by a 3:1 match set up through Archdiocese donors! By donating that same \$1,000, it becomes \$3,000 in scholarship money, and it still only cost you a net amount of \$250!

Of the \$212 million donated into the program statewide, most contributions came from individuals and averaged somewhere between \$1,000-\$2,000. Every donation helps support our PFGA students in an exponential way!! Your donations go a lot further right now with this match, so please consider whether this would work for your family.

Please contact Mrs. Thyen to learn more about the process of donating. **It's a 3-step process that takes some time, and the matching grant is limited, so PLEASE ACT NOW** if you'd like to learn more! jthyen@pfgacademy.org.

STATE TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DATES ANNOUNCED

If your family qualifies, you are encouraged to apply for this scholarship through BOTH Empower Illinois and through Big Shoulders Fund SGO. The process appears to be similar as in the past and more information can be found on the respective websites of the 2 Scholarship Granting Organizations (EI and BSF). [FIND MORE INFO AND THE LINKS TO BOTH WEBSITES HERE](#).

- **January 12 – Empower Illinois Application Opens** (begin inputting your info at 6:30 pm and submit it IMMEDIATELY at 7 pm)
- **January 13 – Big Shoulders Fund SGO Application Opens** at 8 am

CLUBS AND SPORTS

WE NEED SPORTS VOLUNTEERS!

- Volleyball season begins soon, and we still need some coaching help as well as volunteers for the scoreboard and net set up
- Contact [Patty McGuire](#) to sign up to help. You must be Virtus Trained and compliant to volunteer.

UPCOMING BASKETBALL GAMES

- Friday, December 3 at 8 pm – AWAY vs. St. Robert Bellarmine
- Wednesday, December 8 at 6:30 pm – AWAY vs. Mary Seat of Wisdom Blue
- Friday, December 10 at 6:30 pm – HOME vs. St. Robert Bellarmine
- Monday, December 13 at 6:30 pm – HOME vs. St. Paul of the Cross
- Thursday, December 16 at 8:30 pm – AWAY vs. St. Paul of the Cross

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are always in need of help. Please visit the [VOLUNTEERING FOR THE SCHOOL](#) page of our website for details and current needs. Contact the office to do any of these volunteer jobs.

- Help to set up artificial Christmas trees outdoors [SIGN UP HERE](#)
- Poster and flyer distribution in the neighborhoods
- Recess monitors
- Queen of hearts ticket sales at school during pick up and/or at Porretta's for a couple of hours from about 6-8 pm on Thursday nights...what a great way to help out, earn hours, and maybe even enjoy a drink or some delicious food at Porretta's! **YOU DON'T HAVE TO COMMIT TO EVERY THURSDAY. YOU CAN SIGN UP TO DO JUST ONE OR TWO THURSDAY!**

PARENT CLUB NEWS

PARENTS' CLUB GROUP CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR TEACHERS AND STAFF

Our Parents' Club will once again be collecting contributions for a group monetary gift for all of the teachers and staff. You can contribute by check or cash sent in through a special envelope which was sent home today in the Thursday folders, [OR ONLINE HERE](#), via Campus Pay.

SANTA'S WORKSHOP WRAPS UP TOMORROW, DECEMBER 3

Kids will have an opportunity to shop for small Christmas gifts right at school. You should have received information on how to send in money for your kids to participate.

MISTLETOE MARKET IS THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 from 9 am – 3 pm

Plan to attend and shop at our annual holiday market for a jump start to your Christmas shopping! [A FLYER IS HERE](#).

TEACHER COOKIE EXCHANGE – COOKIES NEEDED!

Our Parents' Club is excited to be able to host their very popular Annual Teacher Cookie Exchange again this year! [THIS FLYER](#) went home in the Thursday folders today, which explains how you help!

SPIRITWEAR SHOP IS OPEN

The PFGA Spirit Shop ([the OWEN Squad Locker](#)) is open! Christmas is coming quickly...order early!<https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/pfga-spirit-wear-store>

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

There are many ways you, your extended family and friends, can support PFGA with very little effort! Help us spread the word, especially as we go into the holiday shopping season!

AMAZON SMILES

Like it or not, Christmas shopping has begun for many people...especially this year with longer lead times on delivery of items. If you shop on Amazon, if you set us up as your "charity of choice" and then shop at ["smile.amazon.com"](#) will find the same Amazon that you already know and love, with the added bonus that AmazonSmile will donate a portion of the 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! <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/schools/>

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION – DON'T FORGET TO SCAN YOUR THANKSGIVING RECEIPTS!

Did you know you can help our school by simply scanning your grocery store receipts? If you prefer to clip the "Box Tops for Education" coupons from packaging, you can still do it that way also!

- [CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to get the app and scan your receipts.
- [CLICK HERE](#) for the most recent list of QUALIFIED PRODUCTS and instructions.

WIN BIG IN OUR QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE!

Buy your tickets NOW at [Trattoria Porretta's](#) anytime their dining room or pick up window are open! The raffle takes place EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT at [Trattoria Porretta](#) at 3656 North Central.

PARISH NEWS

Our Lady of the Rosary

Holy Name Society

Men's and Young Men's Morning of Reflection

Join the Our Lady of the Rosary Holy Name Society for a Morning of Reflection on Saturday, December 4, 2021. The Event will start with the 8:30 a.m. Mass in St. Pascal Church then reconvene in St. Pascal's Room 100. Presentation scheduled for 9:30 a.m. [FULL INFORMATION IS HERE](#).

SUNDAY EVENING SPANISH MASS ADDED AT ST. PASCAL CHURCH

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish is now offering a Sunday evening Spanish Mass at 6 pm at the St. Pascal Church site of OLR. This is in addition to the Saturday 4 pm English Mass, Sunday 8 am and 10 am English Masses, and the 12 noon Polish Mass at St. Pascal.

PARISH 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!

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

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