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## PFGA - Howler December 5, 2019

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**PFGA Notifications** <pfganotifications@pfgacademy.org>  
Reply-To: PFGA Notifications <pfganotifications@pfgacademy.org>  
To: jthyen@pfgacademy.org

Fri, Dec 6, 2019 at 7:47 AM

# Pope Francis Global Academy



**December 5, 2019**

[School Calendar](#)

[PFGA Website](#)

[PFGA Facebook Page](#)

[PFGA Parents' Club Facebook Page](#)

[PFGAWolves Instagram](#)

[PFGA onTwitter](#)

## HEAD OF SCHOOL *happenings*

Dear Pope Francis Global Academy Families,

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year.” As the song lyrics state, children love the magical moments of Christmas. In the spirit of the season, we are celebrating the Christmas season through the following Advent prayers and activities:

- Grades 3-8 Penance Services
  - North Campus on Monday, December 9th
  - South Campus on Wednesday, December 11th
- Christmas Pageants with liturgical songs from around the world interwoven with the Nativity Story
  - South Campus- Wednesday, December 18th, 6:30-7:30 at St. Pascal Church\
  - North Campus - Thursday, December 19th, 6:30-7:30 at St. Tarcissus Church
- Christmas Toy Drive to benefit the Catholic Charities going on now until Monday, December 9th.

## **NEW - ALTERNATIVE/E-LEARNING DAYS POLICY**

The Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools (OCS) recognizes that education can continue even when students and teachers are not in the same location. Alternative/E-Learning involves online or teacher-prepared lessons that students can do when away from the physical school building. Pope Francis Global Academy will be offering Alternative/E-Learning Days for the 2019-2020 school year. These designated days will encourage student growth in the areas of self-sufficiency, adaptability and perseverance, and encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning. This policy also enforces good habits geared toward high school and college digital learning expectations.

Please click [HERE](#) for the full policy. A paper copy of the policy will go home in next week's Thursday folder.

## **ILLINOIS STATE TAX CREDITS FOR SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS**

As the fiscal year closes and many parents and businesses begin their tax preparation, they may find that they are going to owe the Illinois Department of Revenue for taxes. If you find that you will be paying Illinois taxes this year instead of receiving a refund, I want to remind you and encourage you to take a closer look at the Invest in Kids Income Tax Credits. Please see [HERE](#) for more information. From now until February 29 there is an opportunity to TRIPLE the value of your contribution through a 2-for-1 matching grant. If you would like to have the tax credit count for this year, it is important to begin the process through Empower Illinois by December 14.

Donations can be made to a specific school, but not a specific student or group of students. When choosing the district and school, please use the following information:

- North Campus - Region 1 - District 299 - PFGA/St. Thecla
- South Campus - Region 1 - District 299 - PFGA South Campus

Invest in Kids offers approved Illinois individual and business taxpayers income tax credits in the amount of 75 percent of their total qualified contributions made to one or more Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs) during a taxable year. Credits cannot exceed \$1 million per taxpayer, per year.

**Example:** A taxpayer makes a qualified contribution of \$10,000 to an approved SGO. The taxpayer will be eligible to claim a \$7,500 tax credit.

A tax CREDIT is far more beneficial to a taxpayer than a tax deduction. Speak with your tax advisor, or contact Jodi Thyen at [jthyen@pfgacademy.org](mailto:jthyen@pfgacademy.org) for additional information.

## **RENEW MY CHURCH**

I wish that I had more to report to parents as I realize that the lack of information may be causing doubt and anxiety. I can tell you that the Archdiocese's Priests' Placement Board is continuing to work on identifying a pastor for the new parish. The Board will propose a candidate for Cardinal Cupich who will make the final appointment decision.

Additionally, parishioners from St. Cornelius, St. Tarcissus, and St. Thecla are encouraged to submit names for the new parish; please see [HERE](#) for naming guidelines. If you would like to submit your suggestion and rationale, you may send it to [mail@ststars.org](mailto:mail@ststars.org).

For our South Campus families, know that for next year, Pope Francis Global Academy will remain strong through our continued, collective efforts. St. Pascal, Our Lady of Victory, St. Bellarmine, and St. Constance will begin the Renew My Church process in the spring of 2020. There will be limited updated information until the process has begun.

To continue to remain strong at both campuses, we have scheduled several pre-enrollment admissions events at both the North and South campuses and could really use your help encouraging prospective families to learn more about the strong faith and academics that we have to offer! Thirteen of our current families will be receiving a \$300 credit on their January tuition bill for bringing in new families this current year!

Lastly, to organize and clarify information about the future split of the campuses, a new tab on our website will be created in the near future and be dedicated to updates. Additionally, in the near future, we will be creating a new website for the North Campus so that we can begin to provide tailored information about the new school at the North Campus; please stay tuned.

Please continue to pray for a smooth transition and for openness of mind and spirit for all of us involved in these changes.

Blessings and peace,

Margaret Kinel  
Head of School

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**[PFGA Website](#)** - Please check often as the website contains the most updated information

**December 4 & 5 - Santa's Workshop 1/2 day on the 5th - North Campus**

**December 7 - [Catholic High School Exams](#)**

**- 7th Grade Confirmation Retreat - Both Campuses**

**December 8 - St. Pascal Cub Scout Pancake Breakfast**

**December 11 - Christmas Tree Lighting - St. Pascal**

**December 18 - Christmas Program - South Campus**

**December 19 - Christmas Program - North Campus**

**December 20 - Early Dismissal - 11:30 am - EDP will not be available after dismissal**

**December 21 - January 5 - Christmas Break**

## PARENT NEWS

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### PFGA & CATHOLIC CHARITIES TOY DRIVE

Make a difference in a child's Christmas this year. Donate to Unwrap the Spirit.

[PFGA & Catholic Charities Toy Drive](#)

### ADVENT MEDITATIONS

Thank you to our Ministry Effectiveness Committee of the BSJ who have compiled daily Advent Meditations, with a particular focus on St. Joseph as a model, for our families to use in an effort to help us focus on what's important this Advent season. You should be receiving emails daily, and you can find all of the meditations in PDF format [HERE](#).

### BOARD OF SPECIFIED JURISDICTION MEETING

The next BSJ meeting will be this upcoming Monday, December 9, at the South Campus in Room 100. The open session begins at 6:30. Parking is available behind the school off of Dakin. Enter on the West side of the school, adjacent to the church, at the "Hospitality" door. Look for the Welcome sign.

### UPCOMING ADMISSIONS EVENTS

Please spread the word that we are kicking off "enrollment season" with some upcoming tours for prospective parents. Remember that, as a current family, you are entitled to a \$300 tuition credit applied to your January 2021 tuition bill for each family you bring into the school. They must enroll, state that you referred them, and stay at the school in good standing through Christmas of 2020! Next month 13 of our families will be getting this credit! There's no limit on how many families you bring in...you'll get \$300 for each!

#### North Campus Events

- Tuesday, December 17 from 10-11 (free Wolf Pups party from 9-10 for guests who bring their little one)
- Monday, January 13 from 6-7 pm
- Thursday, January 16 from 8:30-9:30 am
- OPEN HOUSE - Sunday, January 26 from 10:30-12:30

#### South Campus Events

- Wednesday, December 11 from 8:30-9:30 am
- Thursday, December 12 from 6-7 pm
- Thursday, January 9 from 8:30-9:30 am
- OPEN HOUSE - Sunday January 26 from 11:30am -1:30 pm

Prospective families can RSVP [HERE](#) to any of these events. Current parents can train to help guide tours at our Open House. Look for information on training sessions soon.

## **TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP (EMPOWER ILLINOIS AND BIG SHOULDERS) APPLICATION DATES ANNOUNCED**

The Illinois State Tax Credit Scholarships WILL once again be offered to those who both qualify financially AND apply the very split second the application opens. To see if you qualify, please check [HERE](#). If you qualify, please put these two dates on your calendar and set an alarm:

January 14 - Big Shoulders SGO application opens - likely in the morning

January 15 - Empower Illinois application opens - likely in the evening.

More information will be forthcoming. In order to be considered for ANY form of financial assistance, families MUST submit these two applications if they qualify. The FACTS Grant and Aid application is separate from these.

## **PARENTING IN A WORLD OF TECHNOLOGY**

[Best Movies to Queue up this Winter](#)

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## **STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS**

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### *North Campus Student Council Happenings*

Dec. 2nd - 13th Candy Cane Connection (info will be passed out on 12/2)

Dec. 12th - December Out of Uniform day - Ugly sweater day.

### *North Campus Student Council Happenings*

Dec. 20th - 2nd Annual Night before Christmas pajama party - movie and hot cocoa grades K-8.  
Details to follow

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## **SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL**

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### **QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE**

The pot is \$18,055.00

\$100 went to Karen Meyer who picked #28 that revealed the 7 of Diamonds.

2nd place receives a bottle of wine and a \$25 gift certificate to Porrettas.

Congratulations Dean Cardino.

3rd place receives a bottle of wine and a \$25 gift certificate to Porrettas.

Congratulations to Melissa Mendoza.

Thank you to everyone for your support of our school.

Buy your tickets at either campus office or at Trattoria Porretta.

Drawn Numbers

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## **PARENT CLUB NEWS**

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## **SHOUT OUTS**

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## **SPORTS NEWS**

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Come on out to support our sports teams, if you can, as they represent our school in the community!

[Athletics schedules](#)

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## **FOUNDING PARISH EVENTS**

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### **ST. PASCAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING EVENING**

[St. Pascal Christmas Tree Lighting Evening](#)

### **ST. CORNELIUS MUSIC OF THE SEASON**

[St. Cornelius Christmas Music Concert](#)

### **TROOP 969 NEWS**

[Troop 969 Gazette](#)

## **ST. PASCAL 2ND GRADE COMMUNION AND RECONCILIATION IMPORTANT DATES**

[St. Pascal 2ND Grade Important Dates](#)

### **ST. PASCAL CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Every Sunday during 10 AM Mass

### **ST. TARCISUS CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

[Children's Liturgy of the Word](#)

### **CURRENT BULLETINS**

[Our Lady of Victory](#)

[St. Cornelius](#)

[St. Pascal](#)

[St. Tarcissus](#)

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## **AROUND TOWN**

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### **ST. VIATOR HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAM**

[St. Viator High School Entrance Exam](#)

### **TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAM**

[Trinity High School Entrance Exam](#)

### **RESURRECTION BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

[Breakfast with Santa](#)

*Please send all submissions to the Howler by Tuesdays at 12:00PM to [lgarrett@pfgacademy.org](mailto:lgarrett@pfgacademy.org)*



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