

Immaculate Conception † St. Joseph School Newsletter

www.boscocatholic.org

December 1, 2022

With support from families, we respect and encourage students to reach their potential **Spiritually** by developing a strong relationship with Jesus and knowledge of His church, **Academically** by igniting learning, leadership and life skills, **Physically** by learning about and living healthy habits and **Socially** by becoming active members of the community who serve others as stewards of the Gospel so they are the light of Christ in the world.

Parent Notification System TEST

We will again use SwiftReach to send phone messages to parents in the event of school cancellations, late starts, or early dismissals due to weather or other emergencies. This system uses the phone numbers for parents as provided in PowerSchool.

We will be sending a TEST message today, December 1, at 4:30pm. The caller ID number will be 319-888-8352 or 319-888-8351.

If you do not receive this TEST call, please contact Ms. Berry. cberry@bosocatholic.org Also, if someone received the test call that does not wish to be included in the SwiftReach notifications, please contact Ms. Berry.

No School tomorrow, December 2 Professional Development Day

K-5 Christmas Concert

The K-5 Christmas concert will be on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00pm in the Don Bosco Gym. Please have your child dress up for this concert. Students should arrive no earlier than 5:40 and go to these assigned classrooms in the middle school:

Mr. Armbruster - K/1

Mrs. Zimmerman - 2

Mr. Wymore - 3

Mrs. Bergfeld - 4

Mrs. Knepper - 5

Please contact Mrs. Knepper at

nknepper@boscocatholic.org with any questions!



Thursday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is a holy day of obligation. We will attend Mass at 7:45.

Retirement Announcement

Long time, Don Bosco High School secretary, Mrs. Schares has announced her retirement. She plans to retire at the end of February to be able to spend more time with her family, especially her grandchildren.



Mrs. Schares has been the steadfast rock of Don Bosco High School for 23 years. She has served with 8 principals over the years. Her knowledge and love for Don Bosco have been the glue that has kept the high school together through all of those changes. Not only does she handle secretarial work, she also is responsible for MANY other tasks, tuition statements, lunch program bookkeeping, and human resources, just to name a few!

We will begin the search process very soon to fill her position. She has graciously agreed to do a two week training program with the new person. She is also willing to come in to help the new person when situations arise that need it.

We are so grateful for the dedication Leigh Anne has had for Don Bosco. Her willingness to help train a new person and come back in when needed is a testament to her love for our school.

We wish Leigh Anne the very best as she embarks on this new chapter!



Please send all newsletter articles to icsnewsletter@boscocatholic.org
by 3:00pm on Wednesday, December 7.



First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

Parents of 2nd graders who will be receiving First Reconciliation this year are asked to attend a meeting on Wednesday, December 14 from 6:15-6:45pm in Mrs. Monaghan's Room 105.

Middle School Choir Christmas Concert

The middle school choir Christmas concert will be on Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00pm in the Don Bosco Gym. Students should dress up for this concert. Please arrive at 6:20 and go to the classroom we practice in during the week to warm up for the concert. Other groups performing in this concert are the high school choir and the band. Please contact Mrs. Knepper if you have any questions at nknepper@boscocatholic.org.

Best Practice for Success With Spelling... From Mrs. Neverman

This year we have decided to extend our Slingerland lessons into the third grade by using a different approach with spelling. Spelling is the skill of encoding sounds/ letters into words. Research has shown us that students learn letter-sound relationships and spelling better when they can apply skills to useful writing opportunities in the classroom. These third graders will have daily structured opportunities to develop their writing and spelling skills. It is through writing that a student's phonics knowledge is tested, confirmed and consolidated. It actually is application at the highest level.

Currently these students are using a paragraph format that has been created by me, but our goal is to have the students create their own paragraph that applies words that they have been working on in class. Later this year we will hopefully be able to do this. I am excited to see how these third graders continue to expand and grow their spelling and writing skills.

Hy-Vee Cash 4 Students

Save your Hy-Vee cash register receipts. Hy-Vee donates \$1 for every \$250 in receipts collected! Send receipts to the school office at any time.

ABC News

Please be sure all ABC payments are paid in full by December 21 to be included in your 2022 tax statement.

Lost and Found

We have collected a few lost and found items. If you have lost something, look in the lost and found by Ms. Berry's office.

To avoid lost items, please label your student's sweatshirts, coat, hat, snow pants, gloves, mittens, lunchbox, etc.

Tuition Tax Credit

If you would like tuition payments to be credited to the 2022 calendar year for tax purposes, please have payments to the high school office by Wednesday, December 28. This will give me time to get them entered and applied to your account. Thank you and let me know if you have any questions. ~ Leigh Anne Schares

Mailing Address:

Bosco Catholic School System
PO Box 106
Gilbertville, IA 50634

Service Learning Project

On November 30 some 8th graders served a meal at the Catholic Worker House in Waterloo. This is part of the 8th grade Service Learning Project. The 8th graders chose the theme of Feed the Hungry. The group contacted the organization themselves and made the plans to work.

Mrs. Zimmerman, Patti Nie, and Dan Crawford accompanied the boys. They did a great job. It was a very unique learning experience for them.

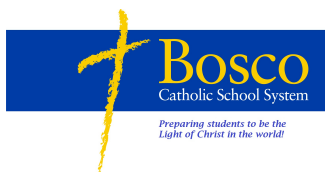
Pictured (l to r):

Cayden Nie, Johnny Walker, Merrick Youngblut, Brady Wayson, Colton Nie, and Mrs. Zimmerman



Thank You!!

A huge thank you to our amazing PTO who brought a coffee bus to us. What a wonderful Thanksgiving treat. We are blessed with the best PTO! ~ IC teachers and staff



**Bosco Catholic School System † PO Box 256 † Gilbertville, IA 50634
IC 319-296-1089 † SJ 319-233-5980**

Weather Related Closings General Information

For school closings due to bad weather, Bosco Catholic School System follows Waterloo Public School, but will occasionally call it on their own as well.

In the case of a two hour late start due to weather, there will be no morning preschool and no morning activities.

In the case of an early dismissal due to weather, ABC will be closed for the afternoon, unless school closes for a high temperature day.

You will receive a call from SwiftReach. You may also watch KWWL or KCRG, or check their websites.

Nurse's Notes

I have been asked for some healthy suggestions for snacks. According to the Nutrition Guidelines for Healthy Snacks, snacks should contain 200 calories or less. They should have less than 2 grams of saturated fat as well as (0) grams of trans fat. The sodium should be less than 200 mg and there should be (0) grams of added sugar. Snacks should have a whole grain, fruit or vegetable listed first on the ingredient list. Snacks can be prepared ahead of time and packaged in individual containers for the week. Offering dried fruit with no sugar added or fruit cups. I would recommend draining the juice and putting them in a different container to prevent spills. If you want to fix your own fruit slices, sprinkle them with a little lemon juice to prevent them from turning brown. Rice cakes and whole grain crackers with cheese is a good choice. Unsweetened applesauce or yogurt packets are easy to pack. Cut vegetables with dip made with yogurt and seasonings is a good snack choice. Please reach out to me if you have any questions about what to send. I would not recommend chips or other sweet snacks. Food is fuel for our brains. Send good fuel! Marianne Hickey, RN

Purchase Scrip For All Your Holiday Shopping!

If you purchase gift cards, please purchase them through our Scrip program. It is a win, win!

Information on our Scrip program may be found at: https://www.boscocatholic.org/vnews/display.v/ART/4bcde9539be16?in_archive=1

Amazon Smiles

Another easy Win Win! AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the Amazon Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Shop Amazon Smile instead of Amazon and designate Bosco Catholic School System as your charitable organization. Use your same user sign in and password as you presently used but sign in to www.smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com . Once you sign in, you can select your charitable organization, Bosco Catholic School System.

Development Doings

- The new Salesian Call requests have been mailed. Please consider contributing beyond tuition. Your prayers for our schools are appreciated.
- Giving Tuesday is Tuesday, November 29th. You can help support our schools by contributing to IGiveCatholic.org and searching for "Bosco Catholic School System".
- We are starting a Don Bosco Coffee Club looking for volunteers to help us put together our mailings, clerical work, and general feedback. If interested, please contact Development Director Chris Kangas at ckangas@boscocatholic.org or 319-296-1692.
- The new playground is open at St. Joseph Pre-school in Raymond. We still have some finishing touches to complete, but the children are able to use it and enjoy it. Thank you to all of our committee members, donors, sponsors, and volunteers that helped make this project a success.
- We are currently identifying families looking for Preschool opportunities for next year. If you have any current 2- or 3-year olds that will be ready to try preschool let us know.

Colder Weather

Whenever possible all K-5 and ABC students will spend some time outdoors, so please be sure they have coats, hats, and mittens (snow pants and boots when they are needed).

Please label your student's sweatshirts, coat, hat, snow pants, gloves, mittens, lunchbox, etc.

Preschool News

We had a fantastic celebration on our new playground. Thank you to those that were able to attend. Even though there was snow on the ground the kids still had a great time navigating the equipment. If you missed the piece KGAN televised check it out here -





Advent: Week 1

Advent is a time of preparation. The word 'advent' means coming. Often, we prepare our homes by putting up Christmas lights, decorating a tree, or even baking dozens of cookies. All of these things are good, however, they should never become more important than the spiritual preparation we do for Christmas. It is important that we take time to spiritually prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus.

Ways to Prepare:

- Take 10-15 minutes to reflect on the day's readings
- Go to confession
- Download the Hallow app for guided meditations, prayer, and reflections (great for busy people)
- Go to Mass on Sunday



Advent: Week 2

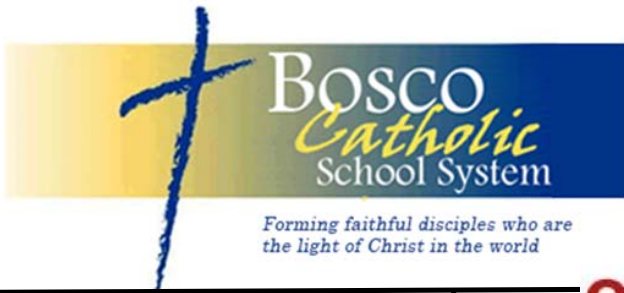
This week is the second week of Advent. The second purple candle represents 'faith'. It is often called the "Bethlehem Candle". This candle serves as a reminder to us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

Challenge:

- Read Luke 2:1-14

Reflect:

Mary and Joseph show their unwavering faith by trusting God even when there is no room at the inn. Their faith reminds us that God always has a way, it just may look different than what we were anticipating. Mary and Joseph's faith remind us of God's constant faithfulness.



Quick & Easy ways to support the Bosco Catholic School System



Casey's Rewards Cash for Classrooms

Cash for Classrooms supports teachers through cash donations to schools for the things they need most. Members can turn their points into Cash for Classroom donations that is directed specifically to the school of their choice.

Office DEPOT OfficeMax

Give Back To Schools

<https://www.officedepot.com/cm/school-supplies/give-back> .

Make a purchase of qualifying school supplies, provide your school ID and your school will receive 5% back in credits for FREE supplies

School ID: 70028239

Pop Can Recycling

Collection Site is located on the North end of Don Bosco Catholic High School



Coca Cola Give:

Download the Coke app or sign into <https://us.coca-cola.com/give>

Donate to your local school. Search by zip (50634) and select **IMMAC CONCEPTION-ST JOSEPH**



Hy-Vee Cash 4 students:

Save your Hy-Vee cash register receipts and turn them into school. Hy-Vee donates \$1 for every \$250 in receipts collected!



Amazon Smile: AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices & shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop with AmazonSmile 0.5% of the purchase price on eligible products is donated to the charitable organization of your choice!

HOW MUCH IS MY CODE WORTH?

SEE HOW WE REACHED THESE VALUES.

35-PACK	\$0.38	12-PACK	\$0.15	20 OZ	\$0.05
32-PACK	\$0.38	8-PACK	\$0.12	24 OZ	\$0.05
30-PACK	\$0.38	6-PACK	\$0.08	1 LITER	\$0.05
28-PACK	\$0.38	12 OZ	\$0.05	1.25 LITER	\$0.05
24-PACK	\$0.30	12.5 OZ	\$0.05	1.5 LITER	\$0.05
20-PACK	\$0.27	14 OZ	\$0.05	2 LITER	\$0.05
18-PACK	\$0.23	16 OZ	\$0.05	2.5 LITER	\$0.05
15-PACK	\$0.23	0.5 LITER	\$0.05	50 OZ	\$0.05

THE OLD BOX TOPS CLIPS



Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip them and send them to school.

Every valid Box Tops clip is worth 10¢ for your school. Make sure each one has a clearly visible product acronym and expiration date.

*All valid Box Tops clips submitted per the Program Rules by a Coordinator(s) of (an) eligible, enrolled school(s) will be honored.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS



Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.

If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. **Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school.** The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online.