

Gator Gazette

January 21, 2022

Main Office: 513-574-4035

Preschool Office: 513-587-3978

A message from the Principal

Hello Gator Families,

We are asking that you pray for those in our families and community that are ill or have lost loved ones this winter season.

** Our **GALA Grand Raffle** is underway and gaining momentum! We need as much participation as possible! This is a major fund raiser for our school. Please sell your tickets and request additional from the office.

Mark you calendars: **Open House** is January 30th. This is our chance to showcase our wonderful school and all we have to offer. Encourage your friends to check us out.

Catholic Schools Week is January 30 through February 5. Watch Facebook for a "send to 10 people you know blitz" about our Open House. Students can live anywhere in the tristate and attend St. Aloysius.

Registration news: Current families, please register before Open House. This is important to save a place in the classroom before enrollment opens to new families. You may register online with our new website or by sending information to school. This secures your place for next year.

Last week we had our **Musician in Residence program** featuring the steel drums. It was very successful and our students enjoyed showing their musical talent.

Please show your support and attend PTO & Athletics meetings as often as possible. Stay informed and make a difference.

We are continuing to build our **STEM** program. St. Al's shares the philosophy that STEM programs inspire creativity and spark interest in the next generation of scientists, engineers and computer programmers.

Love in a Box is coming up. More details to come.

Please donate your time, energy and talents to the success of our school.

Again, thank you for the prayers while I was out before Christmas. God did hear you and I avoided surgery and I am continuing to heal.

Stay warm and healthy,
Mark Auer

a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools



Gator Gala 2022

While we have postponed the “In-person” Gala dinner and auction we are proceeding with an online auction and the Grand Raffle.

The online auction will be held on Saturday, March 12th. Details are being finalized but we have some great prizes: a wonderful array of baskets, a Big Green Egg, Yeti Cooler, Pandora necklace, bourbon basket and a bourbon tasting and dinner at the Slicer’s home, just to name a few.

So plan to check us out on March 12th and sell those Grand Raffle chances to family and friends. Let’s make this a great fund raiser for our school.

Our first early bird winner of \$100.00 is Paul Ruffing.

Congratulations and thank you for your support!

Grand Raffle

\$20 per ticket, 6 for \$100

Tickets were mailed out to parish families last month. Additional tickets can be picked up at the school and church office and at the doors of church. Tickets are also being sold after masses in the Tekulve Room



A letter from the Director

Hello Preschool Families,

We had a short week packed full of fun and learning! On Thursday preschool students attended a presentation about different types of disabilities and treating everyone with kindness. We hope everyone has a great weekend and don't forget get to cheer on our Cincinnati Bengals! Please see below for important dates & events:

-Please don't forget to sell your Grand Raffle tickets! There are weekly prize drawings for students who sell tickets! If you need more tickets to sell, please reach out to Mrs. Stephanie or your child's teacher! We need to reach our goal of \$34,000, we can do it!!! We are also collecting items for the basket raffle; the list of items for each class to collect was sent home last week.

-Open House for perspective families will be held on Sunday, January 30th from 11:00-1:30.

-January 31st, we kick off Catholic Schools Week! Here is the schedule of fun events for the week:

Monday, January 31st- Wear your favorite superhero or Disney character & Raptors Beak and Talons Program

Tuesday, February 1st- Wear your pj's to school (no footed pj's or slippers)

Wednesday, February 2nd- Wear St. Al's spirit wear

Thursday, February 3rd- Wear wacky mismatched clothes

Friday, February 4th- Wear your favorite sports team

-There is NO SCHOOL the following days in February:

Friday, February 11th

Friday, February 18th

Monday, February 21st

Thank you,

Stephanie Goettke

From the Pastoral Associate

Julie McDonald

Oh, the Plans We Make

I am always on the lookout for the newest and greatest planner. No one really knows about my obsession. Over the years as a wife, mom, part-time job and now Pastoral Associate I have used many types of planners. Some years I waited until the end of January when everything was on clearance for 60% off. I bought the planner with all the stickers to mark all the birthdays, doctor appointments and a section for my shopping list and a section to plan your dinners for the week.

I had big plans for this planner, it was going to make me be on time, never miss another appointment, have dinner planned and ready and have every ingredient needed. I begin each year with such high expectations and end each year disappointed. But it's my own doing as I tend to think a planner is something much more than a place to keep track of one's life. You use it to jot down your to-do's and your want-to-do's. And, while they can help you get organized in and of themselves, they cannot get you to heaven.

It's silly to even think it should be, isn't it, but I so easily believed that. I see an empty planner and think, this is the year I will get closer to being the person God wants me to be because of this planner. This year, with this perfect planner I will not only become perfectly organized with a perfect memory; I will even become holier. I will not show up a day early to the dentist, forget to do my rosary, or forget that I told one of my 7 children that I would babysit for them. This new planner I hold in my hand is finally the perfect planner, the do-it-all planner, and my life will be better because of it. I will do it—this year.

So, I went into this year with that crazy idea about planners, but God loved me enough to let me read an article by a woman who had the same expectations about planners as me. So, I want to pass on this wisdom because it really spoke to me. The daily reading from Isaiah 41:13-20, God spoke to me with this important reminder:

For I am the Lord, your God, who grasp your right hand;

It is I who say to you, Do not fear, I will help you. (Isaiah 41:13)

Over and over again throughout Isaiah, God reminded me that He is in charge.

I am the Alpha (the first), I am the Omega (the last); there is no God but me.

(Isaiah 44:6)

I left Mass thinking how silly I was to think that I am ever in charge. If there is one lesson being a wife and mother has taught me is that my plans for the day, even a specific hour, are bound to change and no planner can ever stop that from happening. A sick child, a flat tire, a call from a friend in need sends all your best-laid plans aside for what God has planned. Being truly open to life always goes beyond the size of your family and into how you handle what happens to that family. And what you have written in your planner

The Catholic Education Foundation For the Archdiocese of Cincinnati 2022-2023 Tuition Assistance Grants



The Catholic Education Foundation for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will once again be able to offer over \$2 million in tuition assistance grants for the 2022-23 school year.

Families of elementary students K-8 may apply for needs based assistance between now and February 6, 2022

Please visit CatholicBestChoice.org for more details and instructions on how to apply.



Catholic Education Foundation
Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Catholic Education Foundation

**TRACK IS BACK At St. Catharine's
Track & Field Signups ARE NOW OPEN!**

Signups end Friday, February 6, 2022 @ 11:59pm. DO NOT MISS OUT!

Registrations are only taken online. Emergency & Waiver forms along with payments are due on February, 6th 2022.

St Catharine Track & Field Running Cougars

We are excited to offer track and field for students in grades K-8 who love to run, jump and have fun again this year. The goal of this program is to keep our kids healthy and active in the younger grades while fostering healthy competition in the higher grades. Track is also a great cross-training activity for off-season athletes!

Practice days are Mondays and Wednesdays. Practice begins mid-March, with Meets starting late March and running through mid-May.

Online Sign-up and Fee payment at
<http://stc-athletics.org/athletics/track>

Fees are \$65 for our neighboring schools for the 2021 season. (Which includes a team t-shirt). **Fees MUST be paid online.**

We look forward to another great track season in 2022!

If you have any questions, please contact:

Rodney Lear
Track Coordinator
nator
stcatharinetrack@gmail.com

Mary Kohler
Assistant Track Coordi-

Save as a reference

If your child develops any of the following symptoms please have the child isolate and speak to their medical provider.

Fever myalgia nausea fatigue cough loss of taste/smell
 Chills headache vomiting congestion shortness of breath
 Rigors sore throat diarrhea running nose difficulty breathing

	Quarantine Period	Recommendations
Optimal Duration to Minimize Risk of Transmission	Stay at home for at least 14 days after last exposure	Maintain social distance (at least 6 feet) from others and wear a mask when around other people. Self-monitor for symptoms through day 14 . (Check temperature twice a day, watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.) Persons who develop symptoms of COVID-19 or who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate and follow recommendations for discontinuing isolation.
Re-duced Duration 1	Stay at home at least 10 days after last exposure	Maintain social distance (at least 6 feet) from others and wear a mask when around other people. Self-monitor for symptoms through day 14 . (Check temperature twice a day, watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.) Consider obtaining a viral test near the end of this period (day eight or later) to increase certainty that there is no infection, but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after day 10. Persons who develop symptoms of COVID-19 or who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate and follow recommendations for discontinuing isolation.
Re-duced Duration 2	Negative test result for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) from a sample collected on day five or later after last exposure AND stay at home for at least seven days after last exposure.	Maintain social distance (at least 6 feet) from others and wear a mask when around other people. Self-monitor for symptoms through day 14 . (Check temperature twice a day, watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.) Persons who develop symptoms of COVID-19 or who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate and follow recommendations for discontinuing isolation.

A 14-day quarantine period presents the lowest risk of post-quarantine transmission. This strategy is preferred for people living in, working at, or visiting congregate living facilities, high density workplaces, or other settings where potential extensive transmission or contact with people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 is possible.

•ro minimize the risk of Covid-19 transmission, student-athletes should wait until 14 days of symptom monitoring have passed since they would not be able to social distance or

wear a mask during active practice or play. Such student athletes are permitted to return to class sooner since they can social distance (at least 6 feet) and wear a mask when around others in class.

If you or your child's doctor has any questions or concerns, please contact *Hamilton County Public Health's Division of Epidemiology and Assessment Outbreak Response Team* at (513) 946-7919.

Sincerely,



Greg Kesterman
 Health Commissioner
 Hamilton County Public Health



**Valentine's
Day
Winter
Carnival**

Oak Hills United Methodist Church
6069 Bridgetown Road, Cincinnati, OH 45248 — 513-574-1131

**Saturday,
February 12, 2022
1:00 – 3:00 pm**

(come and go as you wish during these hours) Games,
prizes, crafts, popcorn!

Cost: 5 non-perishable food, household, or personal care
items for our community pantry

OR

\$5.00 per FAMILY

All children and their families welcome!