



Gator Gazette

January 27, 2023

Main Office: 513-574-4035

Preschool Office: 513-587-3978

To our St. Al's school families:

A look at some upcoming events:

Sunday, January 29 – Open House, 12:00pm-2:00pm

Sunday, January 29 – Friday, February 3 – Catholic Schools Week

We will have two extra off-days coming up to make for some calendar corrections/omissions. There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, February 13 AND Thursday, April 6. Please mark your calendars for these days – again, there will be NO SCHOOL on those days.

The school Open House will be on Sunday, January 29 from 12:00pm-2:00pm, coinciding with Catholic Schools Week which is January 29 – February 3. Information regarding theme days for CSW will be sent home this coming week.

On Wednesdays during the months of December and January, PTO is running Operation Warmth. Students can be out of uniform for a donation of gloves, hats, socks, gently used coats and shoes, or \$1.00 (NO CANNED GOODS) on Wednesday, December 7 and 14 and January 4, 11, 18, and 25. Decorated boxes are outside the main office and in the preschool lobby.

All families have received their raffle tickets that are to be sold for the Gatsby Gala. Raffle ticket sales go through February 10 and all students who sell a ticket are entered into a raffle to win prizes of their own. The class who sells the most tickets will earn a special treat! When you sell a ticket, please keep the portion of the ticket with the purchaser's information and then send the ticket stubs AND money to the office in an envelope marked with the students' name and grade.

For your information, for the **2023-2024 school year**, the school hours will be changing. Students will need to be in their classrooms by 7:45am, as has been the case, but then school will dismiss at 2:15pm. After talking with the school staff, we agreed that this change would be beneficial to the students educationally and mentally. This change IS NOT for this school year, but will take place for the 2023-2024 school year and will still allow the students to be out of school before Memorial Day, but have more instructional days in the calendar.

Thank you for all you do!

Mr. Fightmaster



Hello Preschool Families!

Our friends squeezed in as much fun as they could in this short week! Wednesday's "snow day" did not bring us the snow we thought it would but hopefully, you enjoyed the extra time with your little ones. We kick off Catholic School's Week this Sunday with our Open House. A schedule of the week's events went home on Thursday. As always please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Have a great weekend! Please see below for important upcoming dates and events:

-Don't forget to turn in your registration for next year! Forms were sent home in your child's folder at the beginning of the month. The completed registration forms along with the \$50 registration fee will need to be turned in no later than Monday, January 30th. Registration will open up to new families on February 1st.

-Please note the changes that were made to the school calendar that were announced in last week's Gazette: NO SCHOOL Monday, February 13th & Thursday, April 6th.

-Just a reminder as stated in the preschool handbook, student's lunches must include:

Fruit/Vegetable-1 serving of each or 2 servings from one group

Protein-1 serving

Bread/Grain-1 serving

Dairy-1 serving

-Spread the word! St. Aloysius Open House will be Sunday, January 29th from 12:00-2:00. If you know a family interested in preschool send them our way!

- If you haven't already, please send in your RSVP for the Gatsby Gala! This. Don't forget to sell your Grand Raffle tickets! Tickets were sent home with each student back in November, please let us know if you need more.

Thank you,

Stephanie Goettke & Preschool Staff

St. Aloysius Gonzaga Preschool is looking for help with its afterschool program for the remainder of the current school year. The dependable candidate would be responsible for the direction and overall supervision of a group of preschool children. Performs activities that ensure the safety, involvement, and creativity of each individual in the group. Works cooperatively with the Aftercare Coordinator to discuss the implementation of the plan and activities for the afternoon. Work hours are 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm Monday-Friday. Please contact Stephanie Goettke at (513)587-3978 or goettke_s@saintals.org



Good afternoon Families and Parishioners,

First and foremost, I want to thank everyone for helping to sell raffle tickets for the Gala. We have sold over \$6000 and are a quarter of the way to our goal!

I hope that everyone has either received their Gatsby Gala invitation in the mail or it was sent home with your child last week. If you have not received an invitation, please reach out to the school office at 513-574-4035 or please email me at ptovpresident@saintals.org. Below you can also fill out your RSVP information and send it back to school.

Please make sure to either mail in your RSVP card or send it back to school. We can not accept walk-ins at the Gala. All RSVP's must be received by February 8th.

Thank you again for your generosity in helping keep St. Aloysius Gonzaga a leader in our children's Catholic education.

Sincerely,

Autumn Koch

St. Al's PTO Vice President

Name(s): _____

Phone & Email: _____

_____ Accepts with pleasure

_____ Declines with regret

Ticket

_____ Single \$75

_____ Couple \$125

Total Amount Enclosed—cash, check or credit card:- _____

Make checks payable to St. Aloysius Gonzaga School

If you would like to be seated with other NOT listed in this reservation, please list their names below. _____

Grand Raffle

Again, this year Gator Gala 2023 will have a Grand Raffle.

Each student is asked to sell 6 raffle tickets.

Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Tickets were sent home after Thanksgiving Break. If you need additional tickets, please call the office or email ptovpresident@saintals.org

Grand Prize is \$5000

Second Price is \$3000

Drawing will be held on Monday February 13th!

Tickets must be turned into the office by Friday February 10th, 2023.

**This Year's Goal is
\$25,000.00**

Prizes for Students

Top Selling Student will get Skyline delivered to them and a friend

Top Selling Homeroom (pre-school – 8th grade) (highest % of students participating) will get an Out of Uniform day and ice cream

Surprise Prize Patrol

For every ticket a student sells their name will be entered into a drawing for one of many awesome prizes.



St. Al’s PTO Fundraiser Kroger Community Rewards

DETAILS: Every purchase on your Kroger card can raise money for the St. Al’s PTO. You only need to sign up once and you will earn rewards for the school with every shopping trip! You can enroll at any time, so please try to get your family and friends to sign up as well!

HOW TO SIGN UP:

Option 1 - Through their website.

Follow the link: <https://www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards/>

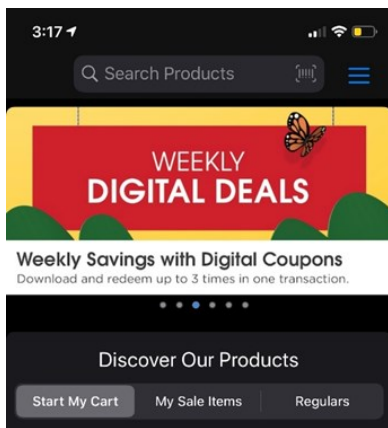
Create/sign in with your digital Kroger account.

Search either by the org name **St. Aloysius Gonzaga School PTO** or org number **RX687**.

Click ENROLL and you are finished!

Option 2 - Through their app.

Download the Kroger app and create/sign in with your digital Kroger account.



Click on the MORE in the DROP down top right. Click Rewards—Search for Organization. Search by St. Aloysius Gonzaga School PTO or by organization # RX687. Click ENROLL and you are finished

Looking to schedule facility space or check for an event? Access scheduling calendar at stalsbridgetown.org

Facility Scheduling

The Parish office holds the calendar for use of all rooms on the campus. Before your group sets a meeting, practice or event you need to call Laura in the parish office 513-574-4840 and check availability. Conflicts like the rescheduling of the Open House would not happen if everyone followed procedure. This includes all church groups. Visit stalsbridgetown.org and view what is open.

Gazette Articles

If you’d like to share information in the Gazette, please email a Word document to rectory@stalsbridgetown.org by noon each Thursday.

SAFEPARISH

SafeParish is the new Child Protection Platform for the AoC, taking the place of **VIRTUS**.

By now all volunteers and employees should have received an email from SafeParish inviting them to register for their SafeParish account. If you did not receive the email, please check your spam or junk mail folders. You can also find a copy of the SafeParish registration instructions by going to the AoC’s Safe Environment Office webpage at <https://catholicaoc.org/offices/safe-environment> and going to *Top Resources* and then clicking the link for SafeParish.



Family of the Most Holy Eucharist



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Disciple Maker Index SURVEY



Please go to the appropriate link below, to complete the Disciple Maker Index Survey.

St. Martins <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/y9g1gy>

St. Als <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/y8pgby>

St. Antoninus <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/yptd5y>

St. Catharine <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/yta2a3>

OLL <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/ypx5p3>

If you prefer a paper copy you may pick up a paper copy of the survey after daily and weekend Masses. They will be located in the Gathering Spaces/ Entrances of each church. To submit the completed paper survey, please drop off at any of the 5 parish offices. To make special arrangements for getting a paper copy, please contact Pattie Bauer at 513-922-0715 or pbauer@lourdes.org.

The survey can be accessed from **January 21 through February 27**, and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on your parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole.

Erin Dwyer will be available after Masses *weather permitting* to answer any questions and schedule appointments for folks who would like to submit their survey electronically but would like assistance in doing so. Look for her in the Gathering Space/ Entrance of the church on the following dates:

**Sunday, January 29 9:00am OLL,
11:00am St. Catharine**

**Saturday, February 5 3:30pm St. Aloysius,
4:30pm St. Catharine**

Sunday, February 6 10:00am St. Aloysius

Thank you for helping with this important project!

Erin Dwyer
Pastoral Associate/ Family Point of Contact for Disciple Maker Index
513-922-0715; edwyer@lourdes.org

MASS ATTENDANCE ~ JAN 21/22

Not published due to bad weather

Men's Retreat Opportunities at Jesuit Spiritual Center in Milford

Men from the Family of the Most Holy Eucharist are invited to attend one of the following Ignatian retreats at Milford:

February 10-12– OLL has a group attending. Contact Deacon Mark Madden for information.

markmadden@fuse.net

March 3-5– St. Antoninus has a group attending.

Contact Bob Flick for information. rflick10@gmail.com



SIENA CONCERT SERIES
Sunday, February 19, 2023, 3:00 PM
Annual Seiwert/Foegler Organ Recital

Our own Music Director and Organist David Castillo will present a bombastic organ recital featuring every pipe of our magnificent church organ. The concert will present music of diverse styles ranging from Baroque to Jazz. Come and hear our beautiful organ in our wonderful church space.



Next weekend is Commitment Weekend for the 2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal. More than anyone in the world, the Catholic Church teaches, feeds, and heals. In our local community, this happens through the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Join us in supporting these ministries! For more information about the CMA or to donate online, visit CatholicAOC.org/CMA.

Forming Friendships Luncheon & Bingo

Tuesday February 28, 2023

12 noon - 2:30, Trinity Hall, Our Lady Of Lourdes

Box lunch reservations \$10

Reservations Due by February 20th

Jeanne 513-347-9245 or Diane 513-574-5148

Forming Friendships is a ministry open to all widows and widowers who would like to join in fellowship with one another.



January 27, 2023

Dear Family of the Most Holy Eucharist,

Now that the Christmas season is winding down, our schools are turning to enrollment and the signing of teacher contract for the 2023-2024 academic year. One of the questions that both teachers and parents have been asking is if their school will be open next year due to the Beacons of light initiative. I have shared a letter with the faculty and staff and would like to share some of the letter with parents and parishioners.

The Beacons of Light initiative is still in its initial planning phase of forming leadership teams. These teams are neither completely formed nor have they had any meaningful discussions about the future of our parishes and schools. There is a hope that by the end of the 2023-2024 academic year, we will have a more concrete vision for our future. In the meantime, here is where we stand:

1. *All schools will remain open for, at least, the 2023-2024 and the 2024-2025 academic years. However, there are some conditions that could change our ability to keep a school open. Here are a few but not exhaustive list:*
 - a. *The parish is unable to underwrite the school due to a decline in parish tithing. The school is a ministry of the parish. Thus, the school would close to protect the viability of the parish.*
 - b. *The parish is unable to underwrite the school due to a decrease in enrollment.*
 - c. *The school is unable to appropriately staff the school.*
2. *By the end of the 2023-2024 academic year, we will hopefully have a plan to realign our schools in a way best suited for sustainability and effectiveness. This would allow a full academic year to celebrate the legacy of the closing school(s) barring any crisis as listed above.*
3. *Finally, we are seeking to hire a new principal for St. Aloysius Gonzaga School and are seeking applications. A selection committee has been formed to assist in the hiring process.*

The greatest threat to keeping the schools open until we are able to develop a clear path forward is the parish's ability to underwrite the school. Every student that walks in our doors, based on 2021-2022 statistics, is underwritten by the Family of Parishes by a minimum of \$1,132. This does not include "In Parish" discounts and financial aid. With the continual decline in Sunday donations, this level of support will be extremely difficult for some parishes. Please keep our parishes and schools in your prayers as we begin to work through the Beacons of Light process.

God's blessings,

Reverend Matthew J. Robben, Pastor
Family of the Most Holy Eucharist

Our Lady of Lourdes, St Aloysius Gonzaga, St Antoninus, St Catharine of Siena, and St Martin of Tours Parishes
1500 Linneman Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45238 fmattrobben@gmail.com

**Great
Christmas
Gifts**



**St. Aloysius
Gonzaga
PTO**

St. Aloysius Gonzaga Gator Gear

Writely Sew @ <https://www.writelysew.net/stores/StAls>

Open all year for spirit wear purchases.
Orders delivered to student's homeroom.
Available Items updated throughout school year!
Any questions: Contact Ella George @ Email:
Spiritwear@saintals.org



Retirement of Old American Flags Cub Scout Pack 614 (St. Antoninus)

St. Antoninus Cub Scouts are collecting old flags for proper retirement. A box is available between the glass doors of the Tekulve Room. The scouts are planning a retirement ceremony with the VFW Hall in Cheviot to properly and respectfully our old flags this fall.

DePaul Cristo Rey Open House

is Thursday, November 3, 5-8 p.m. at our beautiful new campus at 3440 Central Parkway, 45223. It will include campus tours, and information on classes, DPCR's Corporate Work Study Program, 100% college acceptance rate, and the financial aid awarded to every family.

For more information, call 513.861.0600.