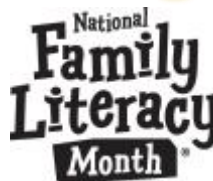




November 17, 2016

Dear Nativity Families:

November is Read-A-Thon month at Nativity! We thank you for supporting both the reading goals for your child and the fundraising needs of our school. Special thanks to everyone who was able to come out and dine this past Tuesday at Bakers' Square. Proceeds will help us reach the \$40,000 goal for our "Read-A-Thon." ([Click here for link to the complete Read-A-Thon Packet](#))



This week:

- 1) **Continue to Read!** Anytime works...try reading at breakfast!
- 2) **Contact families and friends!** Did you mail out a letter or email? Sometimes a post even helps. People love to support children reading!
- 3) **Turn in this Friday-Nov. 18:** Week 2 Pledge Sheet – one per family (pledges only needed) and send your reading log for the week to school – we will return. (This Friday is PJ Day! Come to school in your favorite pajamas or comfy clothes for "flashlight reading!")

Progress toward our goal:

- \$11,250 toward our goal of \$40,000

Parent/Teacher Conferences: We thank you for choosing Nativity of Mary School and value your partnership in the education of your child. Teachers look forward to meeting with you tonight and Monday. I will also be available, as well as our title teacher, and tutor as requested. We will see you either this Thursday or on Monday at conferences!

Blessed Thanksgiving: At Nativity, we have so many blessings that enrich our lives...here are just a few of the special people and items we are thankful for:

- 🍁 Inquisitive students
- 🍁 Supportive parents and families
- 🍁 Dedicated teachers & staff
- 🍁 Spiritual Priest and religion teachers
- 🍁 Circle of community of support in parish and larger community
- 🍁 Greenspace to play on and a beautiful building to learn in
- 🍁 Rich books to read and technology to engage learners

SAVE the DATE – Friday, Dec. 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Join us at our first Nativity PTO Holiday Cheese and Wine social in the Church Gathering Space. This is a great opportunity to come meet and socialize with parents you may or may not know! There will be opportunity to learn about volunteer needs and at the same time do some Christmas shopping! There will be vendors with gifts, including: *Thirty One*, *Mary Kay* and *Lularoe*, just to mention a few. **Please join us at this free, fun, PTO event!**

(Community News on the Back of this Newsletter)

News & Notes



Nov. 7-30: Read-A-Thon

Nov. 17: Parent Teacher Conferences K-8 (Not preschool)

Nov. 18: Read-A-Thon Turn in Date (Come in your PJ's to read!)

Nov. 21: Parent Teacher Conferences K-8 (Not Preschool)

Nov. 22: Come dressed as your favorite animals! Read-A-Thon Turn In Date

Nov. 23-25: HAPPY THANKSGIVING (No School)

JOIN US ON:

[TWITTER \(Click\)](#)

[INSTAGRAM \(Click\)](#)

[FACEBOOK \(Click\)](#)

Mission Statement: Nativity of Mary School provides a Catholic education that fosters academic excellence and spiritual growth while preparing students to become responsible citizens in a global society.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: *The 8th grade students are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.* The students would love any contributions that you would like to donate. Some ideas are as follows: hair brush and/or accessories, cups, toothbrush/paste, small toys (stuffed animals, balls, jump rope, deck of cards, games, puzzles, etc), crafts, school supplies, coloring books, picture books, stickers, and snacks/candy. Please do not send anything liquid or anything that could melt. Also, it must fit inside a shoe box. Each box costs \$7 for shipping. If you would like to contribute towards that cost, you can write a check to Operation Christmas Child or send cash. Any questions? Contact Laura Millenacker (lmillenacker@nativitybloomington.org)



SHOPPING ONLINE?

#StartWithaSmile at smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0735359 for your holiday gifts and Amazon **donates** to Nativity of Mary Catholic School. REMEMBER – You can pre-order your Amazon Scrip Gift cards before you shop!

REMINDERS:

- 🕒 **Conferences are November 17 & 21.** If you missed the sign up, K-5 will be assigned a time. For Middle School please call the office to set up your time. You may email your teacher with any questions.
- 🕒 **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Email if you can assist on the playground during recess: jqiles@bloomington.gov
- 🕒 **DID YOUR PHONE CHANGE?** It is important that we have a current phone number. If you've changed phone numbers, please send an updated number to the office.

KUDOS:

- **Nativity students and staff for a beautiful Veterans' Day Program!"** Special thanks to Mrs. Steffens and Mrs. Hagerty who coordinated this event. Thanks to Miss Shukle and the choir and Dr. Rule and our band. We especially appreciated the Bloomington American Legion representatives for their service, stories, and representation.
- **Thank you to the parents and staff who brought food for our parent/teacher conferences this week.**

PRAYERS: Families with health concerns, healing for our parents and students who are sick or suffering with infection and disease, and for the newly elected officials of our State and Nation.

BLESSINGS, Mindy Reeder – mreeder@nativitybloomington.org



NATIVITY OF MARY PARISH: Usher Training: Have you ever considered becoming an usher at Mass? If you are interested, we will be hosting usher training on Saturday, November 19 from 9—10:30 AM in the Gathering Space. The training will include hands-only CPR and AED training. For more information, call Dr. Jacob Benda or Carol Oldowski at (952)881-8671.

NATIVITY OF MARY – Women's Tea

Saturday, December 3 (1-3 pm)

- Lunch
- Music
- Door Prizes
- Fellowship

Bring your favorite tea cup!
RSVP by November 28 to:
952.881.8671



ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE:

Saturday, December 3, 9:00am–3:00pm

Start your holidays in style at Pax Christi's Annual Holiday Boutique and Bake Sale! This shopping extravaganza is for the whole family. It will feature a variety of handcrafted items from over 50 quality crafters and artisans, a bake sale, and luncheon. This event is free and there is plenty of parking available. Don't miss out on this Annual Holiday Boutique!

St. Jude Prayer of Thanksgiving
I receive the gifts of God with a grateful spirit. St. Jude, help me to see the blessings that surround me and give me life. I offer you my prayer of thanksgiving. Give me the grace to be ever thankful for the love and mercy of God and the gift of life each day. May this gratitude inspire me to give generously in all ways to others. Be with me now, St. Jude. Linger with me in gratitude, and let thanks fill my heart, washing away all pain and trouble. May I desire nothing except to be in your presence, walking with you in the world to spread hope, love and thanksgiving among all of God's children. Amen.