

Dear Nativity Families:

I pray that Thanksgiving was a joyous time with family and friends. The Advent Season arrives this Sunday. Join us in praying for the "Fruit of the Spirit – Joy" this month. Please watch our calendar for all of the upcoming events over the next two weeks! This week, students in 3-8<sup>th</sup> grade began their Advent preparation with confessions.

**PARENT DRIVE DAY-Dec. 1: *One more day!*** On a parent drive days, the Bloomington District schools are closed. There are no buses. Thank you for making arrangements to drive your children to and from school. Please call the school office to let us know if your children will be absent. Thank you! 952.881.8160

**52 CLUB RAFFLE FUNDRAISER:** *In this weeks' folder you will find a packet with your 52 Club Raffle tickets. This is our second main all-school fundraiser of the year.* All families are asked to sell 10 tickets. Tickets must be sold by January 8, 2018. **SIGN UP TO SELL AT PARISH MASSES!** ([Click here to sign up online.](#)) A paper sign up is also enclosed. All sold and unsold tickets and cash or checks need to be returned on January 8<sup>th</sup> to the school office. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING NATIVITY!

### NATIVITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT REMINDERS:

- **PreK-5th Grade Christmas Concert-Tuesday, Dec. 5th at 7 p.m.** Please drop off students at 6:40 pm. They will meet in their classrooms. Teachers will bring them down to the concert when it is time to start. After they are done performing, students in Preschool and Kindergarten will meet their parents at the back of the church to sit with you. All other grades will sit with their class during the concert.
- **Middle School Christmas Concert-Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 7 p.m.** Please have students arrive by 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space. Bell students will get their gloves from the music room and will come back upstairs. Teachers will help line up students and be ready to go for the 7:00 concert. Students will sit with their class until the end of the concert.
- **5-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band:** Band students should meet in the band room between 6:30-6:40 p.m. Mrs. Rule will bring the students upstairs.

**We appreciate any parents who can help with clean up after the concerts.** A reminder that concerts are required for all students. If you have a conflict or if your child is ill on the day of the concert, please contact Miss Shukle at [eshukle@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:eshukle@nativitybloomington.org)

**JUMP ROPE FOR HEART:** Nativity students participated in "Jump Rope for Heart" in Physical Education. Each class jumped rope for their warm up activity and we discussed the importance of exercising at least 60 minutes a day and eating fruits and vegetables to keep healthy! This is our second year fundraising for the American Heart Association and we raised \$1,855!!! This is a huge accomplishment! I am very proud of all of the students and staff who helped make a difference! - Mrs. Steffens



**SATURDAY- DECEMBER 2 (8-11 a.m.)** *Let the Spirit of the Season Begin! ALL are Welcome!* Bring your camera for a picture with Santa. Enjoy: *face painting, crafts with Mrs. Claus, treats, & caroling with the Nativity*

**Location:** Nativity of Mary Gathering Space; Enter at Door #9. **Cost: \$5 per person or \$20 per family at door.** This supports the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to Chicago.



**NEWS & NOTES 11/30/17**

**NOV. 30: PARENT DRIVE DAY! No buses.**

- **NO MASS:** *Please note, there is no Mass today, students in 3-8<sup>th</sup> grade will have Confessions.*

**DEC.1: PARENT DRIVE DAY! No buses.**

**\*\*\*Spirit Wear Day!**

**DEC.2: Saturday Photos with Santa 8-11 a.m.**

**DEC.5: 7 p.m. Preschool – Grade 5 Christmas Concert**

**DEC. 7: Report Cards Coming Home (No Mass Today)**

**DEC.8: 9:45 Immaculate Conception Mass**

**MISSION:** *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.*

**JOIN US ON:** [TWITTER](#) ([Click](#)) [INSTAGRAM](#) ([Click](#)) [Facebook](#) ([Click](#))

**NOMINATE A NATIVITY TEACHER:** Love your child's teacher? We invite you to nominate a Nativity teacher for a Minnesota Educator award! Link: <https://www.educationminnesota.org/news/awards/teacher-of-the-year/nomination-form>



**PTO HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE:** Are you still looking for that one of a kind gift for a friend? Still have several people to check off on the list? It's not too late! **On Saturday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, the Nativity of Mary PTO is hosting a

Holiday boutique. Come shop for that perfect gift from over 35+ vendors. Handmade gifts range from mittens, jewelry, clothing, olive wood carving, decorative signs, honey, dog bones, soaps and much more. There will also be representatives from: *Thirty One, Mary Kay, Droolin Moose, Park Lane, Stella and Dot, Norwex, LuLaRoe* and many more. Boutique will be set up in the Nativity of Mary School Gym at 9901 E. Bloomington Freeway, Bloomington, MN.



**NATIVITY OF MARY IS HIRING!** Nativity of Mary Parish is hiring a Volunteer Coordinator/Office Assistant. This is a joint parish and school position. You will assist with the Essential 3 volunteer tracking, support volunteer needs, and help in the office. To apply, send your resume and two letters of reference to: [mreeder@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:mreeder@nativitybloomington.org) by December 8, 2017.

**PRESCHOOL FAMILIES:** Did you know that we've changed our preschool programs for youngest students? If you have a 3 year old, you may choose to stay all day, from 9:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. Need more than two days, you may combine the two day program with the three day program, just let us know your schedule needs. Plan to attend our January 28<sup>th</sup> Open House. Registration materials will be available. We are also looking into morning care for our three year old students. Please email your interest in preschool morning/after care to: [mreeder@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:mreeder@nativitybloomington.org)

#### **KUDOS:**

- **Rake-A-Thon:** All of our families who went out to rake at area homes!
- **Mrs. Steffens** – Who coordinated the fun “Jump Rope for Heart” event. Thanks to all families who participated.

#### **REMINDERS:**

- **Recess:** We are always looking for recess help, click here: [Recess link](#)
- **Shutterfly Fundraising!** Planning to order Christmas cards? Order your Scrip Shutterfly card first then go online to Shutterfly at: [NativityofMary.ShutterflyStorefront.com](http://NativityofMary.ShutterflyStorefront.com) Place your order at this site and Nativity receives a percentage back!
- **Amazon Shopping Helps Nativity!** You can order your Amazon scrip card, and then login to Smile Amazon to order your Christmas gifts. Go to: <https://smile.amazon.com/> choose Nativity of Mary School as your charity, and shop! We receive a percentage back.
- **Christmas Orders Enclosed for:** Scrip & Spirit Wear!

**IN YOUR FOLDER:** In your folder this week, you will find...

- **Raffle Tickets**
- **Various Fliers**
- **Community Education Information:** Forms for Winter Blast Middle School Event

**PRAYER:** Join us in praying for the following...Joy during the Advent Season –our December Fruit of the Holy Spirit. Everyone traveling for Christmas, families who have lost a loved one, and for our families who have a loved one with ill health.

**BLESSINGS,** Mindy Reeder – [mreeder@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:mreeder@nativitybloomington.org)

**WinterBlast - December 15-16: Grades 6-8: Registration due - \$40 cost. Only 25 Middle School Tickets Available: SIGN UP QUICKLY!** Winter Blast is an overnight lock-in at the Maple Grove Community center which includes: *Inflatable games; Music; Dancing; Sports; Hockey; Minute-to-Win-it; Video games; Unlimited pizza & More!* We meet at Nativity at 6 p.m. and bus up to St. Vincent de Paul in Brooklyn Park for Mass. After that, we head over to the Maple Grove Community Center for the night's activities and return to Nativity around 6 a.m. for pick up. **As always, we are in need of chaperones. Attending as a chaperone guarantees your child a spot and your family receives a full scholarship.**-Forms are included in this week's communication folder and are available in the parish or school office.-If you have questions, please contact John at [JStute@Nativitybloomington.org](mailto:JStute@Nativitybloomington.org) or call him at 952-881-8671 Ext 316.