Dress Down Days...
Dress Down Day for Catholic Charities FRIDAY, January 3.

On Friday, January 3, students may dress down for a $1.00 donation for Catholic Charities! Bring your dollar in to school that day if you are dressing down.

Dress down days generally take place the first Friday of the month, unless pre-empted by another event: check the Cougar News!

Please bring in your $1 on dress down days. No dollar, no Dress-Down!

---

10 things about Nativity of Mary to know RIGHT NOW!

1) PLEASE SEE page 4 FOR AN IMPORTANT LETTER FROM DR. CLUCKEY REGARDING THE INCIDENT AT CHURCH ON 12/5/19.

2) School concert is Wednesday at 6 PM. Arrive at 5:45. See page 2 for more information!

3) Many families can’t afford a nice Christmas for their kids—can you help them? Call Mrs. Chrissy Erbacher, head of our Adopt-A-Family program, at 560-1580 to find out what you can do for a family in need. See the flyer on page 6 for more information. You can also email Chrissy at erbacher@verizon.net

4) Please volunteer to speak at a mass on the weekend of January 25-26. Call Mrs. Sutter for details. Alumni are welcome.

5) North Pole Shop is December 18 during the school day! See flyer, pg. 8.

6) ‘Tis the season to buy GIFT CARDS! Finish your Christmas Shopping all in one place and benefit our school at the same time! See page 3 and flyer on page 5 (about the Applebee’s and Delta Sonic Gift Package!) for details. Gift Cards are available at the school on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:30—12, in the hall between the cafeteria and the Pre-K wing. BUY THEM TO DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WITH, TOO. (Note: Kohl’s accepts gift cards to pay off your bill—make purchases with your Kohl’s card, earn your Kohl’s cash, and use gift cards to pay on your credit card at customer service or online.)

7) We will be having our Advent Meeting in the gym on Friday, December 13 at 8:30 AM. Please join us!

8) NEW DATE: Trivia Night, January 18th, 7 PM! Get your team together—registration information will be available soon! The theme for this year is TV Through the Decades! Start thinking about your COSTUMES!!

9) Did you know that we are having a TALENT SHOW to close out Catholic Schools Week 2/1? It is for ALL Ages—kids, parents, teachers, plan to sign up your act! Heather Schieder, event chairperson, will have more information on this event RIGHT after the holidays. Sure to be fun for performers and audience!

10) Our virtue to practice for the month of December is PERSEVERANCE. If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again! The saint to model is St. Monica, who persevered in prayer for the conversion of her wastrel son—who became St. Augustine. Perseverance in prayer works!

---

HSA Board for the 2019-2020 School Year:
Todd Spear, President  (spear0891@hotmail.com)
Heather Schieder, Vice President (heatherschieder@gmail.com)
Jen Kilmer, Secretary (jkilmer6481@gmail.com)
Drew Dorn, Fundraising Coordinator (drew.dorn@ensolconsortium.com)

Nativity of Mary School • 8550 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221 • (716) 633-7441 • www.nativityofmaryschool.org

---

NEXT HSA MEETING:
January 16th, 7 PM
**Christmas Concert**

**Wednesday, December 11th, 6 PM**

The halls of Nativity have been ringing with the beautiful sounds of children’s voices singing the news of Christ’s birth! Mr. Lester is very excited about this year’s Christmas Concert, which will be his first, and is looking forward to seeing everyone on December 11th.

“I would like to see everyone looking as beautiful as they sound,” said Mr. Lester. “Dress for the concert will be Christmas or Sunday - Best dresses/outfits for the girls, and slacks, shirts and ties for the boys. It’s fine to wear a sweater over the shirt.”

Prior to the concert, there will be an exciting special announcement and presentation by Dr. Cluckey. “This will only take a few moments as we want all the focus for this wonderful evening to be on our children and their hard work in preparing for the concert. Parents, family and friends are welcome to attend!

---

**Legacy and Bison Foundation Information**

Legacy Applications are now available to apply for scholarship/grant money from our parish. The deadline for applications is 3/31/2020, and require tax information from the end of this year, but the forms are available now (see pages 11-14). This fund is available only as donations to the fund are received.

We have also received word from the BISON Foundation that the BISON Scholarship application will be available at their website on January 1st, and is due by February 28th. See the flyer on page 11 for more information.

---

**Happy...and Sad...News About Fr. Daniel**

Father Ron Sajdak, Pastor of Nativity of Mary Parish, received the following regarding Fr. Daniel Ogbeifun:

“After consultation with the Priests’ Personnel Board and other diocesan officials, it is my pleasure to appoint you, Fr. Daniel Ogbeifun, Pastor of All Saints Parish in Lockport. This appointment is effective December 17, 2019 for a term of six years or until you receive a subsequent appointment.

Most Reverend Richard J. Malone, Bishop of Buffalo.”

*The Nativity School Family joins the Nativity Parish Community in offering congratulations to you, Fr. Daniel, on your first appointment as a Pastor. May the Lord bless you and the people of All Saints Parish through your ministry.*

---

**IMPORTANT DATES AT NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL:**

12/9: Feast of the Immaculate Conception (not a holy day of obligation this year)
12/11: Christmas Concert, 6 PM (Arrive at 5:45)
12/13: Advent Meeting in the Gym: 8:30 AM, whole school
12/18: North Pole Shop during the school day
12/20: Advent Meeting in the Gym, 8:30 AM, whole school. 11:30 Dismissal, Christmas Recess
12/25: Merry Christmas!
1/1: Octave of Christmas—Happy New Year!
1/2: School Resumes: Welcome Back and Happy New Year!
1/9: Virtue Awards before Mass (8:45)
1/16: HSA Parent Meeting, 7 PM
1/18: Trivia Night: TV Through the Decades: 7 PM
1/20: Martin Luther King Day—No School
For printable two-month calendar see page 5.

---

**Submissions to Cougar News:**

The Cougar News is sent out each MONDAY. E-mail contributions to: Mrs. Kathy Sutter ksutter@nativityofmaryschool.org

Deadline for articles: each Friday at 2 PM!
DID YOU KNOW: YOUR TUITION pays about 60% of what it costs to educate your child at Nativity. An additional 25% comes from the parish. An additional 15% comes from the fundraisers that the HSA hosts. HSA provides essentials, not extras. Your involvement with HSA make a difference to your child’s school, education and faith.

GIFT CARD NEWS (See our flyer, page 6)

We will be placing our next order with our supplier on Tuesday, 12/10 at Noon. Please submit your order online at www.shopwithscrip.com, or send in a completed order form with your child by Tues. AM, or email sales@nativitygiftcards.com with your order by Noon to ensure that we have in stock any gift cards that you may need in the next week.

Available now for Christmas gift giving:

- **Delta Sonic & Applebee’s Promotion** - The ever popular Delta Sonic & Applebee’s Christmas promotion is available for purchase through Nativity! The promotion includes 3 Delta Sonic car wash certificates that comes with Dinner for 2 at Applebee’s (up to $20 value). Prices: Touchless - $33, Super Kiss - $48, Super Kiss Plus - $63 You may order any of these packages online or by submitting an order form. The order form can be printed off the “Gift Cards” page on the school website.

- **We also carry Delta Sonic gift cards in $25 denominations, available all year long**

- **Russell’s Special Promotion:** Available while supplies last, receive a $25 bonus certificate with the purchase of $100 in Russell’s gift certificates. Makes a great gift !!

- **Special Low Denominations Cards are here!** We will have a limited number of small denominations gift cards available, perfect for stocking stuffers and holiday gift-giving! These low denomination gift cards make great gifts for the special people in your life. These cards will only be available while supplies last, so don't wait to place your orders. The following cards will be available: Amazon.com $10, Applebee’s $10, Barnes & Noble $5, Olive Garden/Red Lobster $10, Outback/Carrabba’s/Bonefish Grill $10, Panera Bread $5, Starbucks $5, Taco Bell $10, Tim Hortons $5 (not limited) & Walmart $10.

- **Gift Card Holiday Wrappers are Here!** We have a colorful collection of gift card holiday wrappers back in stock and available for ordering. These colorful pre-cut glossy wrappers fold up to wrap your gift card in a fun, festive package. It even gives you space to leave a name, gift card amount, and a little note! The wrappers are available in a pack of 10 for $2, with a 10% non-profit contribution, and each pack includes 10 different seasonal designs.

Extended Christmas Hours

Week of 12/9: M - F 8:30 - 2. Week of 12/16: M - Th 8:30 - 2, Friday 8:30 - noon

Thanks for your Support!
Judy Bergman and the Gift Card Team

If EVERY FAMILY in the SCHOOL bought $200 worth of Scrip Cash Cards each month (to use for their own groceries, gasoline, and other necessities), our school would earn about $17,000!

(Last year, scrip sales sold to school families earned a profit of approximately $6500.) Scrip/Gift Cards are the way to contribute to your school without spending an extra penny—please support Gift Cards!

Check out these easy ways to support your school with what you already do:

- Our UNITED WAY Donor’s Choice # is 3872—put your UW Dollars to work for Nativity!
- Turn in your Dash’s Receipts We get $25 for each $1000 of receipts turned in!) and your pre-cut BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION! Or enroll online and do this electronically with your receipt!
- Visit the TOPS website and link your Bonus Card to Nativity School!
Dear Nativity Families:

I’m writing to you as a follow-up to my communication on Thursday regarding the incident at Mass.

I met with Fr. Ron and found out that the person who interrupted Mass is the son of a parishioner and is known in the parish. He suffers from disabilities; however, he is not violent, nor does he pose a threat. He has no history of violence according to the police or his family. Fr. Ron spoke with his mom after the incident and I did as well.

Because of this situation, security questions have been raised; therefore, we have arranged to have a plain-clothes sheriff (the husband of one of our teachers and also a school parent) present for Mass on the 12th and the 19th. The officer will also be present at the Christmas Concert on December 11th. This will provide us added security while we continue to discuss the safety concerns going forward with Fr. Ron, the Sheriff’s Department and our safety committee.

We want your children to be kept safe and are constantly strengthening safety practices. Please call me if you have any ideas, questions or concerns. The number is (716) 633-7441, ext. 390.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert M. Cluckey, Principal

Nativity of Mary School
December-January Calendar

DECEMBER:

VIRTUE—Perseverance (Model: St. Monica)
12/1: Advent begins
12/2: Trimester 1 Ends
12/5: Virtue Awards before Mass (8:45 AM):
Virtue of Responsibility
12/7: The Christmas Marketplace has been cancelled.
12/8: 2nd Sunday of Advent
12/9: Feast of the Immaculate Conception
(moved to the 9th this year; not a Holy Day of Obligation)
12/9: No School: Parent/Teacher Conferences
12/11: Christmas Concert, 6 PM (Children must arrive by 5:45)
12/13: Advent Morning Meeting—8:30, Gym
12/16-17: Auditions for School Spring Musical: Aladdin! 3-4 PM
12/18: North Pole Shop (during school day)
12/19: Announcement of Knights of Columbus Coloring Contest
Winners (before Mass, 8:45 AM)
12/20: Advent Morning Meeting—8:30, Gym
11:30 Dismissal for Christmas
Recess! Staff Christmas Luncheon
12/21-1/1: Christmas Recess
12/25: Merry Christmas!

JANUARY:

Encouragement (Model: St. Barnabas)
Habit 3: Put First Things First (Work First, Then Play)
1/1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God/New Year’s Day
1/2: School Resumes
1/9: Virtue Awards before Mass (8:45 AM)
Virtue of Perseverance
1/16: HSA Parent Meeting 7 PM
1/18: Trivia Night! 7 PM—THIS IS A NEW DATE
THEME: TV Through the Decades
(Cash Raffle will be held in May)
1/20: No School: Martin Luther King Day
1/24-25: Set up for Catholic Schools Week Open House
1/26: Catholic Schools Week
Mass: 9:30 AM
Open House 10:30 AM – 12 PM
1/26-2/1: Catholic Schools Week!
2/1: All Ages Talent Show! 7-9:30 PM
You can place your donations under the Nativity Scene in the cafeteria.

Giving for the Holidays

Our school is once again doing an Adopt a Family Program this year.

Anyone interested should contact Chrissy Erbacher at 560-1580 or erbacher@verizon.net

and she will assign them to a family or an item.

Thank you!
DELTA SONIC & DINNER FOR 2 AT APPLEBEE’S
CHRISTMAS PROMOTION

The ever popular Delta Sonic & Applebee’s Christmas promotions are now available for purchase through Nativity. The promotion includes Delta Sonic car wash certificates that come with dinner for two at Applebee’s (up to $20 value).

We will be offering these packages at the same price Delta Sonic sells them for at their stores (rounded to the nearest dollar). However, when the package is purchased through Nativity, we will earn a profit percentage anywhere from 8 to 16.7% on each package purchased.

This is for a **limited time** only.

All orders must be placed **on or before December 16, 2019** in time for Christmas delivery.

You may purchase these packages online at [www.ShopWithScrip.com](http://www.ShopWithScrip.com) or return the completed order form below Attn: Gift Card Program. Your order will be ready by December 20, 2019 for pick-up in the school, rectory or after any of the Weekend Masses until Christmas.

We will be placing weekly orders with Delta Sonic every Monday starting 11/18 thru 12/16. Family orders will be ready by Friday of each week.

This package makes a wonderful Christmas present while supporting Nativity at the same time!

Thank you!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delta Sonic – 3 Basic Touch-less Washes and Dinner for 2</td>
<td>$33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Sonic – 3 Super Kiss Washes and Dinner for 2</td>
<td>$48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes 5-Day Guarantee – Wash Again for Free!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Sonic – 3 Super Kiss Plus Washes and Dinner for 2</td>
<td>$63</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes 2 FREE Super Kiss washes in 2 weeks. Tire Dressing, RainX,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body Glass &amp; 30 Day Hand Wax also included</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name __________________________ Delivery Method _______________________

Phone # ________________________ Email _______________________________

Check# ________________________ Amount $__________________________ Cash $___________

(please make check payable to “Nativity HSA”)
North Pole Shop!

The date for North Pole Shopping is Wednesday, December 18th!

VOLUNTEER PARENTS NEEDED TO HELP YOUNGER STUDENTS SHOP AND TO WRAP GIFTS. CONTACT JILL SPEAR AT jspear105@gmail.com

The children truly enjoy shopping for loved ones, and we have great gifts for Mom, Dad, Grandparents, Siblings, Friends, Pets and anyone else special your children want to shop for!

Most items are $1, and we have some $2 gifts this year.

Please have your child bring in an envelope with their name, grade, and amount they can spend written on the envelope, with their shopping list and cash, not to exceed $20, inside. Each class will have about 15-20 minutes to shop; knowing who to shop for helps a lot!

Merry Christmas!

--Nativity School HSA’s North Pole Shop Committee
Advent

Friday, December 13, 2019

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

4375 Harris Hill, Williamsville, NY 14221

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Refreshments to follow in the Msgr. Paa Center

Free Will Offering to be Donated to a Charitable Organization

Lessons And Carols

Performed by the St. John Paul II Schola Cantorum

Sponsored by: Catholic Medical Association of Buffalo
December 4, 2019

Ms. Kathleen Sutter
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
4375 Harris Hill Road
Williamsville, NY 14221

Dear Ms. Sutter,

The Kids Escaping Drugs Renaissance Campus empowers adolescents and their families to combat the disease of addiction through our community outreach, education, and early intervention program, Face2Face. On behalf of everyone associated with the Kids Escaping Drugs Renaissance Campus, I would like to extend our sincerest thanks to you for your generous donation in the amount of $150.00 as proceeds from Red Ribbon Week. Thank you!

Thanks to the generosity of our Community Partners, Face2Face reached 30,000 people during the 2018-19 school year, and is aiming to reach 50,000 in the upcoming 2019-20 school year. In addition, Face2Face proudly launched an AfterSchool program, which delivers critically important information. This program targets a younger audience, specifically elementary and middle school aged children, in fun and creative ways using art, music, and sports. None of this would be possible without your support, and for that, we are eternally grateful.

As we continue to combat the disease of addiction, we remain thankful for compassionate community members like you, dedicated to making a difference in Western New York. Your unwavering commitment to the adolescents on the Kids Escaping Drugs Renaissance Campus sends such a powerful message of hope as they continue to fight the stigma. We greatly appreciate and cherish your partnership.

Together, we are building a healthy Western New York Community. Right here. Right now!

Sincerely,

Robin A. Clouden
Executive Director
I hope you had a great Thanksgiving!

The K-8 Pre-Application form for the 2020-21 school year will be available online at www.bisonfund.com beginning on January 1st. The deadline to apply is February 28th. The maximum K-8 award will remain at $2,100 per student for the 2020-21 school year.

The BISON Children’s Scholarship Fund wishes you and your family a very happy holiday filled with peace and blessings of the season.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 716-854-0869 ext. 1 or cmcdonald@bisonfund.com.

Regards,

Cindy
Legacy Fund Tuition Grant Program
For School Year 2020-21

About the Nativity Legacy Fund Tuition Grant Program

The Nativity Legacy Fund Tuition Grant Program provides tuition assistance for Nativity of Mary School families. The Nativity Legacy Fund is financed through parishioner donations and bequests. The Fund is managed by a committee comprised of both parishioners and staff. The committee annually determines the amount of funds available to the Tuition Grant program.

Who is Eligible

Current and new families with students in Pre-K through 8th grade at Nativity of Mary School are eligible to apply annually for an award that is applied directly toward tuition. Awards are granted based on family financial need as measured by household income and/or based on financial hardship.

Household income eligibility levels for the 2020-21 application are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Max. 2019 Household Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$44,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$55,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$66,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$78,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$89,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$100,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$112,250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For families whose income exceeds the income amounts in the above schedule but who are experiencing financial hardship (for example due to the loss of a job, extraordinary expenses or family situation such as divorce) are encouraged to fill out an application and attach supplemental information describing the hardship circumstances for consideration for tuition assistance through the Legacy Fund Tuition Grant program.

How to Apply

The 2020-21 application will be available February 14, 2020 and will be posted to the school’s website www.nativityofmaryschool.org or a paper application may requested by contacting the Business Office by phone at 632-8838 or by email at janet@nativityharrasshill.org

*Please note that all families must apply annually and the student(s) must be fully registered in the school for the 2020-21 school year before the Legacy Fund Tuition Grant application will be processed.

More Information

Please contact the Janet either by email at janet@nativityharrasshill.org or by phone at 632-8838 ext. 411 with any questions.
Nativity Fund Tuition Grant Application
For School Year 2020-21

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 3/31/20

Section 1: Parent/Guardian Information

*Father/Guardian Name __________________________
First Name __________________________ Middle Initial or Name ______ Last Name ______
Address __________________________________________ Apt. # ___ City __________ State ______ Zip ______

Home Phone (___) __________ Work Phone (___) __________ Other Phone (___) __________
Relationship to child/ren: □ Father □ Stefather □ Foster parent □ Guardian
Marital Status: □ Single/Widow □ Married □ Divorced □ Legally Separated
Employment Status (check one): □ Full Time □ Part-Time □ Not Employed □ Disabled

*Mother/Guardian Name __________________________
First Name __________________________ Middle Initial or Name ______ Last Name ______
Address __________________________________________ Apt. # ___ City __________ State ______ Zip ______

Home Phone (___) __________ Work Phone (___) __________ Other Phone (___) __________
Relationship to child/ren: □ Mother □ Stemother □ Foster parent □ Guardian
Marital Status: □ Single/Widow □ Married □ Divorced □ Legally Separated
Employment Status (check one): □ Full Time □ Part-Time □ Not Employed □ Disabled

Section 2: Student Information

Please list all Nativity School students in your family for whom you wish to receive a grant from the Legacy Fund for tuition assistance.

Nativity Student First and Last Name (please print) ____________________________
Sept 2020 Grade __________________________________________
(1) ____________________________
(2) ____________________________
(3) ____________________________
(4) ____________________________

Section 3: Family Income

Household Income Eligibility Scale for 2020-21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Max. 2019 Household Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$44,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$55,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$66,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$78,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$89,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$100,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$112,250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of people in your household as reported on your 2019 Federal Tax Return or Budget Letter:
Total # of ADULTS __________________________
Total # of CHILDREN __________________________

*** please complete and sign page 2 ***
Section 3: Family Income (Cont’d)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 INCOME SOURCES</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjusted Gross Income</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Support (if applicable)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Tax Return to application</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Support (if applicable)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Assistance Cash (if applicable)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Stamps (if applicable)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security (if applicable)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Compensation (if applicable)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income (if applicable)</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complete this section ONLY IF YOU WILL NOT FILE TAXES in 2019.

(Parents and guardians using a notary must also provide official documentation of all 2019 income, such as W2 forms, public assistance statements, child support documents, Social Security statements, and employer letter.)

Notary signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________

Notary name printed: ________________________

Space for notary stamp

Section 4: Certification

I certify that all the information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I promise to pay my child’s school account in a timely manner and comply with the standards of Nativity of Mary School. I understand that failure to comply with the above statements will result in the loss of my family’s tuition assistance. Finally, I agree to release the Legacy Fund from any and all liability in its efforts to provide this tuition assistance.

Parent / Guardian Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________

All Information is kept strictly confidential.

Please include 2019 Federal Tax form and schedules with this application.

Questions?
Contact Parish Business Manager
Email: janet@nativityharrishill.org
Phone: 716.632.8838 ext 411

Please Send Completed Forms and documentation to:
Nativity of the BVM Church
Business Mgr/Legacy Fund
4375 Harris Hill Road
Williamsville, NY 14221