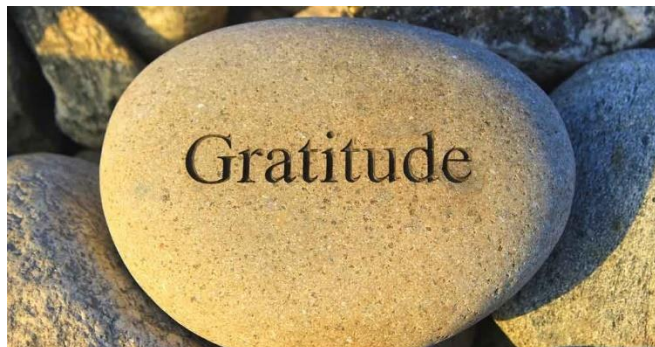


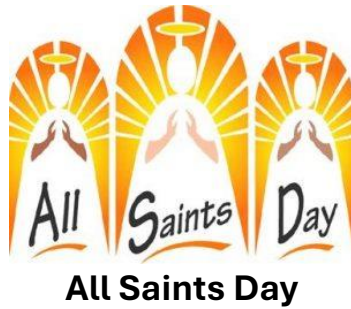


## **November 2024**

*The month of November is the month of Thanksgiving. In the Catholic faith, it is also the month of saints and souls. We remember those who exemplify what it means to love God with their whole heart – to be willing to die for their faith. We also remember those who have gone before us. When we lose someone dear to us, we celebrate the memories that we have been given with that person – not to grieve but to have gratitude for the time we had with them. Consider the gift their presence in your life has been and celebrate it. How fitting that all three of these are celebrated in November – Thanksgiving, the ‘saints’ in our lives, and those who have gone before us. They all intertwine in a very special way. Happy November!*

*“The highest tribute to the dead is not grief but gratitude.” — Thornton Wilder*





November 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints Day. It is a holy day of obligation in the Catholic faith. We will be attending Mass at Immaculate Conception Church at 9:30 a.m., with our preschool and kindergarten students joining us. We hope you will join us, as well.



### **All Souls Day**

November 2<sup>nd</sup> is All Souls Day. It is during this time that we pay tribute to those who have gone before us. We all have loved ones who have passed on. It is hard to be without them. Take some time on this day to remember them in a way that is special to you.



### **Saint Statues**

Our students have the opportunity to learn about saints during the month of November by entering our raffle contest. Any student who researches and writes about a saint will receive a ticket to put in the container for the raffle. They can try to win statues of various saints. The more they write the more tickets/chances they have to win. Students in the younger grades are given other options, such as drawing a picture of a saint. Their teachers will lead them through this process. It has been a long tradition that the children love.



### **Thanksgiving Prayer Service**

Each year our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, led by our 6<sup>th</sup> graders, conduct a Thanksgiving prayer service for the rest of the school. Families are welcome to join us at 9:10 on November 25<sup>th</sup>, in the gymnasium. We hope to see you there.



## Thanksgiving Break

Thanksgiving Break will begin with an early dismissal on Wednesday, November 27. Van/Bus transportation will be provided. Dismissal will begin at 11:15. Students will return to the classroom on Tuesday, December 3.



## Parent/Teacher Conferences

You should have turned in a form requesting your estimated time for a conference with your child's teachers. You will be receiving a confirmation notice of the exact time for that conference. We try to schedule it as close to your request as possible. Preschool conferences are on November 7<sup>th</sup> and November 11. There will be no school for PK on those days. Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade conferences will be held on November 11. No school for all students that day.



## Olweus Kick-Off

Each year we do an Olweus Kick-Off day, where all students are grouped in multi-age groupings and students rotate between stations doing activities that are fun and have purpose. Each station teaches a virtue. For instance, one station will require the 'team' to create a domino train within a certain amount of time. The virtue might be 'teamwork'. At the conclusion of the day, our sixth-grade leadership will present to the student body the importance of being centered in Christ. Olweus is an anti-bullying program. It will be a great day. I am sure you will hear about it when your children come home from school on November 8.



## Grandparents Night

Our first and second graders will be hosting their grandparents on Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. with a little program and delicious pie. It promises to be a wonderful event, as it has been for many years. We love our grandparents!



## **National Vocation Awareness Week**

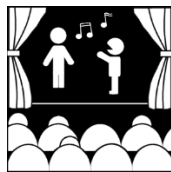


As part of our mission at Conn-Area Catholic School, we want our students to identify who it is that God intended them to be. Part of these efforts include introducing them to vocations, which would include priesthood, consecrated life, marriage, and the single life. The week of November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will celebrate “National Vocation Awareness Week”, by sharing with the students ways that people are called by God.



## **Progress Reports**

The midway point to our second nine weeks is on November 26. Students who are not performing to their potential will receive a Progress Report, in hopes that they can adjust their work habits to improve their grades.



## **Performing Arts Club**

We are proud to announce that this year’s school musical will be Sister Act, Jr. With 37 students involved, it promises to be an excellent experience for everyone. We are very grateful to have Mr. Edwin Robbins as our director again this year. Please mark your calendars for February 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Porter Theatre in the Connellsville Community Center. Please find in this packet, the sponsor form and advertisement opportunity which supports this program.



## **Cantor Choir**

Our cantor choir is doing an amazing job with their vocals. Under the direction of Mr. Bob Broderick, the singers are learning to lead the congregation in song. We hope you will join us sometime at Mass to hear their angelic voices. Thank you, Mr. Broderick, for sharing your time and talents.



### **Discover Geibel Day**

Our fifth and sixth graders have been invited to spend some time at Geibel on November 7<sup>th</sup>, where they will learn what it is like to be a Geibel Gator! I encourage parents of those students to take a look at what they have to offer, before making a decision about your child's junior and senior high school. It is likely the most important decision you make for their future. Contact Mr. Fetter at 724-628-5600 or [rfetter@geibelcatholic.org](mailto:rfetter@geibelcatholic.org) to set up a tour.



### **Colebrook Chocolate**

For those who are taking advantage of the Colebrook Chocolate tuition assistance sale, orders are due on November 1. Ten percent of your sales will be credited toward your tuition, plus you satisfy some of your Christmas shopping for those 'hard-to-buy-for' friends and family. Your orders can be picked up at the school on December 10.



### **Flag Football Season**

Our Flag Football season is coming to an end. Our players have learned a great deal under the leadership of their coaches. Thank you to our JV head coach, Edwin Robbins and to head coach Jonathan Coholich, who coaches our Junior JV team, with assistance from coaches, Justin Hustosky and Tyler Stillwagon. The boys and girls are doing great and having so much fun. Thank you, coaches! You are awesome.



**Thank You, LORD!**