



*Growing leaders who turn  
FAITH into ACTION.*

JANUARY, 2018

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

Dec 22-Jan 7- No school- Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Jan 8- School Resumes

Jan 11- Thursday Parent Coffee Hour (8:30am) in Holy Apostles Dining Room

Jan 18- HSA volunteer fair 6-8pm in Commons

Jan 28- St. Ignatius hosts 11am Mass at Holy Apostles to kick off Catholic Schools Week

Jan 28-Feb 3- Catholic Schools Week

Jan 29- Family Night out at Chipotle (4-8pm)

Feb 3- Ignite the Night Auction at St. Ignatius

Feb 21- Info Meeting & Tour for Prospective Families- 10am & 5:30pm in Commons

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear St. Ignatius Catholic School Community,

What a wonderful month we shared at St. Ignatius Catholic School—celebrating Advent and preparing for the celebration of the birth of Christ. We sang, we reflected, we participated in Reconciliation, and we created the first Christmas traditions of our community. By the time we left for Christmas Break, our hearts were filled with the joy, hope, excitement, and peace of Christmas.

We also witnessed the tremendous generosity of the Holy Apostles and St. Ignatius communities during the month of December. Our school families brought in books, food, and over \$1,600 to donate to families in need. In addition, we experienced tremendous support from the Holy Apostles and St. Ignatius communities for our Gray Wolves Giving Annual Appeal. Funds from this appeal go toward keeping the cost of tuition at St. Ignatius affordable for all of our families and provide our parish students with additional tuition discounts. Thank you to all those who participated in these important efforts.

I pray that all of our students enjoy a safe, restful, and fun-filled Christmas Break! We look forward to seeing all of you in the New Year- ready to continue learning and growing together.

Happy New Year!

Andi Kane  
Principal, St. Ignatius Catholic School



*Academic Excellence • Faith Formation • Social Justice • Service • Strength of Community*

**Faculty:** Keriann Brinegar

**Hometown:** Boise, ID

**Background:** Ms. Brinegar received her Bachelors in Special Education and Elementary Education from Gonzaga University in 2011. This summer she graduated from University of Portland's Pacific Alliance for Catholic Education (PACE) with a Masters of Education and reading endorsement. This allowed Ms. Brinegar to work on her masters while also living in an intentional community in Salt Lake City with other Catholic school educators in the program.

## FOCUS ON FACULTY MEET KERIANN BRINEGAR, KINDERGARTEN

**What parts of St. Ignatius are you most passionate about?** *"I love how welcoming we are of all learners. Every student is so unique and I love being part of a community that honors that."*

**What is something you do to make your students feel special?** *"After any student shares their writing or receives any sort recognition, we have a few different cheers for the whole class to do for that person. If you ever see one of my kindergartners around, ask for a Firework cheer. It's AWESOME."*

**What do you love about working in a school?** *"The students are of course a joy, but I love learning from other educators. They inspire me and give me so many new ideas!"*

**If you had a free day with absolutely nothing scheduled what would you do?** *"I just purchased my first home, which is a little more "fixer" than it is an "upper" so most likely it would involve some home improvement. Sprinkle in lunch with my mom, a walk with my dog, and some Netflix catch-up time, and that's pretty close to my perfect day."*

**What is something that people might not know about you?** *"I was voted to be my PACE cohort graduation speaker. A constant theme for our cohort was how our 2 year program was much like a river journey complete with all sorts of "rapids". I did the entire speech with a neon yellow life vest over my graduation gown!"*

## STERLING HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Every December for more than 20 years, each of the Catholic elementary schools in Boise has had the privilege of selecting one 8<sup>th</sup> grade student to receive the Sterling Humanitarian Award. This honor is bestowed upon the student whom best exemplifies the traits of a student humanitarian-- taking concrete action to serve their school community and the greater community, being a seeker of justice, and promoting the welfare of others. This student is identified by the faculty and administration of their school to receive the Sterling Humanitarian Award, which consists of a scholarship to Bishop Kelly High School and a certificate of commendation.



2017 Sterling Humanitarian Award Winner Brinley Von Herbulis with her family and award sponsors and organizers, John & Lynne Sterling.



At our school Mass on December 14<sup>th</sup>, Brinley Von Herbulis received the 2017 Sterling Humanitarian Award for St. Ignatius Catholic School. Brinley is an exceptionally kind young woman who is respected by all teachers and peers. In our first year at St. Ignatius, Brinley leads by example and gives her younger peers a positive Christian role model to look up to. When a choice needs to be made between what is right and what is easy, Brinley consistently chooses what is right.

The Sterling Humanitarian Award is an important and special honor, and we are thrilled to recognize Brinley's leadership and important actions by recognizing her with this award.



## Great Things Happening! ADVENT

St. Ignatius Catholic School has spent this month busily preparing for Christmas with the celebration of Advent. This Advent Season has been a very special time for our student and faculty community. Each day we have worked to prepare our minds and spirits for the celebration of Christ's birth.



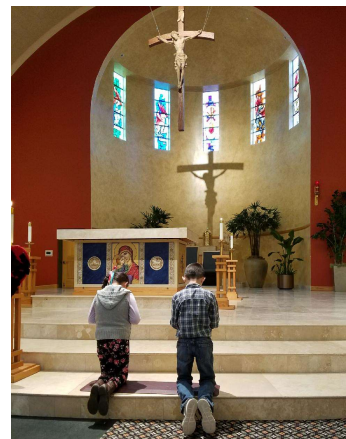
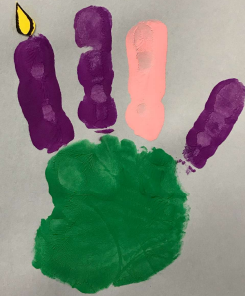
Each morning during this Advent Season, the entire school has come together in the Commons to celebrate Advent with song, scripture, and reflection. We process to the Commons in quiet song, we light the Advent candles, and we spend quiet and reverent time together worshipping as a community. This time spent preparing for Christmas and celebrating Advent has truly been a special time for our students to quiet their minds and spirits during this hectic time of year so that they can open their hearts to the true meaning of this special season.

Our 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students have all had the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas. This important sacrament provides our students with an opportunity to experience God's forgiveness and, we hope, inspires them to forgive others and become active peacemakers during this holiday season.



Our school has been filled with beautiful music and decorations during this month- reminding us throughout our day that this is a joyful season of celebration!

O, Come! O, Come,  
Emmanuel!





## Great Things Happening! Celebrating Christmas

In addition to celebrating Advent, St. Ignatius Catholic School has had a number of other Christmas celebrations this month.



Our entire student body spent the month preparing for and participating in our first ever St. Ignatius Catholic School Christmas Concert. What an amazing evening it was for our entire community.

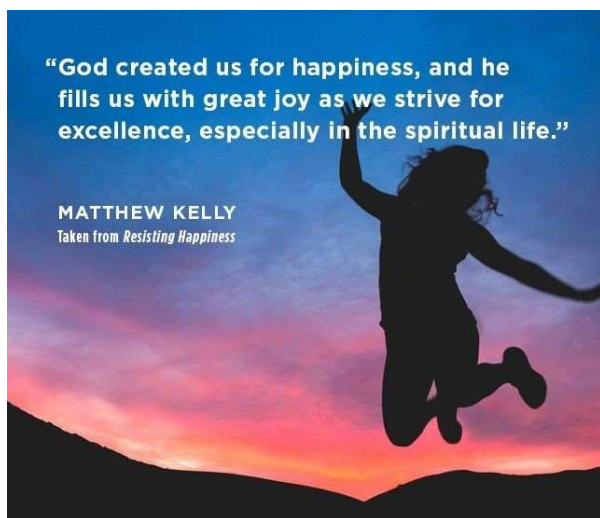


Our Pre- K students celebrated the Feast of Santa Lucia by caroling throughout the school and delivering sweet breads to their fellow students.



Our K-8<sup>th</sup> grade classes decorated their classroom doors in ways that represent their class character and hopes for Christmas.





**"God created us for happiness, and he fills us with great joy as we strive for excellence, especially in the spiritual life."**

**MATTHEW KELLY**  
Taken from *Resisting Happiness*

## FAMILIES ON FIRE

At Holy Apostles Catholic Church and St. Ignatius Catholic School, we are constantly reminding our students and children that God is all around us- in everything we do and in all we celebrate. We remind our students and youth to look for God in all things, and find ways to see and encounter God in both special and common ways. We would like to start partnering with families to offer ideas that might help you infuse faith into more aspects of your daily lives, routines, and celebrations.

## REFLECTION: JANUARY- JOY

Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Let earth receive her King! Okay, how many times have we heard these words playing in the background the last couple of months? A lot I bet. But now that the hustle and bustle of the holiday season has ended, we can take some time to really let these words continue to sink in. Especially as we carry forward with the Christmas Season! Christmastide, also known as the Twelve Days of Christmas, is the perfect occasion to rejoice in Jesus' birth as a family. Go ahead and keep playing that song and sing along together! Authentic Christian joy is like no other, it reminds us of how near God is to us! As a family, share and tell of the joy each one receives in knowing Jesus came to earth for us. Here are some suggestions to help celebrate this month at home!

1. **Story Time:** On January 8<sup>th</sup> we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus Christ. Read the actual account from the Bible which can be found in Matthew 3:13-17 NAB. A Children's Bible with pictures will work well for younger kids. Or coloring pages may be found online for free too. This can also be used to recount our children's own baptism day. Share about who was there, what was going on, something special that occurred? Describe the joy baptism brings to the world.
2. **Prayer Time:** The Church has high respect for Mary and honors her in many ways. One of them is to have certain days dedicated to her. The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The day is also a Holy Day. Attend Mass together and pray for the Blessed Mother's intercession for your family. Pray and meditate on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary together after dinner.
3. **Simple Reminders:** The Christmas season ends with the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. This year it lands on January 7<sup>th</sup>. During this day, we recall the visit the Magi made to Jesus. A popular custom is to bless your house for the year with chalk on the front door. This will serve as a visual sign to remember the joy Christ brings into our homes. Here is a step by step link with information for the blessing → <http://www.catholicicing.com/epiphany-house-blessing-and-a-linky/>
4. **Friends in High Places:** The Feast of St. Francis de Sales is on January 24<sup>th</sup>. He was around in the late 1500s through the early 1600s and enjoyed teaching and writing about Christ. He knew from a very young age the mission God had for him. He is known for helping all people strive and live for holiness. St. Francis made it clear that every Christian was called to holiness, no matter what their career or state of life was. With the help of St Francis de Sales, make a list of how each family member can strive and live in holiness.

**"Christians are ready to proclaim the Gospel because they can't hide the joy that comes from knowing Christ" Pope Francis**



## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY THIS MONTH

### IGNITE THE NIGHT!

Our biggest fundraising event of the year is just around the corner! Saturday, February 3 at St. Ignatius, we will celebrate "Ignite the Night" with a dinner, silent auction and live auction. Our amazing HSA and Ignite the Night Committee have been working tirelessly to create this wonderful event for our community and it is going to be amazing!

Get your tickets early so you don't miss out on this wonderful and important evening for St. Ignatius Catholic School. All proceeds from the auction will go towards keeping the cost of tuition affordable at St. Ignatius Catholic School. That means that every student at St. Ignatius benefits from this event!

Even if you cannot attend, you can still help! We still need volunteers for the event (visit <https://signup.com/group/315631030060>) and donations for the silent and live auction (contact [link@prairiemed.com](mailto:link@prairiemed.com) & [sfhmobile@gmail.com](mailto:sfhmobile@gmail.com)).

Thank you to everyone for your commitment to this important celebration!

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Connect with us!

Facebook: [stignatiuscatholicschool](https://www.facebook.com/stignatiuscatholicschool)

Twitter: [@stignatiusid](https://twitter.com/stignatiusid)

Instagram: [stignatiusmeridian](https://www.instagram.com/stignatiusmeridian)

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Strength of community is one of the cornerstone philosophies of St. Ignatius Catholic School community! A vibrant community gives children strong roots to grow and develop. We encourage all families to participate in our many social, service and volunteer endeavors to help us build and strengthen the St. Ignatius family.

### MONTHLY PARENT COFFEE HOUR

Starting in January, our awesome HSA will begin hosting a monthly coffee hour for parents from 8:30-10:00 in the Holy Apostles Dining Room. Normally, this coffee hour will take place on the first Thursday of each month but in January it will be on Thursday, Jan 11 (because we won't yet be back in school on the first Thursday). Join us for this social hour and then join the entire student body for Mass at 10:15.

### NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

We will be celebrating National Catholic Schools Week January 28-February 3. For those of you that are new to Catholic education, Catholic Schools Week is our annual celebration of what makes education at St. Ignatius Catholic School outstanding. Starting with Sunday Mass on January 28, we have a whole week of activities planned to show what our students are accomplishing and to celebrate the community we have built to educate tomorrow's citizens and leaders.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed." The theme encompasses the core products and values that can be found in Catholic schools across the country. Not only are we teaching students to become future servant leaders, faith-filled disciples and enriched citizens in our communities, educators are growing with them. In Catholic schools, we are all learners, servants and leaders. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools work. They are what make Catholic schools succeed.

Stay tuned for much more information on what we have planned for this special week at St. Ignatius Catholic School! It will be a special celebration for our students, staff and community!



**Celebrate  
Catholic Schools  
Week 2018**

**January 28 – February 3**

**#CSW18**

#### *St. Ignatius School Mission*

*St. Ignatius is a Christ-centered Catholic school committed to the Ignatian traditions of academic excellence and teaching students to live their Catholic faith through service and the promotion of justice. Our community - school, families, parish - seeks to inspire students to reach their potential, to act with initiative and integrity, and to engage the world as a place where God can be found in all things.*