



NOVEMBER, 2018

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

Nov 16- Middle School Youth Rally at BK

Nov 19-23- NO SCHOOL; Happy Thanksgiving!

Wed, Nov. 28th- Parent Ed Night- Internet Safety @ 6:00pm

Dec 20- Christmas Concert (K-8) @ 6:30pm

Dec 21- NOON DISMISSAL

Dec 22-Jan 7- NO SCHOOL; Christmas Break

Jan 7- NO SCHOOL; Teacher Professional Development

Jan 8- School Resumes

*Growing leaders who turn  
FAITH into ACTION.*

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear St. Ignatius Catholic School community,

The month of November is traditionally thought of as a time for gratitude. In a few weeks we will celebrate Thanksgiving, hopefully taking time to call to mind our blessings with family and friends.

Gratitude is at the heart of our faith. After all, the Eucharist, the very center of the Mass, translates to "thanksgiving," or more specifically, "thanksgiving to God". We believe that the offering of the Eucharist-- Christ fully present in the Mass-- is quite literally an offering of thanks.

Furthermore, the second stage of the Examen, St. Ignatius' prayer of reflection, is in fact to give thanks. St. Ignatius recognizes the importance of gratitude in this powerful prayer that he encourages all of to say in order to deepen our relationship with God.

So, this November, I would like to share with you my own gratitude for the work I am blessed to do at St. Ignatius Catholic School, and for the many gifts I receive each day in my role serving our community. Here are just a few of the many reasons I am grateful to be the principal of St. Ignatius Catholic School: All 452 of our students. Each one is truly a gift to me- a walking vessel for God's presence.

- Our weekly Mass. Every Thursday I am blessed to share the Eucharist with our parishioners, parents, staff and students.
- Our school lunches. Yum.
- Our staff. I'm not lying when I say we have the most dedicated, hard-working, and committed group of adults I know. Not to mention they are all really great people that I love being around every day.
- "El Camino De San Ignacio"- Our beautiful mosaic. Seeing this deeply meaningful piece of art every day is centering. As one teacher said to me recently, "The mosaic never gets old".
- The preschoolers. Three and four-year-olds are the best.
- Our award-winning building. It sure is nice to have a top-notch facility that fosters modern learning.
- The freedom we have to be traditional in our Catholicism AND innovative in our educational model.
- The hugs, high fives, and smiles I receive daily. We have the best kids.

There is much to be grateful for at St. Ignatius Catholic School. Thank YOU for taking the time to read our monthly HOWL, and for the love and support you give. I wish you all a joyful and happy Thanksgiving.

Blessings,

Andi Kane, Principal, St. Ignatius Catholic School

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

## GREAT THINGS HAPPENING!

October is always a month of fun! Jog-A-Thons, Pumpkin Patches, Halloween, All Saints Day... this time of year brings a lot of excitement.

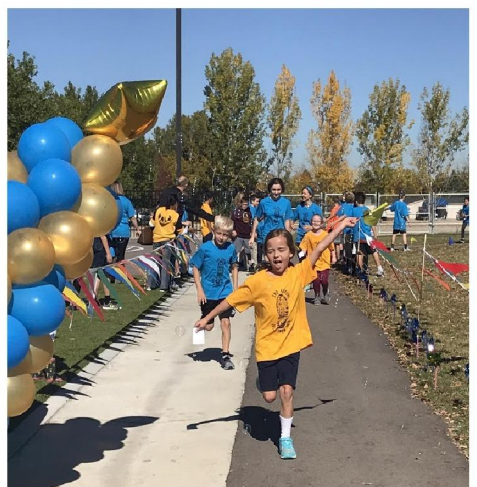
There was great anticipation leading up to this year's Jog-A-Thon as Team Dunn/Kane took on Team Stivison/Partin. The kids (and staff) had a great time with the good natured, intra-school rivalry with decorations, pranks, and some occasional chanting. It turned out to be a beautiful fall day and the kids ran their hearts out. It was great to have our parents and grand-parents there to help cheer them on! A huge thank you to Mrs. Dunn, Mr. Stivison, the HSA, Jog-A-Thon Chairs, volunteers, donors, and students for making this event so much fun and so successful. We hope to give you an update on the garden shed soon!

Before the Jog-A-Thon excitement could even wear off, we were on to the seasonal traditions! There were the annual trips to the pumpkin patch, Red Ribbon Week, the Halloween parades, and, importantly, All Saints Day Mass.

Even with all the excitement, our students continued working hard inside and outside of their classrooms—growing academically, emotionally, socially, spiritually, and physically—all of which was on display as each student presented their accomplishments to their parents at our fall student-led parent conferences. It was a great month to be a Gray Wolf!







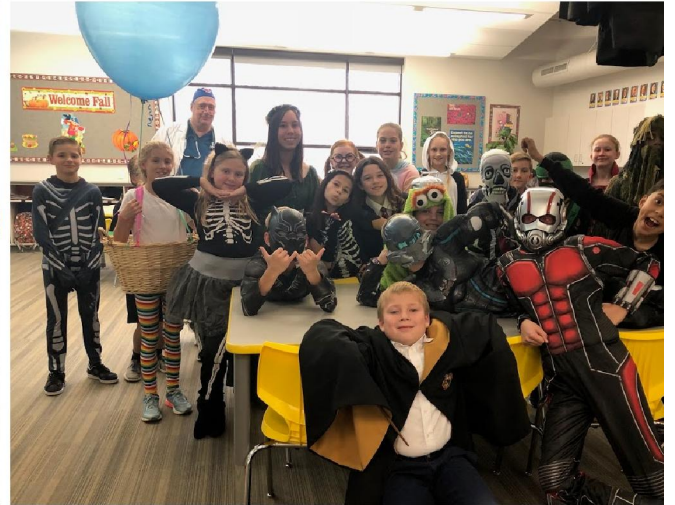
# JOG-A-THON!





# Pumpkin Patch





# HALLOWEEN



# 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: GRATITUDE

Being grateful for anything and everything can go a very long way. We hear the importance of learning how to be grateful in all areas from Psychology to Spirituality. This is because being thankful or appreciative is so healthy for humanity that it requires exercise. It is easy to slip into the habit of saying the words, thank you, and have it become just a repetitive gesture, which is a good start. But we must also feel the thank you to where it transforms us and changes the way we think and see the world around us. This month is a wonderful opportunity to tap into the irreplaceable joy the practice of gratitude as a family can yield!

1. November 1st, All Saints Day, and November 2nd, All Souls Day, are really good celebrations to show gratitude for the people who have gone before us. Attend Mass for the Feast of All Saints and share why the Saints of the Church are something to be thankful for. For All Souls Day, take time to pray for and reflect on deceased relatives and friends during dinner or after. Certain prayers for the Saints and the deceased can be found online with an easy internet search.
2. November 13th is the Feast of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini. She lived her life being grateful for God that she helped immigrants here in the U.S. and founded a Religious Community. Prepare a dinner that is from another country and learn about the culture. A bonus, St. Frances' Relics are inside the Altar at Holy Apostles. Plan a visit to the church during the day and pray for her intercession!
3. Thanksgiving Day falls on November 22nd this year. Start a family gratitude journal or jar. Take turns writing down items, big and small, each member appreciates. Use the journal or jar throughout the month and discuss during dinner time. Or have it carried on throughout the year as a family tradition.
4. The Solemnity of Christ the King lands on November 25th. We can show gratitude towards our Heavenly King by focusing on His mysteries and work for us while he was on earth. We can choose a decade of the Rosary to reflect on over dinner and give a prayer of thanksgiving as a family. Cake!! Yes, this grand day calls for cake, no explaining there!

**"Gratitude is the first sign of a thinking, rational creature"**

**Blessed Solanus Casey**

## GIVING SEASON

St. Ignatius Catholic School will be hosting a number of opportunities for students to help serve others during the holiday season. Some of these events will require time and assistance from our students—raking leaves for senior parishioners or helping create food baskets for families in need— and some of these events will involve collections of food or money for those in need.

We encourage our students to drive these events. When we collect funds for turkeys, we will encourage students to come up with creative ways to earn that money themselves. When we rake leaves, they should be the ones ready to get their hands dirty! Our goal is to create “kids for others” and this means teaching our students habits of service and generosity—not just deferring to mom and dad to donate their money or time.

In addition to encouraging participation from your student, please take advantage of this great opportunity to speak with your children about service and how much their efforts help others in their community. Check your Tuesday Communication for more information about these upcoming events!

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## ALL SAINTS' DAY

We finished up this great month with a very special All Saints' Day. Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students worked hard to research, learn about, and write stories about very special saints. These students (each dressed as their saint) then led us in a beautiful and memorable All Saints Day Mass. When we returned to school after Mass, students from all grades were able to “tour through the saints” and learn their very special stories. THANK YOU to the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and Mrs. Sieker for working so hard to make this a special day for all of our students.



**NOTICE! Help for “Light The Way” (our School’s dinner auction) is needed in many forms. Please contact Mary @ [maryadcox@gmail.com](mailto:maryadcox@gmail.com) or Nancy @ [nroellich@yahoo.com](mailto:nroellich@yahoo.com) soon.**

### *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.*