



Dear Nativity Families:

Nativity of Mary School celebrated our 2nd week of Advent with our Preschool to Grade 5 Concert and a special Mass for the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In addition, our Kindergarten classes hosted their "Los Posadas" plays helping to tell the story of our search for a place to stay. Adoration will be available for our classes until 1:15 p.m. on this Friday and we would love to have you join us. These events, Sacraments, and concerts during Advent helps to remind us of the miracle of Christ's birth and the gift that Jesus came to save us. We are blessed to share our faith through these Sacraments and special events.

NUTCRACKER BALLET AT NATIVITY-FRIDAY! Join us this Friday for another Christmas event – The Nutcracker. This famous ballet will be performed at Nativity by the Youth Dance Ensemble and School featuring Meredith Aune, Anika, Rylie and Annabel Benz

PRAYERS FOR NATIVITY FAMILY: It is with a heavy heart that we share that this past Friday, an alumna of Nativity of Mary School, Duyen Bui, passed away due to a sudden and severe illness. She graduated from Nativity of Mary School in 2016 and was currently a Kennedy High School junior. She was volunteering here weekly and our staff and students will miss her dearly. Her Visitation is Friday, Dec. 14 at Gill Brothers and her funeral is scheduled for Sat., Dec. 15 at 11 am at Nativity of Mary Church. Their family also has a "Go Fund Me" page online. ([Click to go to page](#))



NATIVITY OF MARY 52 CLUB RAFFLE: This is the school's first all-school fundraiser of the year. As a family with TADS tuition, you have already bought out of this fundraiser; however, the more tickets you sell now, the more tuition credit you will earn!

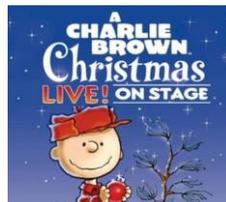
- 1) **Don't want to buy any additional tickets?** Fill out the ones that you've received in your packet to enter the drawing (You've already paid for these through TADS.)
- 2) **Want to sell more?** Fill out the tickets AND send in a check with your order form for any number of additional tickets. **THE MORE YOU SELL, THE MORE YOU EARN** (A maximum of \$750 can be earned.)
- 3) **Sign up to sell at Masses:** Click here for the ["Sign Up Genius Link."](#)

NATIVITY OF MARY 3rd ANNUAL APPEAL: Nativity of Mary School has invited parishioners and Nativity supporters to contribute to our Annual Fund. If your family, or extended family, would like to make a donation to the school, you may donate by sending a check to the school office, mailing a donation to 9901 E Bloomington Freeway, Bloomington, MN 54520 or donate online at: ([DONATE BY CLICKING HERE](#)). To date we have raised \$36,300 toward a goal of \$85,000!

MAKE A GIFT TO LUNCH! Nativity of Mary School has some families who struggle to pay for hot, school lunches. If you would consider making a gift to our Lunch Angel Account, we would appreciate your support. Please make checks payable to Nativity of Mary School (Angel Account.)

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCERT-TUES., DEC. 18-7 p.m.: Students may arrive by 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space. This is required for Middle School as part of their grade. If your child cannot attend, please contact Dr. Rule or Miss Shukle.

6th GRADE CHRISTMAS PLAY-WED., DEC. 19th: All family and friends are welcome to come see "A Charlie Brown Christmas Show." You may come to the 10:15 am and 1:30 pm show. Both will be in the Nativity Gathering Space.



MISSION: Nativity of Mary Catholic School provides a Catholic education that fosters academic excellence and spiritual growth while preparing students to become responsible citizens in a global society.

DEC. 13: NEWSLETTER
[Can't find your paper copy?](#)
[Click here for the entire newsletter and attachments on our website.](#)

DEC. 13 & 14: Kindergarten Los Posadas Plays (3 p.m. each day)

DEC. 14: Nutcracker – performed by the Youth Ensemble featuring Nativity students! 1:15 p.m.

DEC. 18: Middle School Christmas Concert at 7 p.m. in the Church

DEC. 19: 6th Grade Play – 10:15 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

DEC. 20: Last day of school, Christmas Parties and Sing-A-Long

JOIN US ON:
[SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)
[INSTAGRAM \(Click\)](#)
[FACEBOOK \(Click\)](#)

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE - STUDENT TRY OUT (4-8th): Do you dream of going into acting? Do you have a great voice? If you are in 4-8th grades, fill out the application form at: <http://bit.ly/2QwaNEq> and pick an audition date at: <http://bit.ly/2TzhMeG>

PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2019-20: Students who will be four next fall and in their last year of preschool, are invited to apply for scholarships.

Apply: <https://www.grantinterface.com/User/Register?urlkey=earlychildhood>

KUDOS:

- **52 Club:** Bob Terry - \$100 winner.
- **Nativity PTO:** The PTO Boutique was a great way to Christmas shop, support local vendors, and gather for your favorite photo with Santa. Thanks to all of the PTO and Nativity families that made this possible
- **Prek-Grade 5 Music, Strings, Piano & Band:** Thank you for a wonderful piano recital and a beautiful Prek-5 Concert! Special thanks to our all of our teachers and Miss Shukle, Dr. Rule & Mrs. Bergquist.
- **Positivity Project-Character Strength-Humility:** 5th Grade, Danny Larson, Chloe Wheeler
- **Connie Dowzak's Retirement Celebration - January 6 after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the School Cafeteria.** Come to say farewell, drop off a card, and thank her for over 28 1/2 years of service to Nativity and Creative Clubhouse!

REMINDERS:

- **APPARELNOW:** Has both Nativity of Mary Church and School logos! Visit www.apparelnow.com and use the "Find a Store" box to enter "Nativity of Mary." (Proceeds this year will benefit Lynn Robertson)
- **EDUCATIONAL OUTFITTERS:** Proceeds will benefit Lynn Robertson, order at: <http://www.educationaloutfitters.com/MN>
- **BLOOMINGTON CUSTOM EMBROIDERY:** Various spirit wear items are available to support Lynn Robertson. You may order at: <http://www.4alarmclothing.com/Nativity.html>
- **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR WINTER IS DEC. 20, 2018.** We resume school on January 7, 2019.

Blessings – Mindy Reeder, PRINCIPAL mreeder@nativitybloomington.org

Upcoming
**COMMUNITY
EVENTS**

FAMILY ARTS DAY: Saturday, December 15 from 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the [Bloomington Center for the Arts](#)



JANUARY 12, 2019
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Nativity of Mary Catholic Church

*Charism
Discernment
Retreat*

Cost: \$10, includes lunch
Contact: Cinthia Biros for registration
information at
cbiros@nativitybloomington.org

JOYFULLY
GIFTED

BSM Red Knight-Attend our Open House Monday, January 7, 2019, 6-8:30 p.m. Register for one of our Open Houses at bsmschool.org/visit. It's time to become a Red Knight! The priority application deadline for the 2019-20 school year is January 18, 2019. Apply today at bsmschool.org



LUNCH UPDATES

A La Carte Items – CLOSED.

Recently we had a theft in our lunchroom of product and petty cash. As a result, we have decided to close the "A La Carte" sales at this time.

LUNCH BALANCES: Please log into Educate monthly to check on your lunch account balance. Our goal is to have positive balances as 2019 begins. We are accepting donations for "Lunch Angels," people who help other families pay for lunch. Please consider a donation.

TABLE LAYOUT: Jill Grimme is reorganizing the lunchroom layout and students are table leads. This is helping to reduce waste on the floor and increase recycling processes.



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

HIGHER POWERED

LEARNING at NATIVITY

Nativity of Mary School is partnering with the University of Notre Dame in a three year grant through their Higher Powered Learning Program. Their staff is working directly with our teachers, four this year, but all of our teachers over the next three years, to implement a personalized learning program for each child – referred to as Blended Learning.

What are our BLAST teachers doing now? Attended a day training with the University of Notre Dame staff and the four other schools in the grant program with us. This training helped to solidify school goals, discuss progress and plan for the next few months.

All Nativity Teachers? All Nativity teachers continue to read their Growth Mindset books and are reading the December chapter on Equity verses Equality. The PLC groups met this Thursday morning.