



**Founded In 1867
By Sisters of the
Incarnate Word and
Blessed Sacrament**

NAZARETH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER, 2018



**Jets for Jesus
151 years of Service**

To Teach (the Gospel), to Build (a loving Community) and to Serve (those in need) in the Spirit of Christ.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Dec. 1 Christmas Parade- Band, Drill Team, Cheerleaders, & Choir participating
- Dec. 7 Faculty Meeting
Dismissal at 2:00pm;
KNO Grs. 2-8; 6 to 9
- Dec. 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Dec. 13 **Band & Choir Christmas**
Concert at 6:30 in gym
- Dec. 17 **PK3 Christmas Program**, 10:00a.m.
In Auditorium
- Dec. 18 **Christmas Programs-**
PK4 & Grs. 1- 5, 2:00 pm in Gym
Gr. 8 & K 6:30pm in Gym
- Dec. 19 End of 2nd Nine Weeks
Dismissal at 12:30pm
- Dec. 25 **A Grace-filled and Merry Christmas**
- Dec. 19-31 Christmas Holidays



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan. 1 **A Blessed and Happy New Year!**
- Jan. 3 Classes resume
- Jan. 4 Faculty Meeting, 2:00 dismissal
- Jan. 27-Feb. 2 Catholic Schools Week Theme:
**Catholic Schools:
Learn, Serve, Lead, Succeed**
- Jan. 22 Open House for prospective students



Dear Parents/Guardians,
Christmas is right around the corner. However, before we get to that point, we celebrate the season of Advent, a time of reflection on the real reason for the Season – the birth of our Savior! Last year I discovered an Advent reflection on Nazareth that I thought interesting since our school is named for Jesus’ family home at Nazareth. I liked it so well that I am repeating it here. The following is paraphrased from an article written by Rev. Robert J. Hater, PhD.

“Pope Paul VI offers the life of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as a model to imitate when he says, ‘Nazareth is a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ’s life was like and even to understand his Gospel. Here we can observe and ponder the simple appeal of the way God’s Son came to be known, profound yet full of hidden meaning.’ (Pope Paul VI, *Address for Feast of the Holy Family*, January 5, 1964)

Topic: Nazareth as a School of Learning

We begin our Advent reflection by looking to the Holy Family as our model, not only for Christian families, but for our school family. In the address quoted above, Pope Paul VI offers three helpful ideas:

First, we learn from the Holy Family’s silence. In silence, we get in tune with God’s wisdom. Amid today’s cacophony of sounds and activities, the example of the Holy Family challenges us in our families and in our school to find times and places to pray, worship, and be silent. In the quiet of our hearts, we learn the depth of the Father’s love and our true gift of self.

Second, the Holy Family teaches us what family life and our school family life can be. Like them, we strive for patience, respect and unconditional love amid our daily challenges.

Third, Joseph, Jesus, and Mary teach us the value of work and family support. Living each day being the best student, parent, child, employee/employer is an excellent preparation for Christmas and being a family model. We learn from the Pope’s words that our true dignity is enhanced when we cooperate with God’s grace, helping us to better appreciate ourselves, family, friends, and work.”

As we celebrate the Christmas season, when Jesus came down to earth to show us the face of our Heavenly Father, who is unconditional Love, may we strive to have our families model the family at Nazareth.

*Blessings,
Sister Evelyn Korenek, Principal*

DID YOU KNOW?

Five Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Sisters arrived in Victoria on December 21, 1866. Seventeen days later, on January 7, 1867, Nazareth Academy was opened. It was known as the Convent School. Nazareth is the 4th oldest Catholic School in the state of Texas and the longest running educational institution in Victoria County! Nazareth has withstood the test of time – 151 years - and has established an enduring tradition!

WAITING FOR JESUS – ADVENT

The word *advent* is from Latin and means the coming. Advent is a time of spiritual reflection, as well as a time of eager anticipation. Advent is a Christian tradition that invites us on a four-week journey which culminates with the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Advent is a time for renewal, a time for families to gather and reacquaint themselves with one another and their faith community. It is a time for us to look deep within and give new meaning to our everyday lives.

May this Advent find you ready and waiting for the Christ, and in so doing, may you also bring to those you know a rich understanding of this time of waiting. May you have a blessed Advent!



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE – DEC. 12

In 1531 a “Lady from Heaven” appeared to a humble Native American, Juan Diego, at Tepeyac, a hill outside Mexico City. She identified herself as the ever virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the True God.

She made a request for a church to be built on the site. When the Bishop hesitated and requested a sign, the Mother of God sent Juan Diego to the top of the hill in mid-December to gather an assortment of roses for the Bishop.

Our Lady also left an image of herself imprinted miraculously on the Juan’s tilma, poor quality cactus-cloth, which should have deteriorated in 20 years but shows no sign of decay 480 years later and defies all scientific explanations of its origin. Our Lady’s message is one of love and compassion and a universal promise of help and protection to all people.



AFTER SCHOOL CARE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

There is no Extended Care during the Christmas Holidays.

VICTORIA CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY THANK YOU

A sincere thank you is extended to Nazareth Academy for the generous food donations of over 600 pounds given to VCAM and St. Vincent de Paul’s Society at St. Mary’s . Your gift is providing meals for those who are in need. A heavenly blessing is also granted to you – blessing you in your needs.



150th CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS AND COOKBOOKS

Looking for some great gift idea? During the month of December cookbooks and Ornaments will be for sale at the school. Cookbooks are \$15 and ornaments are \$10. Get them before they are gone!

YOU'RE INVITED

The month of December is filled with excitement. Parents, grandparents, Nazareth Academy families please join us in the month's activities.

The Band and Choir will have their annual Christmas program on Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30pm in the gym. Come listen to the glorious sounds of the holiday and enjoy the progress of the students' development of their musical abilities.



Christmas Programs will be presented on Dec. 18 by students in Grades PK-4 & Grs.1-5 at 2:00 in the gym. The Nativity Program presented by students in Gr. 8 and Kindergarten is at 6:30pm in the gym.

PK-3 Program is at 10:00am in the auditorium on Dec. 17th.

THE CHRISTMAS CARDINAL

Christened the Christmas bird for its spectacular red color, the cardinal has become a symbol of the beauty and warmth of the Christmas Season. A glimpse of this brilliant bird brings cheer, hope and inspiration on a gray, wintry day. As nature's reminder for us to focus on our faith, the cardinal's scarlet plumage represents the blood of Christ shed for our redemption.



PSIA – PRIVATE SCHOOLS INTERSCHOLASTIC ASSOCIATION

The District Meet is at Our Lady of Victory School on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2019. Nazareth Academy still has openings for some events. We want a full roster. Contact Sr. Bernarda for additional information.

Statement of Purpose

The Private Schools Interscholastic Association believes

- that most students enjoy the pursuit of excellence and seek opportunities to test themselves against their own accomplishments and those of others;
- that such opportunities are best provided through properly conducted and equitably administered competitive activities;
- that the classroom is enriched by the flow of student energy into the more intensified arena of competition and back into the classroom.

YEARBOOK 8th Graders-

We need a kindergarten picture for the yearbook! Please bring a photo into the office to be scanned or simply e-mail a jpeg photo to dnaquin@nazarethacademy.org



Photos-

Have you taken photos during any of our school events? If so, submit them to the yearbook staff and we may use them in the 2018-2019 yearbook! Sharing photos is easy. You can download the mobile app - **YEARBOOK SNAP!** It's available from iTunes and Google Play. Our password is **NA-TX**. If you prefer to upload from your camera, simply go to www.yearbookforever.com, find Nazareth Academy, and then click on **COMMUNITY UPLOAD**. Or you can e-mail any school photos to dnaquin@nazarethacademy.org

For any questions, please contact our Yearbook Advisor, Destiny Naquin, at 361-648-2277 or via e-mail dnaquin@nazarethacademy.org

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Diocese of Victoria adopted the *Code of Pastoral Conduct* to provide a set of standards for conduct for all church/church-related personnel, including personnel and volunteers in Catholic schools of the

Diocese. According to the Code, volunteers must attend a *Keeping Kids Safe Workshop*, and obtain clearance on a criminal records background check for the State of Texas or any other state where the applicant has resided during the past 5 years, before volunteering. Any volunteer providing service to the students, *must have met these obligations before being allowed to volunteer*. For more information, including dates for the various trainings, please call the school office or visit the Diocese of Victoria website at www.victoriadiocese.org.

Since the Safe Environment program was initiated, a renewal process has been implemented. If you completed the process three years ago, another background check will automatically be performed during the anniversary month of your original background check. You will also be required to complete an online renewal program that covers any new components in our Diocesan Code of Conduct. You will be notified when you are to complete the online renewal.

CAFETERIA NEWS

Nazareth Academy participates in the Federal Government lunch program. If you believe that you may qualify for this program, please turn in an application to Sister Ann. It helps you and it helps the school. **It is kept strictly confidential.** Applications were sent out to all families in the August Newsletter. If you need an application, additional copies can be obtained from Sister Ann. Please consider participating. You can apply at any time during the school year

BOX TOPS REPORT

Thank you to the students/families who contributed during the month of November.

PK-3	6	Holden Hermes 6
PK-4	79	Brooklyn Starnes 79
K	7	Hayden Hermes 7
Gr. 1	24	Emma Naquin 24;
Gr. 2	79	Brady Fagg 79;
Gr. 3	7	Teagan Parker 7;
Gr. 7	22	Maanvi Agarwal 22
	63	IWBS Sisters 63
	83	Unidentified 14; 51; 18



Total of 307 Box Tops were collected. The redeemed value is \$30.70. Thanks for your efforts!



**SCHOOL RESUMES FROM THE CHRISTMAS BREAK
THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2019**