



HCA Family Newsletter January 11, 2019

"I resolve, O my Jesus, to go and knock constantly at the door of your Heart to ask you for the alms of charity when I have to speak or deal with my neighbor." ~ Saint Léonie Aviat

January

13 – feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

14 – Scantron testing continues in grades 3 - 7

17 – jeans day for students whose parents filled out the survey (see explanation below)

18 – school Mass in honor of St. Francis de Sales, 8:15am; **FOOD FOR THE POOR COLLECTION**

Early dismissal, 11:30 am; kindergarten report cards come home; faculty meeting

March for Life (Students who attend the March are not counted absent if their parents send a note to the school office in advance of the March.)

21 – no school, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

24 – feast of St. Francis de Sales

Recess Duty, 11:35-12:25: 7th gr 1/14 to 1/25; 6th gr 1/28 to 2/7; 5th gr 2/8 to 2/20

NOTES

HCA lunch matters! We still have a lot of unpaid lunch accounts. Please take care of that right away. If you are impacted by the government shut down and cannot finance your account right now, please let Mrs. Beall or Mrs. Halsey know.

An earlier version of the menu had a regular lunch listed for Jan 29. It has been changed. **That is the day we invite you, our HCA parents, to come have lunch with your student.** Lunch is free to you and your children. Our menu includes baked ziti, a side salad and a roll. Parents are invited to lunch. Sign up to join us for lunch:

Kindergarten to 2nd grade: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0448a5a92aa1f94-catholic4>

3rd, 4th & 5th grades: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0448a5a92aa1f94-catholic5>

6th, 7th & 8th grades: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0448a5a92aa1f94-catholic6>

We have **some students who received Apple watches** (or their counterpart) for Christmas. Students are not allowed to have them in school for 2 reasons, the first being the cost. We do not want to be responsible for something that expensive. The more important reason is that students are not allowed to have cell phones and smart watches operate in much the same fashion. This is a terrible distraction for students. If they have a smart watch, they will be asked to bring it to the office where you can pick it up.

Registration information will be coming home next week. We are doing it all electronically. Please look for our letter around the middle of next week. We are moving to a paperless reregistration process for the 2019/2020 school year. If we do not hear from you by Feb. 8, 2019, the registration fee of \$100.00 per student will be added to your March 2019 FACTS tuition payment. Registration packets for siblings of current students can be picked up in the front office. The completed packet with registration fee must

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be submitted by Feb. 8, 2019. PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION will be done by the Preschool Director at the preschool.

Scantron testing for grades 3 to 7 continues this week. Please avoid any unnecessary absences or lateness. Between the weather and the winter flu season, this round of testing can be challenging to complete. We appreciate your cooperation.

Our instrumental music schedules are reversed next week. Strings lessons will be on Monday and Band & keyboard lessons will be on Wednesday.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK IS FAST APPROACHING!
Here is a short list of activities for the week.

SUNDAY: Students will be giving out thank you cards and speaking about HCA at the end of each Mass.

MONDAY: celebrating community: prayer service parents invited to attend right after drop off.

TUESDAY: NCEA Giving Day; all parents are invited to lunch with their student. Please RSVP.

WEDNESDAY: celebrating nation; all students are allowed to wear red, white and blue accessories and the staff vs crusaders volleyball game will take place at 2:00....join us if you can, sure to please!

THURSDAY: celebrating vocations; thank yous are sent to the Oblate Sisters, priests, and deacons. We will also be acknowledging the parish staff, thanking them for all they do.

FRIDAY; Principal appreciation day; join us for Mass as we thank our principal and assistant principal for their service

SUNDAY: open houses: St Mary Preschool 9:30am to 12pm , HCA 1-3pm. There will be food and demonstrations by students. Encourage anyone you know who is considering HCA to come check us out. Youth of Note will be singing at the 12:30 Mass at St Mary Church.

Some of the slots to hand out thank yous at Mass are full. Please come anyway! We want as many children outside of Mass as possible. The link to sign up is:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AFAC23AA8-2019>

University of Virginia Curry School of Education 2019 Summer Enrichment

Program. An exciting opportunity for gifted and high ability students in grades 4-10. Information and application available at curry.virginia.edu/sep



FACTS GRANT & AID 2019-2020 WINDOW IS NOW OPEN - please remember you will need to submit 2018 tax and W-2 forms. FACTS Management annual fees will be going up to \$50.00 per agreement for the 2019/2020 school year. They will also be adding a great new online payment system for other fees & incidentals. Registration for the new school year will be coming home soon.

If there is anyone who can **help out by laundering and repairing our altar server outfits at HCA**, we would appreciate it greatly. They need to be washed and ironed and many of the snaps no longer function. Any help would be welcome. Please contact the front office if you can help with this task.

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Middle School is back and busy as ever. They are in the middle of their "top 20" course which emphasizes social and emotional learning, dealing with problem solving and life skills they can take forward, remembering to "breathe" when things seem tough.

Many of the students have been asked to take leadership roles and help with school events during Catholic Schools Week and other events such as character dress up day.

Our school store will be offering *buy one get one free* for the next two Wednesdays during lunch. One of the many great qualities our middle school students show is that they are ALWAYS willing to lend a hand and for that we thank them! Keep up the good work!

Many thanks to all who returned the parent survey. Your children will have a 'jeans day' this Thursday. Regulations for Casual Dress apply with the exception that jeans are allowed. They cannot be ripped or too tight. <https://www.holycrossweb.com/uniforms-dress-code-1>

PTO Corner: We received a check from Boxtops for \$215. Thank you for your support!

Catholic Schools Week will be held from January 27th through February 2nd this year. **The Academic Dinner will be held on January 31st from 6 to 7 PM, with visits to classrooms** following. This is the second of our open PTO Meetings, and the PTO executive committee will be there to mingle and speak to whatever concerns or questions you may have. Also, catering will be coming from Aladdin's and Sam's again, featuring kebabs, penne alfredo, and other Mediterranean delights--plus chicken fingers for those kids who just won't try anything new! A flyer will be coming home shortly with details. And watch this space for more information about events happening during Catholic Schools week! **The flyer to sign up for the dinner was sent home on last Friday and is in our Attachments folder.**

Other winter events include the Father-Daughter Dance, Lenten Soup Suppers and a **Roller Skating Night at Cavalier on March 7-** details coming soon. If you want to volunteer to help with any PTO events, please contact PTO President Brian Fannin at attorney@brianfanninlaw.com and let him know where your interest lies.

Crusader Corner: The basketball season is in full swing. The boys hosted Aquinas this week, with the JV winning their game and the Varsity team playing a tough game. Next week the girls' teams will be playing their first home games on Monday and Thursday. Meanwhile, the boys will be at SWOY on Tuesday and hosting Holy Family on Wednesday.

We are **still in need of some fall sports uniforms.** Individual emails will be sent out to make sure you are aware, but if you have one, please return it now.

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For those **considering playing our spring sports** (girls' soccer, boys' and girls' lacrosse) please begin compiling paperwork. Those tryouts will be the last week of February through the first week of March. If you have questions, please contact the Athletic Director at hcaathletics@holycrossweb.com.



What It Takes to Be a Saint

A cursory look at the life of Saint Léonie Aviat can mislead us into thinking that her road to holiness was easy. After all, she grew up in a loving, middle class French family. Their home was across the street from the parish church and Léonie and her older sister, Zulmée, had the benefit of an excellent education under the guidance of the Visitation Sisters, a school directed by the saintly and beloved Mother Marie de Sales Chappuis. Léonie became a religious herself and spent her life doing works which she loved, guiding young working girls, renewing a boarding school in Paris, and leading the community she helped to found, the Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales.

But this surface sweep of her life would leave out so many details and events. The faith life of her family was mediocre at best. Her father refused his consent for her entrance into religious life, causing her to delay several years and cutting her off from her family which she loved so dearly.

Members of the community that she founded were jealous and worked to have her removed from any position of authority or influence. St. Léonie was well schooled in humility and abasement. She wrote to one of her Sisters: *"Let us know how to remain faithful and calm during the storm; let us wait with confidence and abandonment for the Savior's help and his light which will be our strength."*

She lived in post-revolutionary France. Although the worst of the violence had ended, anti-clerical laws in the early years of the 20th century caused the property of the Oblate Sisters to be seized and the Sisters to be exiled. St. Léonie spent the last 10 years of her life in Perugia, Italy far from the many establishments she had founded (some of which were bought back by generous benefactors) and her beloved Father Louis Brisson. She did not speak the language and so could not extend her generous love to the people around her. She could well say: *"What a sad time we are living through! Fortunately, God counts each thing and loves to bring us back to the Savior by increasing our little merit for heaven."*

Through all of this, St. Léonie Aviat remained peaceful, humble, and charitable, leading the Church to declare her a saint and example for all of us in 2001. In these days when there is so much suffering both within the Church and throughout society, we can look to her and repeat her words: *"May my offering be so complete, O my God, that my happiness will consist in sacrificing my will and desires to you."*

Saint Léonie Aviat, pray for us and lead us close to Christ.

Family: Forever, Faithful, Fruitful

Announcements from Saint John Paul the Great High School:

January 12th: "How To High School" A Readiness Skills Workshop for 7th and 8th Graders, hosted by the faculty of Saint John Paul the Great, on Saturday, January 12th from Noon - 4pm! Workshop sessions include "How to Ace the Test," "How to Make the Team," "How to Manage Money," "How to Explore Your Brain," and more! This event includes lunch and is free of charge. For more information contact us at howtohighschool@jpthegreat.org. You can RSVP for your child here: tiny.cc/howtohighschool.

January 12th: An all Senior Cast at Saint John Paul the Great presents "The Jeweler's Shop," a play written by Saint John Paul II on the values of marriage and family. Tickets are \$5 and the show starts at 7:00pm on January 12th. More info at: jpthegreatdrama.org.

March 2nd: Mardi Gras Gala! Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School is hosting their seventh annual gala on March 2nd, 2019. Come enjoy a night of fellowship and fun at Potomac Point Winery! Tickets are available at: www.jpthegreat.schoolauction.net/jpgala2018

BioEthics Seminars

Sister Terese will be hosting a 6-session overview of the course "Called to Happiness" (the second course in the JP Bioethics Curriculum). Sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings, starting January 29. Please come, and invite your friends! Please see [this flyer](#) for more information!! For registration [click here](#).

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