ABERDEEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

NEWSLETTER

aberdeenroncalli.org

DECEMBER 2022

1400 N. Dakota St.,
Aberdeen, SD 57401

Central Office:
605.226.2100
High School:
605.225.7440
Elementary School:
605.229.4100
Primary School:
605.225.3460

Featured Article

Tim Weisz, ACSS President

Each year Advent begins the new liturgical year. This season invites us to slow down and take pause to contemplate a God who choose to become one of us. We are invited to reflect more deeply on the gift of Christ and to prepare with intention and hope for the day when Jesus comes again in glory.

*Recently, a dear friend suggested I contemplate on three words during this Advent season: **HISTORY, MYSTERY** and **MAJESTY**. This struck a chord in my heart, giving focus to my Advent journey. My goal is to heed the advice of the Church- to change the pace of life allowing me to recall the historical birth of Jesus more than 2,000 years ago, to give thanks for the mystery of the Incarnate Word present in the sacraments, and to prepare for the day when Christ returns in majestic glory.*

My hope is that this planned Advent contemplation of Christ coming to us in History, Mystery and Majesty will lead to a deeper appreciation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and a renewed Hope that He gives to all our lives.
I pray you all have a fruitful Advent season and a blessed Christmas Octave.

Sincerely
Tim Weisz

BUSINESS OFFICE REMINDER

*Please remember to check your student's **lunch balance** regularly!*

***23-24 Financial Aid** will open January 20th - watch for more information and some changes coming for how financial aid will be awarded.*

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Now is the time to get your child's registration in.
If you submit all the needed forms by Feb. 13 the $50 New Student Fee will be waived.
This is also a perfect time to invite others to consider Roncalli for their child(ren)
Contact 605-226-2100 for more information

Please join us in celebration of the season at the Roncalli Christmas Concerts

at Roncalli High School

Monday, Dec. 5 ***RHS Concert @ 7:00 pm***

Tuesday, Dec. 6 ***RPS Concert @ 6:00 pm***

RES Concert @ 6:45 pm

at Roncalli Primary School Gym

Monday, Dec. 12 ***PreSchool @ 6:30 pm***

CONGRATULATIONS

We acknowledge the following students who have been selected to sing in the Elementary Festival Honor Choir in February, at SDSU.

*6th Grader **Leo Madsen,** 5th Graders **Evvy Beidler, and Bradley Mayer**.*

They will sing with a 150 member choir made up of 4th, 5th and 6th graders in South Dakota. This choir is an audition only group selected by the vocal faculty at SDSU in Brookings.

ACSS 22-23 Help Take A Child to School Days

September 23 January 13

October 21 February 17

November 18 March 24

December 16 April 21, 2022

May 12, 2023

On these no uniform days, every student wishing to participate is asked to bring $1 and is not required to wear a uniform for the day. Money goes into the Help Take a Child to School fund, which provides tuition assistance. Small contributions build into something big!

PRE K-6 ADVENT SERVICE PROJECT

A generous person will prosper: whoever refreshes others will be refreshed
Proverbs 11:25

From Dec. 1-21 the PreK-6th grade students and staff will be collecting items for goodie bags to be sent to the elderly in our community.
During Catholic Schools Week, we will make the goodie bags for our special friends. We will be making over **250 bags** this year and hope to deliver them before Valentine's Day.

ITEMS TO BE DONATED:
RPS/RES students turn in items to their classroom. Please turn in by Wed, Dec. 21

PreK & Gr. 4:
THREE (3) LIP BALMS or $5
Kindergarten & Gr. 5:
FOUR (4) TRAVEL SIZE (2-3OZ) ITEMS- such as body wash, lotion, shampoo, toothpaste or $5
Gr. 1:
THREE (3) PAIRS OR MORE OF NEW WOMEN'S SOCKS or $5
Gr. 2:
THREE (3) PAIRS OR MORE OF NEW MEN'S SOCKS or $5
Gr. 3:
ONE (1) 6-8 CT. PACKAGE OF INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED KLEENEX or $5
Gr. 6:
A BOX OF HOT CHOCOLATE PACKETS or $5
Roncalli Staff:
BRING WHAT YOUR GRADE IS ASSIGNED OR CASH DONATION
Roncalli Community:
We are looking for donations of **Winter or Valentines theme ribbons** for decorating the bags. Donations can be dropped off at all school locations.

BLESSING STORE

Open at RPS- DECEMBER 12
Open at RES- DECEMBER 13

The Roncalli PTO sets up the Blessing Store to give our students an opportunity to do their own Christmas shopping. They can choose from a variety of items all priced at $2 for those on their own shopping lists. The price includes gift wrapping as well. More information will be sent home.

EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL!

It's easy! Here's how it works:

- ***Buy Box Tops products**. With thousands of participating products, there are lots of chances to earn!*
- ***Download the Box Top App.***
- ***Scan your receipt** with the Box Tops app within 14 days of purchase and automatically earn for Roncalli Schools with every Box Tops product you buy.*
- *If you shop online, you can earn with your **digital or email receipt**, too.*

-OR-

- **Cut out** the Box Tops from your products and turn in to any of the school sites.

Every Box Tops product counts. Let's make a difference together.
We can do this!

MIDDLE SCHOOL, NOT JUNIOR HIGH

Roncalli reorganizes for educational, space benefits

by Paige Schmidt

In an effort to do what's best for students, better serve their educational needs, and meet the mission statement, ACSS will reconfigure to include a sixth through eighth grade middle school at the high school building.

This upcoming modification will be an adjustment for many people, but there is also a great deal of support and excitement.

Space constraints, due to large numbers of incoming kindergarten students, sparked the original need for change. "We have been on-boarding kindergarten classes that are 50 or above which has required us to create three sections for those kindergarten classes," ACSS President Tim Weisz said. "We were looking for the proper space in our buildings, so one of the solutions is that we move the second grade up to the elementary building and the sixth grade up to the high school building."

Although the initial reason for the plan was the need for space and the desire to grow Roncalli, there has also been significant research that shows it will benefit students, especially the moving grades and those surrounding them. Having a middle school would allow for the sixth, seventh, and eighth graders to be eased into the high school level learning more gradually. "The middle school concept really works to prepare them [6-8 graders] at a slower pace to be ready for high school," Principal Paula Florey said. "Right now, it's more like a mini high school, and we expect a lot out of our seventh and eighth graders."

Because of how monumental this change is, there are a few concerns that have surfaced.

"I think, from what I have heard, the hesitancy with bringing the sixth graders up is that they will be treated like the seventh and eighth graders now, and they don't think they are mature enough yet for that," Florey said. "But they have to understand that it is a totally different concept."

Despite the slight unease, there are many teachers that have expressed their approval and enthusiasm surrounding the middle school. "I would be excited to have the 6th grade join us," religion teacher Cherie Shishnia said. "I think it would be good to give the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders more opportunities and to focus on them as a group separate from the high school by focusing specifically on their needs and by providing age-appropriate activities along with a tailored middle school education system."

-Article taken from the November issue of the RHS student newspaper, The Roncalli Cavalcade.

44TH ANNUAL
RONCALLI BALL
A GRATITUDE GALA

SAVE THE DATE
coming to the Dakota Event Center
April 15, 2023.
We look forward to having you join us for the largest friend/fund raiser of the ACSS year.

The Roncalli Bash for Cash is being held at 6 pm on Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022 at Engel's Event Center. This is a casual event! Dinner and three drinks per ticketholder are included and a Dessert Dash (proceeds benefiting student organizations) will be held after the meal. Each ticketholder is automatically entered, with **a chance to win $1,000**! Drawing held after dinner.

CAVALIER BASH for CASH

Stop by the Roncalli Development Office or call 605-226-2100 for tickets OR . . .

Scan here to pay online!

$60 /ticket

Roncalli SonShine Patch

NOW HIRING!!

Are you looking for a part time job that is rewarding and fun! The Roncalli SonShine Patch is looking for OST employees who are passionate about working with children. The OST program is filled with STREAM, gym & outside time, arts & crafts, and SO MUCH MORE! We are looking to fill the following time slots: 3-6pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and 1-3pm or 1-6pm on Wednesdays.
With flexible scheduling, fun-loving coworkers, and an inviting environment; Roncalli SonShine Patch is the place for YOU!

If you are interested or have any questions:
Contact Shelby Braun at (605) 225-3460 or at shelby.braun@aberdeenroncalli.org

PRESCHOOL PEEKS

When you think of preschool, you don't always think of engineering! Engineering is the process of designing and building. It is an important STREAM skill that your child learns through play at a young age.

Preschool children love exploring and figuring out how things work. Hands-on engineering activities empower young children to see themselves as problem solvers.

Children learn how to collaborate and share ideas productively when working together to build and create.. They develop empathy and compassion for others while working together to create.

When building a structure out of toy blocks during a class activity, preschoolers must work together to figure out how to make their tower the tallest, encouraging spatial awareness, problem solving skills, and clear communication.

Roncalli SonShine Patch values giving children the time they need to strengthen those skills by allowing lots of free play time throughout the day!

At Roncalli SonShine Patch, all faculty and staff are continuously learning about building a strong foundation for a child to have a successful school experience. We research best practice and plan age appropriate activities that encourage children to ask questions, wonder, experiment, investigate, create- all while learning important skills for school readiness. If you have questions about what is happening in the classroom, please reach out to **Pat Buechler, Director. pat.buechler@aberdeenroncalli.org**

Aberdeen Area Immaculate Conception Mass Times

SACRED HEART

12/7 - 5:30PM
12/8 - 12:10PM
12/8 - 5:30PM

ST. MARY'S

12/8 - 7AM
12/8 - 12:10PM
12/8 - 5:30PM

WESTPORT

12/7 - 7 PM

NEWMAN CENTER

12/8 - 7 PM

PARISH NEWS

Sacred Heart

Chanted Advent Vespers and Adoration in the Church:
Sundays of Advent - 5pm

40-Hour Devotion Area Mission:
December 8th-10th at Sacred Heart.
Details at https://sacredheartaberdeen.net/advent

Family Formation Parish Night:
Wed, Dec. 14th. 5:30-7:30pm.
Dinner, Family Activity, split sessions for parents and kids

Youth Group - Large Group Night:
Wed, Dec. 14th. 6:30-7:30pm in the RES gym

First Reconciliation Confessional Tour & Mock Confessions Practice
Sunday, December 11th following the 10am Mass

Confirmation Class
Sun, December 18th from 4-6m in the parish hall

Saint Mary's

Youth Group:
Meets Sunday, Dec. 4 in the parish hall for Christmas Cookies and cards. Youth Group is also selling Homemade soap. Stop by Parish office to sample the smells and purchase items. They make great gifts!

Cookie Sale:
The annual sale takes place on Sat. Dec. 10 from 8-10am. Carmel/Cinnamon Rolls and coffee/hot cocoa or cider will be served.

Helping others:
There are several ways to help meet the needs of others this Advent/Christmas season.
Donate to the **ADVENT BABY SHOWER, HAT/MITTEN TREE** or the **TOILETRY DRIVE**. All items can be dropped off at the church.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Sacred Heart
Sat. Dec. 24th: 4, 6, 10pm
Sun. Dec. 25th: 8, 10am

St. Mary's
Sat. Dec. 24th: 4, 6, 10pm
Sun. Dec. 25th: 9am

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve (12/24)
4PM, 6PM, 10PM

Christmas Day (12/25)
9AM

CONFESSION TIMES

Tuesdays: 5-5:30PM
Saturdays: 3:30-4:30PM

Extra Confession Opportunity:
Wed, December 21st 6-9pm

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE AT SACRED HEART PARISH

Christmas Eve (12/24)
4 pm, 6 pm, 10 pm

Christmas Day (12/25)
8am, 10am

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Mondays: 5-5:20pm
Tuesdays: 5-5:20pm
Wednesdays: 7:30 - 8am
Thursdays: 7-7:20am
Fridays: 7-7:20am
Saturdays: 7:45-8:15am
3:30-4:30pm

Extra Confession Opportunity:
Wed, Dec 21st: 6-9pm

December 2-4, 2022 (Fri. evening - Sun. afternoon) Villa Regina Motherhouse–Lincoln, NE

sophomores - seniors in high school

www.cksisters.org - ck-vocations@cdolinc.net - 402.477.5232 Register here ...or here

RONCALLI BALL SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION DONATIONS

We invite you to consider keeping the Ball in mind as you do your shopping before and after Christmas.
Many of those who donate to the auctions that take place during the Ball take advantage of the great prices offered during this season.
If you are one who finds that perfect item to donate you can drop it off at the ACSS Central Office located in the high school.
We are blessed each year to receive donations from alumni and friends from near and far.
THANK YOU!!!

ADVENT AREA MISSION AND 40-HOUR DEVOTION

ABERDEEN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

THE FATHER'S HOUSE

LEAD BY:
ZACH & MEGHAN KREUGER & AREA PRIESTS

LOCATION: SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

411 3rd Ave SE Aberdeen
sacredheartaberdeen.net/Advent

DECEMBER 8 - 10TH

A series of talks, prayer, and small group discussion focused on the healing, restoring, and building up of your relationship with the Father with 40 hours of Eucharistic Adoration available throughout!

EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL 2021 2025

Emmanuel,
God with us!
the once and future promise
Merry Christmas
from the Staff and Faculty at the
Aberdeen Catholic School System