



## St. Catherine School Weekly Newsletter (Week of November 25-29<sup>th</sup>)

### Principal's Message

Dear St. Catherine Families,

As we prepare for the start of Advent this Sunday, let us take a moment to reflect on the reason for this sacred season. Advent reminds us of Christ's love and His presence in our lives, and we are grateful for the opportunity to center our school around Him. He is the reason for our school and for everything we do.

This Thanksgiving season, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to all our families for your unwavering support and partnership. Together, we create a community rooted in faith, learning, and service.

At St. Catherine School, we are deeply committed to forming the whole child. This means nurturing every part of their being—mind, body, and spirit. Our programs, like band for 5th and 6th graders and music classes for the entire school, exemplify this dedication. If you've ever heard a beginning band practice, you know it's a true lesson in perseverance—for the students and the parents! But in all seriousness, these programs foster creativity, discipline, and joy, which are integral to our mission of inspiring excellence through faith, learning, and service.

Thank you for choosing to be part of our St. Catherine School family. May this Advent season bring peace, joy, and hope to you and your loved ones.

In Christ,  
Nick Lee  
Principal

### Reminders

- **December 4th:** 1st parent meeting for parents of students receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at **6:30 pm in the church.**
- **December 9th:** Holy Day of Obligation (Mass) – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The school will attend the 12:10 Mass.

- **December 19th:** All-School Mass @ 10:30 (with Guest Lunch). **Note:** This is a change from the original date of December 12th.
- **Advent Calendar Reminder:** An Advent calendar was sent home this week (one per family). Advent begins this Sunday, and this calendar is a wonderful way to journey together as a family through this sacred season. The Advent tradition encourages prayer, reflection, and joyful preparation for Christmas. We hope this activity brings your family closer together and reminds us of the true reason for the season.

#### **Winter Gear Reminders:**

- Please ensure your child comes to school with the following items:
  - Snow pants
  - Snow boots
  - Hats
  - Gloves
  - Coats
- As temperatures fluctuate this time of year, it's better for students to have their winter gear and not need it than the other way around. We try to go outside for recess every day, even when it's cold, so please make sure your child is prepared.
- **Snow pants** will be sent home on Fridays unless they haven't been used during the week, in which case they can stay at school.
- **Hats, gloves, boots, and coats** will be required for all students to leave the building.

#### **Spotlight: Christmas Program Details (from Ms. Busch)**

**Date & Time:** December 5, 2024, at 6:30 pm

**Location:** School Gym

**Doors Open:** 6:00 pm

The time is here! I cannot wait for all the students to share what they have been learning in music class with you. Please have your child/children meet down in the preschool by **6:15 pm** with their teacher. Don't forget to keep their jackets with you. 😊

#### **Dress Code:**

Please avoid noise-making objects, accessories that light up, sweatshirts, or hoods.

#### **Girls' Attire:**

- Dresses or a dress shirt and skirt
  - Tights/leggings
- Dress shirt and dress pants
- Flat, closed-toe shoes (no heels, sandals, or big, clunky boots)

#### **Boys' Attire:**

- Dress shirt (polo or button-up)
- Dress pants (slacks, khakis, or black dress pants)
- Nice dress shoes

For questions about attire, please contact Ms. Busch at [alexis.a.busch@k12.nd.us](mailto:alexis.a.busch@k12.nd.us).

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### **St. Catherine Spotlight**

This week has been filled with moments that remind me why St. Catherine School is such a special place.

### **Thanksgiving Feast Fun**

Our K-2 students had a wonderful time at the Thanksgiving Feast! My first grader couldn't stop talking about how much fun he had. A heartfelt thank-you to the teachers who made this event so simple yet so meaningful for our students.

### **Adoration with 5th and 6th Graders**

Spending time with our 5th and 6th grade students in Adoration on Tuesday was a powerful experience. Spending time with Jesus and these students gave me so much to reflect on. Seeing their reverence and engagement is a beautiful reminder of the impact we're making on their spiritual growth.

### **Grateful for Our Staff**

On Wednesday, I took a personal day, something I don't do often. As a principal, it's hard to step away without worrying, but I am blessed to have a staff I trust completely. Not only do I see a team that I would trust with my own children, but I also see a staff that genuinely loves and cares for each and every student. I couldn't do this job without knowing that when I'm away, the school is in loving, capable hands.

At St. Catherine School, I am proud to be a principal, but I am a husband and father first. It's the partnership and trust in our staff and community that allows me to live that balance.

Thank you for being part of this incredible community and for supporting our mission to inspire excellence through faith, learning, and service.

St. Catherine School



Stay Connected with St. Catherine School

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