



Saint Ignatius
Loyola School

AMDG

November 2022

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam (AMDG) was St. Ignatius of Loyola's motto, which translates to **For the Greater Glory of God.** May we strive to seek God in all circumstances and live a life that brings Him glory and honor.



The Zeiser family hosted one of the students and was surprised with the experience. "We spent more time together as a family and appreciated the many treasures we have in our own city," said Mrs. Zeiser, host "mom."

Playing video games was one way that her 7th grader, Evan, and Guilhem, their exchange student connected. Evan realized that despite language barriers, there were many more similarities than differences.

Mrs. Zeiser shared one of the unintended benefits of the experience, "The kids all got along a little more - maybe because we had a guest, maybe because we were busy, maybe because they appreciated what they have in each other."

Bonjour, Bien accueillir! French students welcomed back

After a hiatus, the French student exchange program reopened. We welcomed 27 seventh graders, along with two French chaperones from Nancy, France. The students stayed with several host families.

These families provided a submersive experience for the French students, sharing a typical week in the life of American families including football games, camping, and visiting the Zoo. French students followed the class schedule of their host students and joined them at their extracurriculars such as athletics and drama.

All students involved in the exchange program took a field trip during the school day to the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, William Howard Taft's House, and

enjoyed lunch at Smale Park.

Some of the families took advantage of the timing and went downtown to see Cincinnati Blink, the nation's largest light and art show.



Evan and Guilhem, hanging out at the Cincinnati Zoo.

A big thank you to all the host families for their warm welcome and opening their homes to these special friends from France. We look forward to a reunion when some of our St. Ignatius students will travel to France in the spring.

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From the **Principal's Desk**



Dear Alumni, Family and Friends of Saint Ignatius of Loyola School,

Greetings from St. Ignatius of Loyola! In this edition of our Alumni Newsletter, we share many facets of the education and spiritual formation provided to our students. We are so fortunate to offer an educational approach that focuses on the whole child.

This fall, our exchange program with France restarted after a three-year hiatus. In the spring, St. Ignatius of Loyola students will go to France. In mid-October, the 8th grade class participated in our first annual trip to Washington, DC. This trip to Washington provided our students the chance to learn about our country's history and making memories for a lifetime.

Our students and staff are committed to serving our school and on a global scale. In October, students and their families collected items such as toys, clothing, school supplies and more for Boxes of Joy that are distributed to children and families in developing countries. In our own community, students are empowered to help their peers through Sources of Strength. Students leaders meet throughout the year to promote healthy behaviors and coping strategies.

This educational and spiritual foundation enables students to perform at high levels in their future academic endeavors. We celebrate our graduates recognized by the National Merit Corporation for exemplary performance on these standardized tests for college entrance. We are very proud of these students and their accomplishments.

Please know that you are always welcome at St. Ignatius of Loyola School and Parish.

In Christ's Peace,

Mr. Kevin Vance



Administration

Kevin Vance, Principal
Angie Heisel, Assistant Principal
Denise Schnur, Preschool Director

2022-2023 School Committee

3rd year – Tara Kalkhoff
3rd year – Theresa Sewell
3rd year – Meghan Sullivan
2nd year - Kate DiCarlo
2nd year - Lisa Lasita
2nd year - Adam Lohbeck
1st year - Robert Morris
1st year - Kaitlin Newkirk

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Alumni

Kindly direct all updates, address changes, or other correspondence to the above address.

Eighth graders visit Washington D.C.

Our eighth graders were thrilled for the new opportunity of a class trip in their final year at St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Kylie W. learned a lot of new things and loved the opportunity to go more in depth with history and other topics discussed in her classes. Sophia C. agreed and added that she enjoyed the opportunity to have increased responsibility, being ready to go at a certain time and managing things like a shower schedule with her hotel roommates.

Students visited several war memorials, the Lincoln and Martin Luther King Memorials. They witnessed the changing of the guard at Arlington National Cemetery, and as smaller groups, had the opportunity to choose which Smithsonian museums to visit.

The class of 2023 celebrated Mass at the Basilica of the



National Shrine and visited the tomb of George Washington. Students enjoyed a Medieval Dinner & Show and went bowling in Georgetown. Their last day was spent visiting the Holocaust museum and taking a photo in front of the White House before heading home.

Not only did students learn about their country, but they practiced more independence, money management skills, and learned invaluable

interpersonal skills like balancing their personal needs with the group's needs. Mr. Vance served as one of the chaperones said, "Our students were able to deepen their ties with each other and possibly create new friendships,"

What is a must- do for next year's trip according to some eighth graders? They loved attending Mass in the Basilica - a profound experience.

First Iggy5k is a Success Save the Date!

The first annual Iggy5k sponsored by Roger Bacon High School event concluded the school's 75th anniversary celebration and raised over \$17,000 for student programming.

Over 300 participants enjoyed the event which included the 5k and the Kids Dash with a Glow in the Dark theme.

Many thanks to our sponsors Roger Bacon High School, Elder High School, Haverkos & Reddy Orthodontics, Queen City Running, Mercy McAuley High School, John Rewwer DDS, Seton High School, Mr Label, Lasalle High School, and Q102.



Save the date for Saturday, October 7, 2023!

Student Leaders take on **Mental Health**



"I want to be someone that helps others with their anxieties and challenges," said Sarah L., one of the 8th grade Sources of Strength leaders.

Sarah and John K. are two students from 6th, 7th and 8th grade who were selected by their classmates as trusted friends to serve as peer leaders.

They report that St. Ignatius of Loyola students, particularly in the 8th grade, are struggling with anxiety related to the HSPT test, balancing school and extracurriculars, increased academic workload and prioritizing these last few months with their friends before they graduate and head off to different high schools.

Sources of Strength is a national program with a mission to prevent suicide by increasing help seeking behaviors and promoting connections between peers and caring adults. It launched at St. Ignatius of Loyola School in 2019 and is one

of the first suicide prevention programs that uses peer leaders to enhance protective factors associated with reducing suicide at the school population level.

"Kids can get so trapped in their own worlds that they forget they need other outlets in life. This program empowers them to exhibit positive peer pressure," said Ms. Lisa Van Berkel, program coordinator.

Student leaders meet twice a month to learn how to encourage their classmates to find strength and support in their daily lives. It could be a trusted teacher, a supportive sporting team or student activity, or finding joy and hope in doing

acts of kindness for others.

Ms. Van Berkel says that the program "creates a culture where friends and classmates feel comfortable talking about hard things with each other by encouraging each other to find sources of support."

John has some practical advice for students who are feeling overwhelmed. Start a generosity journal. A positive outlook can make a big difference in facing life's challenges, he says.

Thanks to all student leaders who are making a difference!



John K and Sarah L have participated in the program from the beginning.

Students learn in an **enhanced building**

Students are safer and more comfortable due to essential school building updates. 3M protective film was installed on all exterior and interior doors for an added layer of security. New metal doors replaced older wooden classroom doors.

Thanks to our generous donors, the kindergarten, 3rd and 4th grade classrooms received new furniture. The new student desks and chairs can be adapted to meet each individual student's need and accommodate students with

disabilities.

New air conditioning was installed in the music room and the teacher's lounge, and new furniture in the art room enhances creativity. The cafeteria also received some fresh paint and new serving lines.

We are grateful for parents, families, parishioners, and community members who financially supported these efforts to provide the best space for St. Ignatius of Loyola School students.



Lastly, thanks to our maintenance staff who worked tirelessly to make it all happen!

Welcome **Fr. Tom Mannebach!**



We are excited to welcome Fr. Tom Mannebach to the St. Ignatius of Loyola community. He comes from Good Shepherd Church in Montgomery.

Fr. Tom has jumped, or raced rather, right into the St. Ignatius community by participating in the first annual Iggy5k. He placed first in his age bracket!

He's interacted with students by

celebrating weekly Mass and greeting students while walking through the halls.

An excerpt from his welcome letter to school families reads:

"I am happy to welcome you to the St. Ignatius of Loyola School. Whether you are new here or whether you are a long-time parent of a St. Ignatius student, you are an important part of our learning community at our parish. Your commitment to Catholic education will have a long-

term impact on the beliefs and values held by your children as they grow older. As a graduate of Catholic elementary education, I can surely testify to this."

Welcome Fr. Tom, we are thrilled you are here!



Alumni News



The class of 1972 celebrated their 50th Class reunion on July 23rd at Clovernook Country Club. It was a huge success! Thank you to the class of 1972 for donating back to the school and our current students. What a gift that our alumni support the future of St. Ignatius of Loyola School!

National Merit Scholarship Recognizes St. Ignatius Graduates

St. Ignatius Loyola School is proud of our alumni recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for the 2022-2023 school year.

The following alums are Semifinalists:

Lindsay Woodard
(Mercy McAuley)

Isaiah Roman (Lasalle)

The following St. Ignatius graduates are Commended:

Brooke Hube
(Mercy McAuley)

Eric Kabitsch
(St. Xavier)

Nolan Hines
(St. Xavier)

Luke Weintz
(St. Xavier)

Hana Winchester
(St. Ursula Academy)

"It is with great pride that we acknowledge these student leaders and their accomplishment of being recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program. The rigorous education and spiritual formation they received at St. Ignatius of Loyola School serves as a foundation for all future learning and accomplishment. We look forward to their many future accomplishments, contributions to the community and in the Catholic Church," said Mr. Vance.

The National Merit Scholarship

Program is an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships. There are 34,000 commended students across the nation and 16,000 Semifinalists.

Alumni Updates

Got news to share? We want to hear from you! Send us updates here.



Students and families **Give Back** through **Box of Joy**

The St. Ignatius of Loyola School Community is excited to once again participate in the Cross Catholic Outreach Box of Joy program.

Last year we were able to donate approximately 400 boxes full of gifts to children in need. We are hopeful that this year we are able to help even more children have a joy-filled Christmas season.

"Our students are blessed with a chance to help fill a box of small gifts and necessary items that will help these children experience the wonder and awe of having something given specifically to them, and in doing so, they feel



the love and magic of Christmas. This is such a gift for not only the children receiving the gifts, but also for our students, because they get the joy of making a gift of themselves," said Mrs. Valerie Bender, program coordinator.

Some of the children who receive the gifts live in some of the world's poorest countries and have never received a gift before.

We are honored to provide comfort and joy to children around the world.

Confidence building through Girls on the Run



St. Ignatius of Loyola is proud to offer the Girls on the Run program to 5th grade girls.

The program emphasizes teaching critical life skills while inspiring girls of all abilities to strengthen confidence through interactive lessons and physical activity.

Support education programs because a Catholic education lasts a lifetime.

Donate. Visit our website or use the enclosed envelope. A donation in any amount makes a big difference.



Double your donation by asking your employer to match your gift

Legacy. Consider a lasting St. Ignatius legacy by giving through your will and estate plans.

Pray. Please continue to keep the health, safety and peace for St. Ignatius of Loyola School and parish in your prayers.

Thank You!



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Living in Love each school day

Our school theme this year is "Live in Love", which comes from Ephesians:5:2. In this passage, St. Paul reminds us to be "imitators of Christ", loving others as Christ loves us. This year we will take time and read the children's book, "I Can Make A Difference," by Miriam Laundry. It introduces ways children can make a difference by using their talents, time, and treasure for the benefit of others.



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[sainti.org/school](https://www.sainti.org/school)

**Discover St. Ignatius School
SCHEDULE
A TOUR**

**Saint Ignatius
of Loyola School**

December 15
January 5
January 12
January 19

The 30-minute sessions begin at 4pm. Space is VERY limited.
RSVP to jcross@saintschool.org or call 513-389-3242.