

The NAZ Newsletter

A monthly newsletter for the parents and families of Nazareth Academy High School

November 2019



Last Month Recap

- Congratulations to all the members of Nazareth's Theater Arts Program on their amazing performances of Mamma Mia. The girls did an incredible job performing five shows in four nights in front of a packed house. Thank you to our Music Department faculty that worked vigorously to showcase the talents of our girls!
- On Saturday, November 9th, Nazareth played host to one of our favorite nights of the year, the Father Daughter Dance. Our girls and their dads had a fun night filled with laughs and dancing! Thank you to all of our parent volunteers that helped the night run smoothly.
- Last month, our 2019-2020 Presidential Ambassadors were recognized during a prayer service and reception here at school. Our Presidential Ambassadors will be called upon to give tours at our Open Houses, greet guests for different school and alumnae events, and represent Nazareth Academy High School in all that they do.



Upcoming Events

Thurs. November 21

Mother Foundress Liturgy
"C" Schedule

Tues. November 26

Thanksgiving Liturgy
"C" Schedule

November 27 - December 1

Thanksgiving Break
No School

Thurs. November 28

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tues. December 3

Giving Tuesday
Support Naz!

Tues. December 3

NAPA General Parent Meeting
*Minding Your Mind - Student
Mental Health*
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Thurs. December 5

NAHS Barnes and Noble Night
Neshaminy Mall
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Embracing Faith, Family, and Education

Mother Foundress

This week we will celebrate our Mother Foundress with liturgy on Thursday, with a small reception for the local sisters as a sign of our deep gratitude for their ministries. Below is a short summary of Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd, and how the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth began.

Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd,
Frances Siedliska, 1842-1902

From the website of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth:

The Foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth is Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd, Frances Siedliska, who started the Congregation in Rome, Italy in 1875. Though born into a family of privilege and wealth in mid 19th century Poland, Frances hungered for a deep spiritual life that expressed itself in the radical commitment of vowed religious life.

As she traveled through Europe seeking cures for her physical ailments, she eventually recognized and accepted God's invitation to found a new congregation, and traveled to Rome in 1873, to seek the blessing of Pope Pius IX. Frances established her first community in Rome to emphasize her commitment to the universal Church. Strong was her desire to bring the love of Christ to any and all, she transcended ethnic boundaries, welcoming women of many nationalities into the Congregation, and serving God's People in many different countries.

Our charism, as expressed by our Foundress, is born of a deep contemplation of the Trinity and its human manifestation, the Holy Family of Nazareth. Like Mary and Joseph, faithfully living their daily lives in the presence of the Word made Flesh, our Foundress understood that simple ordinary life, lived in love, can be a profound encounter with God.

Rooted in Christ, in cooperation with the Church, our Congregation strives, in the diversity of its ministries, to build communities of love and hope. We recognize the family as the place where values are nurtured and persons are formed, and in the spirit of Frances Siedliska, we work throughout the world to embrace the needs of the human family as our own.

Frances took the religious name of Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd. She was beatified in Rome on April 23, 1989 and at this time, just under 1500 Sisters in thirteen countries live with her animating spirit as their inspiration and motivation.





Nazareth Academy Recognized by Newsweek Magazine as one of the Top 5,000 STEM High Schools

Congratulations to our teachers and students as Nazareth Academy was recently named one of the top STEM High Schools in America for 2019. [Click Here for the full press release!](#)

Principal Update

Last week Mr. Meredith was diagnosed with pneumonia. Hopefully he will be able to return next week.. He is grateful for all the prayers and well wishes for a speedy recovery, and looks forward to being with the students as soon as possible.

Thanksgiving Wishes

Along with Mr. Meredith, wishing each of you a very blessed Thanksgiving. May we always remember our blessing and live each day with a grateful heart.

School Store

The school store is available online! [Click Here](#) for your holiday shopping.

NAPA ~ Nazareth Academy Parent Association

[Click here](#) for the parent page of the website which include events, announcements, volunteer information and much more.

Volunteers for School, Admissions and Advancement Events

Nazareth is always in need of volunteers for our many NAPA, Admissions, Advancement and School events. [Click here](#) to complete the volunteer form for the 2019 - 2020 school year. We will share this sign-up sheet in every monthly newsletter. You will need volunteer clearances. [Click here](#) for instructions on how to obtain volunteer clearances.

Mark Your Calendars for NAPA events

NEW DATE AND LOCATION:

Snowball Dance ~ January 24th

*Invitations will be sent home mid-December
6:00 PM -10:00 PM at the Philadelphia Ballroom
\$90 per couple, \$45 per individual ticket*

Mass and Fashion Show ~ February 9 ~ 11 am Chapel

An Afternoon in Venice

Elegant sit down luncheon for students and their mom, aunt,
grandmom or special woman in their life

\$75 per ticket

Seating is limited

Online registration and sponsorships available shortly

General Parent Meetings

1st Tuesday of Every Month at 6:30 pm with Light Refreshments in the Performing Arts Center

Upcoming Presentations

December 3: Minding Your Mind, student mental health

January 7: Class Meeting for parents from Mr. Meredith sharing the information that he shares with students at the Class Meetings

Incentives for Attending NAPA General Monthly Meetings

At each meeting there is an incentive for attending. December's incentive: Dress down day for every student who has a parent in attendance.

Homeroom Ambassadors

Thank you to those who volunteered to be a Parent Ambassador for Homerooms. We hope this added level of communication will be beneficial to our parents. If you signed up to be a parent homeroom ambassador, and did not hear back, please email Mrs. Strain at Napa@NazarethAcademyHS.org.

Not only is it the beginning of the most joyous time of year, but we also celebrate the feast of our school Foundress, Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd. We thank God, this month, and honor her for her courage to follow His plan for her life for if she did not, we would not be here today. The girls recite a prayer to her every morning for her intercession, and I invite you to pray a prayer for your families, too.

O most blessed Trinity we praise and thank you for the example your servant, Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd, has given us by imitating the life and virtues of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Grant us the grace we ask through her intercession for your greater glory for the sanctification of souls and for the extension of your kingdom on earth. Amen.



And we are so thrilled to begin celebrating our gratitude for life's blessings, and Jesus' birth at Nazareth (the memorial of his birthplace!) in the weeks to come.

100 Hours of Service

Congratulations to our students who have received 100 (or more) service hours this year! The following students were honored and recognized at our Thanksgiving Day Liturgy.

Freshmen: Eva Borkowski

Sophomores: Emma Collins, Jennifer Maccione, Samantha McDonald, Anna Monari, Dian Nguyen, Ella Pirolli, Nicole Rozanski, Danielle Russell, Nitaliya Schaeber, Jessica Seeger, Margaret White

Juniors: Gabriele Celona, Keely Gallagher, Regina Marion, Mikayla McDonnell, Melody McGrogan, Alyssa McKeever, Mia O'Malley, Andrea Scott, Kirsten Seif, and Amanda Webb

Seniors: Alexis Bahner, Elizabeth Citron, Mary Connolly, Sarah Dymowski, Haley Heisley, Katrina Juntereal, Josephine Nguyen, Madeline Redican, Destiny Rivera, McKenzie Tobler, Dianna Udowenko, Madison Whartenby, Julia Zamites, Kassidy Zimmerman

Christmas Drive

Our Christmas drive, Operation Santa Claus will kick-start when we return back from Thanksgiving break. Homerooms will have instructions on how to purchase gifts that will go directly to the needs of families of our Northeast Philadelphia/Nazareth community. Thank you in advance for the generosity you will bestow on our community! Know of my love and prayers for you all!



Where did the time go? The Thanksgiving and Christmas season also brings the first semester to a close.

Grades

The fall semester ends on Monday, December 16. Exams will be administered on Tuesday, December 17 through Thursday, December 19. All grades will be available to be viewed electronically on Monday, January 6, 2020. Honors and GPA are calculated on the semester grades.

Semester Exams

The schedule for the first semester exams is listed on the next page. Please be aware that examinations must take place on the scheduled day. Students need to come to school only to take their scheduled examinations. Any senior who has maintained an A-/A for each marking period may be exempt from taking a final examination at the discretion of the teacher.

New Classes for 2020-2021

We are very excited to be offering new classes which will include Principles of Engineering, Honors Computer Science Principles, Gaming Concepts, Cyber Security, and Computer Service and Repair. Please consult the Course Catalog for a full description of these offerings. Classes that will run are dependent on the number of students displaying an interest to enroll. Juniors and seniors have the option of taking advantage of our dual enrollment with Holy Family University and online instruction by way of the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

Course Selection

NAHS Course Information Day will be held on Wednesday, January 15.

Online Course Registration is closed on Monday, January 27. Course Verification will be held on Thursday, February 6. Please be aware of all course prerequisites that may be found in our Course Catalog.

Barnes & Noble Book Fair

The Barnes & Noble Book Fair will take place on Thursday, December 5 at the B&N located in the Neshaminy Mall. Nazareth Academy High School receives a percentage from all books, toys and games purchased. We also receive a percentage from any food or beverage purchased in the café so come hungry! The café will also feature blue and gold frappes! The event will run from 5:30 pm until 9:00 pm. NAHS will showcase our chorale, dance team and budding artists. We will also present our rocketry and robotics clubs. Online purchases also assist in our fundraising efforts. The code for online purchases is **12495446**.

NAHS December Examination Schedule 2019

Tuesday, December 17th (2-60 minute examinations)

8:10 AM Warning Bell

8:15 AM PRAYERS, ATTENDANCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

8:30-9:30 AM Block 1 and Block 1 Classes meeting M, W, F

9:40-10:40 AM Blocks 2, 2a and Block 2b

Wednesday, December 18th (2-60 minute examinations)

8:10 AM Warning Bell

8:15 AM PRAYERS, ATTENDANCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

8:30-9:30 AM Block 3 and Block 3A

9:40-10:40 AM Block 4 and Block 4 Classes meeting M, W, F

Thursday, December 19th (3-60 minute examinations)

8:10 AM Warning Bell

8:15 AM PRAYERS, ATTENDANCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

8:30-9:30 AM Block 1 Class meeting T, Th, F

9:40-10:40 AM Block 3B

10:50-11:50 AM Block 4 Class meeting T, Th, F

Friday, December 20th

NO SCHOOL-FACULTY CLERICAL DAY

EXAM MAKE-UP DAY

Thank you for sharing your daughters with us.

I wish you and your families a very blessed and happy Thanksgiving!



Highlights/Tri M Cafe

On Wednesday, November 20, Highlights Literary Club and Tri-M will host the annual Highlights Café for the students of Nazareth Academy High School from 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM in the Student Dining Room. Many musical talents and literary readings will be shared with the school community. This is a free event for the students to enjoy a relaxing afternoon of the Arts with a cup of hot chocolate and some snacks with friends.

November-December Events

November 20th	Highlights/ Tri-M Café 2:30 PM-4:00 PM in the Student Dining Room
November 21st	Mother Foundress Day
November 22nd	Rocketry TAG Day and Challenge Day
November 26th	Thanksgiving Liturgy and 100 Hours of Service Recognition
November 27th -29th	Thanksgiving Break, No School
December 2nd	Operation Santa Claus CSC Toy Drive Begins
December 3rd	NAPA General Parent Meeting 6:30 PM-7:30 PM
December 5th	Barnes & Noble Book Fair at Neshaminy Mall 6:00 PM-9:00 PM
December 6th	Naz-A-Thon Pajama Day TAG Day
December 10th	Christmas Concert 7:00 PM-10:00 PM
December 11th	In-School Christmas Concert 9:00 AM- 10:30 AM
December 13th	Service Hours Forms Due
December 15th	Candlelight Christmas Concert 4:30 PM- 7:30 PM
December 16th	Christmas Liturgy 9:00 AM, Last Day of the Fall Semester
December 17th-19th	Midterm/Final Exams and end of CSC Operation Santa Clause Toy Drive



Challenge Day 2019-2020

Our Counseling Department is preparing for **Nazareth Academy High School's 1st annual Challenge Day** on *Friday, November 22, 2019*. The goal of Challenge Day is to empower our students to “Be the Change” they wish to see in our school and community. Challenge Day is a 4-hour counseling workshop, which includes activities that are designed to help students break down barriers so that they begin to see each other as human beings and perhaps not be so quick to judge by what’s “on the outside.” Counselors will facilitate powerful activities that elicit leadership, motivate students to reduce the acceptability of cliques, bullying, and oppression, and inspire them to create an environment of compassion, empathy, and respect in our school and community.

Remembering Loved Ones Throughout the Christmas Season

Counselors are collaborating with the Art Department and Peer Ministry to offer a special Christmas Activity for our students who have lost a loved one. We recognize that the upcoming Holiday Season may be difficult for those who have lost a parent, grandparent or sibling. An invitation will be sent to Homerooms this week to invite those students to spend some time with us and with each other. We will be coming together to create a Christmas ornament to celebrate and honor your loved one(s) through the Holidays. We have planned three gatherings, the first being held on **Monday, November 25th** in the Performing Arts Center during Activity Period. Students will be asked to RSVP to their Counselor if they would like to join us .

Looking Ahead - Breaking the Silence through Education

Representatives from Minding Your Mind will facilitate three separate presentations/Q&A in December for our Nazareth Academy High School family.

December 2, 2019 ~ Presentation for Faculty

December 3, 2019 ~ Presentation in the evening for Parents 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
(more details to follow)

December 4, 2019 ~ Presentation for Students

“Just Talk About It”

This interactive presentation is an introduction to mental health, which is designed to train both adults and youth on how to recognize the warning signs of stress, anxiety, depression, and crisis. Just Talk About It will educate adolescents and the adults who support them to look beyond stigma and be able to recognize the onset of symptoms in themselves and their peers. Participants will discuss ways to assist others to cultivate positive coping skills and the ability to ask for help. We hope that you will join us for this very important conversation about Mental Health.

Athletics

Mr. Dan Bradley

As the Fall season ends, let's congratulate all our Fall athletes for their commitment, hard work, perseverance, and humility; they have so many great accomplishments of which to be proud! Soccer completed one of their best seasons in years, finishing with a 15-4-1 overall record and a 10-2 league record, which earned them a #3 seed in District One playoffs. They beat Villa Marie in the first round in double OT. Unfortunately, the team was not as fortunate in the Semi-Finals, losing to Strath Haven. Players Brooke Kane, Katie Harmon, Cayla Chipperfield, Maddie Maguire, Kirstyn Kinniry and Ali Loper earned All-Academy.

Cross Country continued their successful season, earning runner-up at District One Champs. What an amazing achievement! As stated in the previous newsletter, Malia Cipolloni and Paige Montijo competed in the AACA Singles Tennis Tournament. Katharine Hibbs, Natalie Pelegrino, Paige Mojito and Julia McAtte competed in the AACA Doubles Tennis Tournament. Our golf team finished their season with a 5th place finish in the AACA League Championship and golfer Eryal Szyszko finished 14th out of 65 golfers. We are proud of all our Fall sports teams and athletes!

The soccer and lacrosse field project is complete and looks beautiful.

Winter sports began on November 18th. All Winter sports schedules are on the website; to find the schedules, click on athletics and then on schedules. We hope to see you at a meet or game this winter! Best of luck to all our winter sports teams and athletes.

SAVE
THE DATE



NAZARETH
ACADEMY
HIGH SCHOOL

Barnes & Noble Bookfair



Thursday, December 5, 2019
5:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Barnes & Noble Neshaminy Mall
300 Neshaminy Mall
Bensalem, PA 19020

Nazareth Academy High School will be showing off our students' talents throughout the night. Come see our:

- *Chorale perform*
- *Dance Team*
- *Building Artists*

Can't attend our bookfair at Barnes & Noble?

Visit bn.com/bookfairs to support us online from 12/06/19 to 12/10/19
by entering **Bookfair ID 12495446** at checkout.

*A percentage of your Barnes & Noble purchases
will benefit Nazareth Academy High School.*

