

The Naz Newsletter



Nazareth Academy High School Parent Update

December 12, 2021

“Since the Christmas holidays are near, I want to send you my warmest greetings... in this mystery, may Jesus permit you to participate in all the graces which He brought to the world and gave to us through His holy Nativity.”

-Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd



From the Office of the Principal

Mr. Jim Meredith

O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give to them. Help them to know one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness and purity. Awaken in their hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness. Join them all together in your love. And give us your heavenly peace. Amen. -St. John XXIII

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you and your families. May you experience the Peace and Joy of the newborn King.

Schedule for the Week

Monday, December 13: C Schedule, Advent Liturgy

Tuesday, December 14: December Examinations

Wednesday, December 15: December Examinations

Thursday, December 16: December Examinations

Friday, December 17: No Classes, Clerical Day



Monday, December 13

C Schedule

Warning Bell	7:40 AM
Homeroom	7:45 AM-7:57 AM
BLOCK 1	8:00 AM-9:01 AM
Block 1A	8:00 AM-8:29 AM
Block 1B	8:32 AM-9:01 AM
Mass	9:04 AM-10:24 AM
BLOCK 2	10:27 AM-11:28 AM
Block 2A	10:27 AM-10:56 AM
Block 2B	10:59 AM-11:28 AM
Activity Period	11:31 AM-12:02 PM
BLOCK 3	12:05 PM-1:06 PM
Block 3A	12:05 PM-12:34 PM
Block 3B	12:37 PM-1:06 PM
BLOCK 4	1:09 PM-2:10 PM
Block 4A	1:09 PM-1:38 PM
Block 4B	1:41 PM-2:10 PM

NAHS December Examination Schedule 2021

Students report only for their scheduled examinations.

Tuesday, December 14 (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 15 (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 16 (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 17

NO SCHOOL-FACULTY CLERICAL DAY
GRADES DUE BY 2:00 PM
EXAM MAKE-UP DAY

Transportation During Exam Week

Bensalem School District does not provide early dismissal buses; therefore those students will get picked up at regular time, 2:10 pm

Bristol Township School District will pick up early 12/14, but not 12/15 or 12/16, as those days will be regular time pick up.

All other suburban school districts will provide bussing for early dismissal at 12:30.

Students who need to wait for a bus or a ride after exams can wait in the Student Dining Room under reasonable supervision.

From the Office of the President

Mrs. Denise LePera

Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and the happiest, healthiest of New Years.

My hope is that you had more time for reflection, more family dinners, more time for self-care and good conversation.

May we keep Christmas alive in our hearts all year long! And as Tiny Tim said, in *A Christmas Carol*, "God Bless Us, Everyone"

True Meaning of Christmas

Charlie Brown: Isn't there anyone, who knows what Christmas is all about?!

Linus: Sure Charlie Brown, I can tell you what Christmas is all about. Lights please?

And there were in the same country shepherds, abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them! And they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not! For, behold, I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all my people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ, the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." And suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the Heavenly Host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth peace, and good will toward men.

That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.



Advancement Office

EITC/OSTC

Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program

Learn how you can redirect your PA tax dollars to fund tuition assistance for deserving students!

It's a simple process and you receive up to 90% in Tax Credits of the donated amount.

Have questions? Want to start the process? Contact Cecilia Biello, Director of Development at 215-268-1048 or CBiello@NazarethAcademyHS.org

SAT Prep Classes

Math ~ Mr. Severino

English ~ Mrs. Severino

The Math and English Departments will be offering after school non-credit SAT Prep courses for the March 12th exam beginning on January 14th and for the May 7th exam beginning on March 11th. These courses will provide additional opportunities for our students to sharpen their skills and to perform better on the SATs.

Classes for the March 12th exam:

Math: January 14, 21, 26, 31, February 4, 11, 16, 28, March 4 and 9

Verbal: January 19 (1:05-2:05), 24, 28, February 2, 7, 14, 18, March 2, 7 and 11

Classes for the May 7th exam:

Math: March 11, 16, 23, 28, April 4, 11, 20(1:05-2:05), 25, 29 and May 4

Verbal: March 14, 18, 25, 30, April 6, 13, 22, 27, May 2 and 6

[Click here to register for the SAT Prep Classes.](#)

Business Office

Reminder Regarding ID Cards and Lunch Accounts

As a reminder, all students must wear their ID cards on a visible Nazareth Academy High School lanyard. Students must swipe into the building every day.

Students will use their ID cards to make purchases in the Student Dining Room. This will help lines move more quickly. If your daughter needs a replacement ID, please complete this [form](#) and have your daughter report to the Attendance/Security Office.

You can load your card and check balances through [MyKidsSpending](#). All outstanding lunch account balances will be billed through FACTS on January 4th. Questions? Please contact Mrs. Miller at tmiller@NazarethAcademyHS.org or 215.268.1070.

Christmas Hours

Offices will close at 12:00 noon on December 16th so that our staff can celebrate at our annual Christmas luncheon.

So that staff can enjoy the Christmas season, the Main Office will be open on a limited basis. In order to provide responses to any concerns or issues, staff will be checking their emails and voicemails and will respond within 48 hours.

December 17: Clerical Day, Offices Close at 2 pm
December 20, 21, and 22: 9 am to 12 noon
December 27, 28 and 29: 9 am to 12 noon

School and all offices are closed on December 23, 24, 30 and 31st for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

COVID Corner

Since last week's weekly update, there have been five positive cases:

- Case 1 – Index 0 was not in school during the infectious period
- Case 2 – Index 0 had 4 students requiring quarantine
- Case 3 – Index 0 had 5 students requiring quarantine
- Case 4 – Index 2 had 2 students requiring quarantine.
- Case 5 – Index 3 met threshold for quarantining 22 members of the entire cohort for those connected cases

The guidance calls for quarantine and entire class or quarantine when there are three connected cases. We have notified those who are required to quarantine and we have been in communication with the City of Philadelphia.

The guidance calls for quarantine and entire class or quarantine when there are three connected cases. We have notified those who are required to quarantine and we have been in communication with the City of Philadelphia.

Please note that there has been a change in the guidance regarding fully vaccinated close contacts and we have notified these individuals.

Asymptomatic fully vaccinated close contacts still do not need to quarantine. However, effective this week, fully vaccinated individuals must test between day 5 and 7 following a known exposure to a confirmed case and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test. (The City of Philadelphia still requires a mask in K-12 schools regardless of vaccination status.)

We are grateful for your attention to the guidance of the City of Philadelphia and the CDC, especially:

- Completing the daily health questionnaire
- Following proper use of masks
- Using the hand sanitizing stations and washing your hands often

Quick Links and Reference:

[Daily Health Screening Questionnaire](#)

[Current Guidance for Schools from the City of Philadelphia Department of Health](#)

[Quarantine Visual Aid](#)

[PA Department of Health Dashboard](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support and patience!

NAPA

NAPA End of Year 50/50

Take a chance on winning our BIGGEST JACKPOT of the year \$2021.00. Who doesn't love some post-Holiday Cash. Click here to purchase tickets. \$5.00 per ticket. 810 spots available to WIN BIG. *Remember somebody has to win!*

2021 Nazareth Christmas Ornament While Supplies Last 🎄

Inspired by our beautiful Nazareth Rose Stain Glass Window.....and replicated by our talented senior Emily Krauss '22. This porcelain signed original piece of art can be displayed on your Christmas tree this year and many more years to come. It is such a beautiful keepsake. Great Pollyanna gift or hostess gift for any Nazareth Alumna. \$25.00 each. Don't wait to purchase or it may be too late. [Click here to purchase your ornament.](#)

Your daughter can pick up the ornament from the Main Office during the Office Hours listed previously.



NAPA End of Year 50/50

Take a chance on winning our BIGGEST JACKPOT of the year \$2021.00. Who doesn't love some post-Holiday Cash. [Tickets go on today Sunday, December 12th](#) . \$5.00 per ticket. 810 spots available to WIN BIG. *Remember somebody has to win!* 💰💰

From the Office of Campus Ministry

Ms. Shannon Donnelly, Campus Minister

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought abundant joy and great rejoicing!" -Isaiah 9:1-2

As Advent continues, today we celebrate **Gaudete** (*rejoice* in Latin) **Sunday**! As we light the rose-colored candle on our Advent wreaths may we rejoice in the abundant joy that Jesus' arrival promises! This arrival that silences our anxiety and sadness cannot stand against it. We can rejoice because a mighty Savior, who renews us in his love, is coming and we can feel it in our hearts!

- Congratulations to our November Charism Award winners, **Ella Pirolli, Camryn Keller, Madison Swan, Sophia Cigler, Anna Kane, Madison Buck, and Emma Crumbock**. All seven were recognized for practicing the Core Value of Faithful Listening; to others, in the classroom, and to their peers. Thanks for keeping the Nazareth spirit alive, ladies!

- We celebrate Christmas Mass together, as a family, this Monday! May this Eucharistic celebration feed our souls with the love of Jesus one last time this year.
- Thank you to all for contributing to Operation Santa Claus by dressing down and paying the dress down fee.

Over this break, I pray the Lord blesses you and your family, keeps you safe, and shows His favor on you. May He restore our hearts for a new semester that awaits us with many blessings, gifts, and growth!

Blessed Christmas, and Happy New Year!

From the Office of Student Life

Mrs. Theresa Hartey, Assistant Principal

On Monday, December 20th, we will volunteer at Face to Face in Germantown for meal preparation.

On Thursday, January 6th, we will host a “White Out” to cheer on the basketball team as they battle against Villa Joseph Marie. Alumnae are invited to attend. The JV game will begin at 5:30, followed by the varsity at 7:00. Nazareth spirit t-shirts for the “White Out will be available for purchase.

Thank you and your family for your tireless help and support this semester!

May the love, peace, and goodness of the infant Jesus be with you and your family at Christmastime and throughout the New Year! Have a wonderful Christmas break!



From the Office of College Counseling

Ms. Alyssa Mikulski, Director of College Counseling

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We wish you all a happy, healthy, and safe holiday break! 🎄 😊

If students need transcripts sent for the Regular Decision deadline, they must submit the transcript request form by December 16, 2021.

PSAT

PSAT scores were released on CollegeBoard, and test books were returned during homeroom. If your student is having trouble with their CollegeBoard account, please have them contact their school and/or college counselor. Freshmen currently in the Study Skills class have made CollegeBoard accounts unless they were absent on that particular class day. All freshmen were emailed instructions on how to make a CollegeBoard account but can certainly meet with their college counselor to create it.

Please watch this [VIDEO](#) and follow this [LINK](#) from CollegeBoard to help you understand your student's scores. Students will be receiving their PSAT test booklets back in homeroom this week as an aid for viewing questions they answered correctly or incorrectly.

If students have not already, they can link their Khan Academy account to their CollegeBoard account to receive personalized practice for next year's PSAT or upcoming SAT tests. Follow this [LINK](#) with your student, select "get started", and follow the prompts to match their accounts.

Resources

Follow the College Counseling Department on **Instagram!** @nahscollegecounseling

The **FAFSA** application opened October 1st. Seniors and their families should complete this federal student aid [application](#) sooner rather than later for college purposes. Students should check with their colleges to see if there are priority deadlines for FAFSA submission.

The **PA State Grant** program is associated with the FAFSA. There should be more information about PA State grants on the confirmation page you receive after submitting the FAFSA next year. Here is the [LINK](#) for the PA State Grant Program if you are interested in seeing if you are eligible to complete this application.

The **CSS Profile** is completed for certain schools in addition to the FAFSA. Here is a link to the [Student Guide for the CSS Profile](#).

Going Merry offers financial aid [resources](#) and a way to [complete the FAFSA](#) application through their site. Many of your students may have accounts with Going Merry already for scholarship searches. They should be able to use this account to complete the FAFSA if they would rather use Going Merry instead of the FAFSA site.

CollegeBoard offers [CLEP exams](#) for students to potentially earn college credit. If a student receives a passing score on an exam, there is a chance that their college may accept it for college credit. You can follow the previous link for more information and follow this [LINK](#) to see the colleges and universities that accept CLEP exam scores.

Seminars for the Class of 2023

Tentative Schedule for optional College/Post-Secondary Seminars for the spring semester:

Location: Room 324

- 2/10: Options/Application Timeline/Naviance
- 3/3: Major/Career/Naviance/Vita Navis
- 3/17: Common Application/Other Applications/Naviance
- 3/24: College Essay and Activities Resume
- 4/7: SAT/ACT/Khan Academy/College Board
- 4/21: Financial Aid/Scholarships

From the Office of the Athletic Department

Mr. Dan Bradley, Athletic Director

Weekly Athletic Schedule 12/13/21-12/19/21

Monday, December 13, 2021

- 2:45 – 4:15 – V Track Practice – Nazareth
- 5:00 – 7:00 – V Swimming Practice – Bensalem HS
- 6:45 – 8:00 – PSC Soccer – Gym

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

2:45 – 4:15 – V Track Practice – Rush
4:00 – 6:00 – NAGS Basketball – GYM
5:00 – 7:00 – V Swimming Practice – Bensalem HS
5:30 – JV BB vs. Ryan – Away – Postponed
6:30 – 9:00 – V Cheer Practice – Gym
7:00 – V BB vs. Ryan-Away – Postponed

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

2:45 – 4:15 – V Track Practice-Rush
5:00 – 7:00 – V Swimming Practice-Bensalem HS
6:00 – 7:15 – Fishtown Soccer-Gym

Thursday, December 16, 2021

2:15 – 4:15 – NAGS Basketball – GYM
3:45 – JV BB vs. GMA-Away – Postponed
5:00 – 7:00 – V Swimming Practice – Bensalem HS
5:15 – 6:15 – V BB vs. GMA-Away – Postponed
6:30 – 9:00 – V Cheer Practice – Gym

Friday, December 17, 2021

5:00 – 7:00 – V Swimming Practice – Bensalem HS

Saturday, December 18, 2021

TBD – Haverford Cheer Competition-Away
8:00 – Indoor Track – UC Holiday Invite – Away – Ursinus
12:00 – JV BB vs. Hubert's – Away – Postponed
1:30 – V BB vs. Hubert's – Away – Postponed

Sunday, December 19, 2021

5:30 – 8:00 – V Cheer Practice-Gym

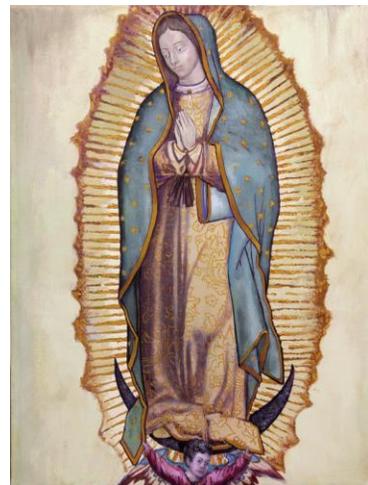
Prayer Intentions

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Mr. Joseph Bottoms, son-in-law of Mr. Mike Dougherty (*Facilities*) and for the consolation of those who love him, most especially members of his family.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Also, please remember the following in your prayers:

- Those impacted by the coronavirus, the victims and the first responders on the front lines fighting this virus
- American men and women serving overseas
- Mr. Jack Barth (*Facilities*)
- Mrs. Jessica MacKay, *former Director of Counseling*



- Zdunkiewicz Family
- All intentions of the Nazareth Academy High School Community

May you and yours have a Blessed and Merry Christmas! The Naz Newsletter will return on January 2, 2022.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!