



February 14, 2018

Weekly Announcements

LENT 2018 | *Raise Up. Sacrifice. Offer.*



*God of goodness and mercy,
Hear my prayer as I begin this Lenten journey with you. Let me be honest with myself as I look into my heart and soul, noticing the times I turn away from you. Guide me as I humbly seek to repent and return to your love. May humility guide my efforts to be reconciled with you and live forever in your abundant grace. Transform me this Lent, heavenly Father. Give me the strength to commit myself to grow closer to you each day.*

Amen.

- Dynamic Catholic

Each Lent we are called to pray, fast and give alms. Same story, different year. (Imagine a middle school eye roll, here.) Yet... "Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.

- From [Pope Francis' message for Lent](#).

At Xavier Middle School we offer opportunities for students and staff to experience Lent. We hope that these encounters will reinforce and enrich our families' Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and giving alms.

- Weekly mass

- Additional prayer opportunities
- Retreats
- Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Food collection for St. Joseph Food Program

Schedule Reminders

Delayed Start Tuesday, February 20, 2018. The school day will begin at 10:00 am with KIDS Group. All buses will run on a 2 hour delayed morning pick up schedule. The school will be open for students to arrive by 7:10 am as in a normal school day schedule. There will be staff supervising students who arrive before 9:50 am. Masses during a delayed start week will be held on Wednesday at 9:30 am. All are welcome

Xavier Middle School Students to Take Part in Renaissance's® Nationwide ReadQuest™ Event

Students at Xavier Middle School are preparing to take part in ReadQuest, a nationwide reading event set for Friday, March 2, 2018.

ReadQuest is a one-day event that brings K12 students from all over the country together to celebrate the power of reading. At Xavier Middle School, students will be celebrating throughout the day by taking AR tests. When students pass their AR test not only do they earn the points, but they win a prize! We're encouraging all students to contribute to the shared reading effort. Participating in ReadQuest allows our students to gain valuable reading practice, strengthen their vocabularies, and grow not only as readers, but as students as well.

The day is

- A Quest for Knowledge
- A Quest for Acceptance and Understanding
- A Quest for Connections and Conversations
- A Quest for Pure Entertainment....all of which are met through reading!

XMS is in need of parent volunteers to help oversee and keep record of the AR test taking and prize selection. If you can help for a morning or afternoon shift on Friday, March 2nd please contact Ms. Bouchard at jbouchard@xaviercatholicschools.org or call her at 730-8849, ext. 4411.

XMS Spring Sports Help!

The start of our spring sports is nearing but we are still in need of a boys track head coach and someone to be the coordinator for our tennis program. If you are interested in either of those volunteer positions, or know of someone who might be, please contact Mr. Ferron ASAP dferron@xaviercatholicschools.org.

Yearbook Club 2018

Yearbook club is for ANY student who wants to contribute to the XMS yearbook this year. Students in 5th through 8th grade can participate by helping with: photography, cover and page design, editing, page layout, etc.

Meetings will take place on Thursdays after school in Room 1132 from 3:30-4:15 pm, although there may be tasks to complete outside of school as well. Our first meeting will be next Thursday, February 22nd. Hope to see you there! Other meeting dates are: March 8th, March 15th, March 22nd, April 12th, April 19th and April 26th. Mrs. Kiepert is the moderator of this club. Please email with questions: jkiepert@xaviercatholicschools.org.

AfterWords

AfterWords Writing Group would like to remind you of upcoming contest deadlines. Appleton's Sidewalk Poetry entries are due Thursday of this week.

The STEM Influential Woman Contest entries are due Monday the 19th, and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas contest entries are due Tuesday the 20th. Get your entry to Ms. Bouchard soon.

Inside Out Cafe

Inside Out Cafe will meet this Thursday after school. The theme will be "*A Valentine for Lent*". Please join us to write and reflect after school in Ms. Bouchard's room.

XMS Solo & Ensemble Competition

Mark your calendars, our annual Solo & Ensemble competition will be held at XMS on Tuesday, March 13th. The competition will run from 4:00 - 8:00. This event will include all band students grades 5th - 8th. Our students will be assigned an 8 minute time slot to perform for the events adjudicator. All friends and relatives are welcome to listen to any of our fantastic musicians.

Pep Band Night at Xavier High School

Our 6th, 7th and 8th Grade band students will be joining the High School band to play between the JV and Varsity basketball games on Friday, February 16th. We will have munchies after our performance in the Xavier commons. [Click here](#) for the SignUp Genius if you can help out with party donations.

Who: Combined 6th-12th grade pep band for XHS basketball game

When: Friday, February 16th

Timeline/Locations:

- **6:15pm** - Meet in the XHS theater for attendance, warm-up, and run-through with high school band students.
- **6:45pm(ish)** - Pep band begins in gymnasium.
- **7:15pm** - Pep band ends. Go back to theater to pack up. Head to commons for munchies & short social with High School bands!

Orchestra Notes

The orchestra students have been working very hard preparing for our winter concert and for Solo and Ensemble. Our Winter Concert will be on **Thursday February 22nd, 6:30 pm, at Xavier High School**. The concert will feature 7th grade through High School string students as well as a full orchestra piece for the High School with a select number of band students. This concert will also include a performance by the "Blue Rock Orchestra."

Concert details:

- Call time for all students is 6:00 pm.
- Location: Xavier High School
 - 7th, 8th grade - band room
 - High School students - orchestra room
- Dress is "concert dress."
 - Middle School, black bottoms, white tops
 - Blue Rock musicians - black bottoms, white shirts with blue bow ties (guys) and black bottom and "BRO" assigned shirt for ladies.
 - High School, all black

Please see Mrs. Kenney if you have any questions.

Visit the Land of Chalk Drawings

Come check out the latest chalk drawing created by our resident artist, Anne Douglas. This month's drawing is of the book *The Forgetting*, by Sharon Cameron. This is one of the new books that we purchased with profits from our Scholastic Book Fair.



Xavier Middle School and Pop Warner Football Registration

Sign up for fall 2018 football will begin for 6th (Pop Warner), 7th (Pop Warner), and 8th grade (Xavier Middle School Football) on Super Bowl Sunday. Information may be found by [clicking here](#). There you will also find a link for the Appleton Parks and Recreation Department flag football league. Sign up has not yet begun for YMCA flag football. Please direct any questions to Mr. Stary at: jstary@xaviercatholicschools.org.

XMS Ski and Snowboard Club

The next ski trip of the season will be on Monday, February 19th to Nordic Mountain. **The deadline to sign up has been extended to Friday, February 16th.** Forms will be available in the school office. Required paperwork for the Nordic Mountain trip includes:

- [Sign up form](#)
- Check for fees
- [Permission slip](#)
- [Ski Rental Form](#) or [Snowboard Rental Form](#) (only if renting equipment)

The last two ski trips for this year are:

- February 24th - Ski Brule
 - Sign up forms for this trip are due **this Friday, February 16th** and include:
 - [Sign up form](#)
 - Check for fees
 - [Permission slip](#)
 - [Rental Form](#) (only if renting equipment)
- March 3rd - Marquette Mountain
 - Sign up forms for this trip are due **Wednesday, February 21st**

and include:

- [Sign up form](#)
- Check for fees
- [Permission Slip](#)
- [Questionnaire and rental form](#)

Fish Fry - St. Thomas More Parish

Join the St. Francis Xavier community at STM for our Lenten Fish Fry Dinners Feb. 16th, March 2nd, 16th and 23rd from 5:00 - 7:00. Dine-in or carry-out; your choice of Perch, Walleye, Shrimp, or Haddock (baked or fried); kids meals available. Restaurant quality food at Catholic Church prices!



Xavier Theatre Academy

The Xavier Theatre Academy, in its fifth year, is proud to announce their 2018 summer schedule. It will open with "Disney's Aladdin Jr" June 27-30. "Disney's The Jungle Book" will be presented August 2-4. Productions and preceding sessions will be held at the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre. General auditions will be held for both productions February 17th and 19th by appointment. Registration for auditions is now open. Please click or tap this link to get started: [Register for an audition](#)
You will also find the registration link at www.xaviertheatre.com, following the link for Xavier Theatre Academy.

The Xavier Theatre Academy is an intensive learning / performance class geared toward dedicated, serious performers and technicians. Operating on a professional model under the direction of experienced staff and student interns, participants will learn about every aspect of theatrical production as they prepare for and present public performances of a Broadway musical at the end of the session.



Smart Tuition News

2017 Year End Statements are available on your Smart Tuition account. Please log into your account (<https://parent.smarttuition.com>) and click on **Family Year End Statement** or **Student Year End Statement** on the Review My Bill page.

Past Due Tuition and Lunch Accounts must be paid in full by the end of May to be eligible for enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year. If you have concerns, please contact Madalyn Long to set up an appointment with Tom Candell, Vice President of Finance and Administration.

Re-enrollment Fees for the 2018-2019 school year have been charged on Smart Tuition to be due in March. If you have questions regarding these charges please contact Madalyn Long.

Tuition Assistance applications through FACTS are currently being accepted. You can apply at no cost to you. Please have your application and paperwork submitted to FACTS by March 16, 2018.

Additional Scholarships are also available through the St. Francis Xavier Foundation. See [website](#) for details.

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP). The WPCP is a way for students who qualify by residency and income to attend Xavier Catholic Schools tuition free. *NEW* the income limits have gone up to 220% of federal poverty for 2018-2019, that means a married family of 5 can make up to an AGI of \$70,316. Current XCS students entering 4K, Kindergarten, 1st grade and 9th grade are

eligible to participate. Any student currently attending a public school, regardless of entering grade for 2018/2019 school year is eligible to participate in this program. To read more about the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program go to <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/choice-programs>. Find out if this is an opportunity for you, contact Tara Pearce confidentially by email or by phone (920) 735-9380.

2018-2019 Statements will be ready in June if you want to take advantage of the Early Payment Credit. To take advantage of the Early Payment Credit you will need to fill out the [Early Payment Credit Form](#) and make your payment by June 30, 2018.

Payment Plans consist of an upfront June payment or monthly payments. Have you considered paying Smart Tuition via ACH? ACH is the quickest and easiest way to pay your tuition. You can easily schedule automatic payments from your bank account or credit/debit card. Log in to your account and select the "Edit My Profile" tab at the top of your screen. Next, scroll down to the box labeled: "My Payment Method" and click "Update" to enter your information. You must complete all three steps to initiate automatic payments.

If your automatic payment is set up less than 3 business days before your due date, your first payment may not be pulled automatically. In this case, you will still be responsible to make a manual payment before your due date. Please read the terms and conditions carefully as fees may apply.

If you have any questions please contact Madalyn Long at mlong@xaviercatholicschools or 920-735-9380.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Candell, CPA
Vice President-Finance and Administration



We can't thank you enough for all helping make Celebrate 2018 a great success! If you would still like to get in on some of the fun and support, there are still a few options:

- [Click here](#) to see what items are still available from "Cookies for a Cause" -in this area of Celebrate people satisfy staff wishes. Staff identify "wants" and we ask for supporters to donate the money needed to satisfy those wants. **Simply contact your campus office to satisfy a specific cause**; these are satisfied on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline to support this area is February 20, 2018.
- There are still some great parties that you can sign up for in order to "Celebrate at a Later Date". [Click here](#) to see the great parties that still have spots available. Email Stephanie at szinser@XavierCatholicSchools.org to sign up; the deadline is February 20, 2018.



Grand Chute Baseball

Grand Chute Baseball is currently holding registration for the 2018 season. Our league is open to any child (ages 5-13) who live anywhere throughout the Fox Valley. Please see our website www.grandchutebaseball.com for registration forms or contact admin@grandchutebaseball.com with additional questions.



Attachments

- XMS Lunch Menu - [February](#)
- [Thrivent College Planning Informational Meeting](#) (February 20th)
- [Lawrence University 2018 Volleyball Camps](#)
- [Xavier Hawks Winter Golf Camp 2018](#)

Upcoming Events

- **Wed., Feb 14**
 - 9:30 am-Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Fr. Don Zuleger
 - 3:30-4:15 pm-Gamers Club - Cafeteria
- **Thurs., Feb 15**
 - 7:10-7:45 am-Blue Rock Orchestra Rehearsal
 - 3:30-4:30 pm-Inside Out Cafe - Room 1411
 - 3:30-4:30 pm-Running Club
 - 3:45-4:30 pm-Company Blue
- **Fri., Feb 16**
 - \$1.00 Casual Day
 - 3:30-4:15 pm-Math Club - Room 1132
- **Mon., Feb 19**
 - 3:30-4:30 pm-Art Club - Room 1500
 - 3:30-4:30 pm-Chess Club
 - 3:30-4:30 pm-Running Club
 - 3:40 pm-Ski Trip to Nordic Mountain
 - 3:45-4:30 pm-Company Blue
- **Tues., Feb 20**
 - 10:00 am-Delayed Start
 - 3:30-4:30 pm-Sewing Club - Room 1126
 - 3:30-4:15 pm-Card Club
 - 6:30 pm-Thrivent College Planning Event
- **Wed., Feb 21**
 - 9:30 am- Liturgy with Fr. Jim Jugenheimer
 - 3:30-5:00 pm-Blue Rock Orchestra Pizza Party
 - 3:30-4:15 pm-Gamers Club - Cafeteria
 - 3:30-4:15 pm-Student Council Meeting - LMC
- **Thurs., Feb 22**
 - 7:10-7:45 am-Blue Rock Orchestra Rehearsal
 - 3:30-4:15 pm-Yearbook Club
 - 3:30-4:30 pm-Running Club
 - 3:45-4:30 pm-Company Blue
 - 6:30 pm-Orchestra Concert @ XHS

- Fri., Feb 23
 - 8:00 am-HSA Coffee Social @ Jersey Bagel

Celebrate Appleton's Emerald Isle Heritage at the St. Mary Parish

Shamrock Shenanigans

ALL are invited!
Bring your friends!

Sat., March 3, 2018
Waverly Beach
N8770 Fire Lane 1, Menasha, WI 54952

6 PM - Doors Open/Fun Begins!
6:30 – 8 PM - Buffet of Irish & American Fare

Add to the fun! Join in the
Irish Libation Celebration



Two selected tap beers or soda drinks included with ticket. Additional Irish beers & whiskeys available for sale.

Make merry like the Irish do! Gather with fun folk, eat and drink festive food, and enjoy an adult evening of **Irish music, games, raffles, drawings & more!**

Music by
Third
Class
Minstrels
7 – 10 PM

TICKETS = \$25 early bird; **\$30** after Feb. 18; **Available at:**

- St. Mary Parish Office, 312 S State St., Appleton, WI
- After all weekend Masses during month of February
- Order on-line (Go to www.stmaryparish.org and click on "Shamrock Shenanigans" in the left column)

For information, contact Theresa Rohm at St. Mary Parish, 920-739-5119. Proceeds benefit the parish.