



# News & Notes

November 2023  
Volume #422

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*Xavier High School is a proud member of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic School System, and has been accredited by AdvanceED (formerly the North Central Association) since 1970.*

## Dear Xavier Family-

It's November. That means every school newsletter in the country is publishing its "we have a lot to be thankful for" message. The sentiment is undoubtedly valid here at Xavier. Still, it feels like the subject of most of our cover letters is gratitude – for the amazing young people who represent us each day, the dedicated families who help to form the Xavier community, the parishes and alumni who sustain us in our mission, and the incomparable faculty and staff who make it all possible. During this season of thanksgiving, let's remember to be grateful for all of them. And now, let's discuss something different!

It is increasingly challenging to find means by which we can help our young people to grow in faith. Confirmation is not the given that it once was. Church attendance is still recovering from pandemic levels. The growth of scientism and the enthusiasm of a "me first" culture all work against the development of a Catholic Christian worldview. We continue to bring our students to Mass, to pray with them constantly, and to offer the sacraments as moments of grace. Retreats are still a part of the Xavier experience, especially our Kairos retreat for upperclassmen. We still do Help Your Neighbor Day and ask our students to complete 20 hours of service per year. So a lot is happening. But new challenges and a new generation of young people also require some new approaches.

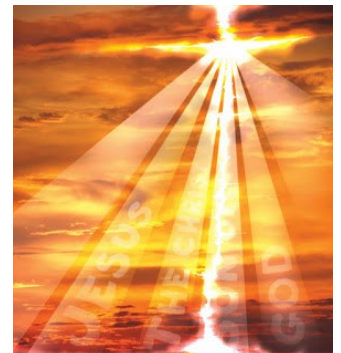
We are excited to be able to offer Senior Theology electives this year. In the spring, seniors were able to choose courses which best fit their unique spiritual needs. Some of our seniors want the deep theology of apologetics. Others feel impacted by the day to day experiences of Jesus in the real world. Some decided to engage in service learning, while others are looking forward to growing through studying Jesus and the Church in literature, movies and the media. This program allows each of our theology teachers to develop courses in line with their passion and experience, but it also means each classroom is a self-selected group of learners who have chosen to be there. Early feedback has been positive and we hope to continue to grow the program in the future. Our freshmen through juniors complete the required courses of the USCCB's Bishops Curriculum so that during senior year, they can have this voice in their faith formation.

We are also honored to continue to grow with our chaplain, Fr. Patrick Costello. Fr. Patrick spends each Friday in the Freshman Theology classes, teaching and inspiring them through a variety of topics. He also sends a weekly "Chaplain's Chat" to all of the students with opportunities for spiritual formation and updates on the feast days of the week. We see him at athletic events, in the lunchroom with the students, and doing service with the students on Help Your Neighbor Day. Having a priest on campus allows our students the opportunity to understand vocation, to bear witness to the life of a Catholic priest, and to know a priest personally, something that many of us found formative in our early years. We are grateful to the Diocese of Green Bay for sharing Fr. Patrick with us.

As we continue to grow in our Catholic identity, let's pray for new and effective ways to reach our young people. Faith and the Catholic worldview are essential elements of the profile of a Xavier graduate. May all that we do advance those goals.

For the greater glory of God,

Mike Mauthe  
Principal



## Grandparents' Day

The day many of our grandparents look forward to is coming. Please mark your calendar for Friday, November 10th. Students are invited to take their grandparents to lunch and then to enjoy the musical "The Wizard of Oz" with their grandchildren. Students whose grandparents are attending will be dismissed at 11:55 and the musical will begin at 1:15. Please call 733-6632 or email [jandree@xaviercatholicschools.org](mailto:jandree@xaviercatholicschools.org) to register grandparents for the event.

**Students whose grandparents are not attending will remain in classes for the afternoon.**

## Parent– Teacher Conferences

Just a reminder that parent—teacher conferences for Term 2 will take place on Wednesday, December 6, from 4-7 pm in the commons.

We ask that all conferences be limited to five minutes. If you need more time with a teacher or cannot make the schedule times for conferences, please e-mail the teacher to arrange a separate appointment.

Grades can always be checked via PowerSchool. We encourage students and parents to keep current on grades and assignment status.



## Prospective Xavier Student

Do you have a middle school student who is considering which high school to attend in the future?

We suggest that in order to make the best decision for your student, you should shop and compare. This can be done in a number of ways. If you would like to receive a tour of the school (preferably during school hours) or if your son/daughter would like to shadow a present Xavier student for a day or half-day, please contact Mike Mauthe at 882-6901.

So very  
**THANKFUL**

## From the Counseling Department

College Board recently announced that Xavier High School has been named to the Advanced Placement® Program (AP®) School Honor Roll, earning a GOLD distinction.

The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more student's into AP courses and support them on the path to college success.

Research shows students who take AP courses and exams are more likely to attend college and graduate on time. The students who enter four-year colleges with credit from AP accelerate their path to graduation and build confidence for college success. And even for those who don't earn college credit, AP coursework provides early exposure to college-level work and contributes to a college-going school culture.

It takes a significant, school-wide effort—dedication from teachers, counselors, administrators, students, and parents—to make AP access a priority.

Last year, Xavier offered 16 different AP exams and over 263 exams were taken. This allowed over 187 students to potentially earn college credits while in high school and saved families an exorbitant amount of money!

## Art Students of the Month October 2023 Aila Gingerich and Dane Katz

Aila Gingerich and Dane Katz were named October's Art Department students of the month. Aila is a sophomore and Dane is a junior currently taking the Introduction to Art course. Aila enjoys being creative and exploring the materials with which she works. She is able to visualize her end goal and works hard to complete each project with a positive outlook. She encourages those around her, offering guidance and support. She enjoys sharing her love of art. Aila's watercolor landscape pushed the boundaries of landscape with a large caribou in the foreground with antlers mimicking the structure of the mountains in the background. The cool colors flow beautifully and she captures a scenic view. Aila's positive energy and the endless effort put into her work is what makes her stand out as an art student of the month.

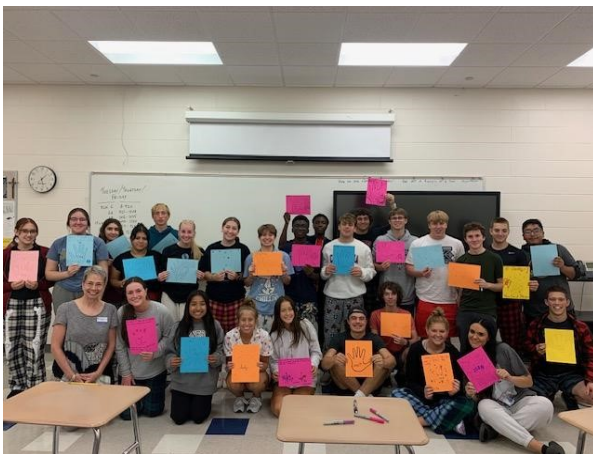
Dane demonstrates the same positive energy. He encourages others at his table by offering suggestions and providing constructive criticism. He is able to apply the skills he learns from one lesson to the next. After learning about an art work created by Joseph Stella, Dane took the design and applied it to his emphasis in his patterned value box pencil drawing. He is eager to expand his skills as an artist. He, too, is able to envision what the final outcome will be with the ideas he develops. Both Aila and Dane demonstrate commitment to art that drives them to grow as artists. This passion for art is contagious and spills over to those around them. This enthusiasm for art as well as their talent is what makes them both stand out as an art student of the month.





## Service Learning

Service Learning is one of the Theology Department's new senior electives, and this term, the Hawks have been learning about the Corporal Works of Mercy in an experiential way, as they continue developing as the hands and feet of Christ. This compassion-in-action course gives students opportunities to grow in awareness, knowledge, and skills, as they learn about local organizations and opportunities to serve those in need. The Corporal Works of Mercy are practical, powerful, real-time applications of Jesus' call to love one another, and the class has grown in understanding, respect, and compassion. This generation has been handpicked by Pope Francis to lead the way and lead the world. Each student - each human - is a masterpiece of God's doing, uniquely gifted and qualified to be and to bring Jesus' love to others through selfless action. Thank you for your support!



## Band

"The Xavier High School Band saw their hard work throughout summer and fall come to fruition with their halftime performance at this year's homecoming football game. They were accompanied by the 7th and 8th grade bands, under the direction of new 7/8 XMS band director, Ms. Kat Idleman. Their performance featured the songs, *Viva La Vida*, *Ex's and Oh's*, and *Wavin' Flag*. The field show is largely planned and executed by student leadership under the direction of drum majors, Angela McGreevey ('24) and Hailey Holub ('25). It is a fun time of year for Mr. Wallace because he gets to see his students take ownership of their creativity and produce a memory that lasts a lifetime.

Additionally, the band was able to get a unique perspective on their field show this year with a band parent, Mr. Stachowicz providing us with aerial coverage of their performance. The students loved seeing their images and shapes on the field from this perspective. The field show was a big success and we hope you had a chance to witness it in person!"



## Fine Arts News

### WSMA High School State Honors Program

The WSMA High School State Honors programs (band, choir and orchestra) are ensembles comprised of musicians across the State, selected by audition. These ensembles rehearse for four days in the summer and perform in Madison in October. Any current Xavier Fine Arts student currently registered for an ensemble at Xavier who is a freshman, sophomore, or junior may audition. Selection is limited but any interested students are encouraged to audition. Registration opens November 1<sup>st</sup>. Please see your fine arts teacher for more information.

The students who represented Xavier this year in the orchestras are: **Middle School Level Honors Orchestra, Lydia Young** (violin) and **High School Honors Orchestra, Dana Keesler** (violin), **Halle Keesler** (violin) and **Pamela Barquet** (viola), **Honors Treble Choir, Nandi Dube**, (alto) and **Honors Band, Beatrice Ehrlich** (percussion). One student that was accepted into the orchestra but was unable to participate due to a conflict is **Grant Polzin** (violin). It is a tremendous honor to be in such select groups. Congratulations!

### Orchestra News

#### Christmas Tour

The high school orchestra will be going on our annual Christmas Tour to St. John in Little Chute and St. Nicolas in Freedom as we share some classic Christmas music with them. Since we began this tour six years ago, St. John in Little Chute now has a full time string teacher. We are so happy to be a part of promoting string players in our schools. This tour is a wonderful opportunity for the students to share their talents, promote Xavier and give back to the community.

#### Upcoming events:

- December 13, Christmas Tour
- February 7, Winter Concert
- March 2, District Solo and Ensemble
- March 6, Fine Arts Night
- May 4, State Solo and Ensemble (only those who qualified at District)
- May 22, Spring Concert



## Campus Ministry

### All-School Mass - All Saints Day - Wednesday, November 1

Our next, all-school Mass is Wednesday, November 1 at 10:50am at St. Bernard. All are welcome!

### All-Souls Remembrance Prayer Service - Thursday, November 9

Each year, we pause to remember XHS community members who have passed in the prior year. If you have someone you would like to remember or if you would like to light a candle for a loved one during this special prayer service, please contact Kate Geenen at: [kgeenen@xaviercatholicschools.org](mailto:kgeenen@xaviercatholicschools.org) by *Wednesday, November 1*.

### Weekly Faith Opportunities

In addition to the Chapel and SPIRIT Center being open during the school day, here are some specific faith journey opportunities:

- Bible Study \* Wednesdays 7:05-7:35am \* Room 134
- Weekly Mass \* Tuesdays & Thursdays during X and Fridays 7:15am \* Chapel
- Duncan Donuts \* Thursdays 7:25-7:45 in the SPIRIT Center with Mr. Duncan
- Weekly Confession \* Fridays during X in the chapel sacristy
- Spiritual Guidance with Fr. Patrick \* Students, please check your email to sign up.

### Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held the first Friday of each month in the Chapel from 7:45am until 3:00pm. Please contact Ms. Wesolek to sign up ([kwesolek@xaviercatholicschools.org](mailto:kwesolek@xaviercatholicschools.org)).

### Service Hour Opportunities

Please be sure to monitor your student's service hour progress. All hours should be entered on the new MobileServe app. Parish and community service opportunities are on the app, emailed each week to all students, and posted on Instagram (xhscampusministry).

### Spring Retreat

Students will get to participate in an all-school retreat on Friday, April 26, 2024! This is a required retreat, so please avoid scheduling appointments or time away from school that day. If you should have any questions, please contact Mr. Mauthe or Mrs. Geenen.



## Xavier Theatre Presents



**7:00 pm November 3, 4\*, 10, 11**

**2:00 pm November 4, 11**

*Join us for a special one-hour version of the classic 1939 movie musical,  
a perfect first-time live theatre experience.*

Adult \$12 · Senior Citizen \$12 · Student \$10  
XCS Student with ID \$6

Family Night Discount: 7:00 pm November 4 performance only  
All seats \$6

**Order now for the best seats!**

By phone (920) 733-8840 or in-person at the box office  
Monday through Friday noon -3:00 pm  
or anytime at

**[www.xaviertheatre.com](http://www.xaviertheatre.com)**

A Program of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic School System

# CHRISTMAS STARS



**Spectacular holiday fun for the whole family!**

7:00 pm Nov. 30\*, Dec. 1, 2, 7\*, 8, 9  
1:00 pm Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10

*Join us for our **30<sup>th</sup> season** at the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre. We'll delight you with our multi-generational cast performing music of the season, exhilarating dance numbers, on-stage Christmas parade, our stunning Living Nativity and much more.*

Adult \$18 · High School Student & Senior Citizen \$17 · Child \$10

\* Family Night Discount: 7:00 pm Nov 30 & Dec 7 only

Adult/High School/Senior \$14 · Child \$9

Online anytime at [www.christmasstars.org](http://www.christmasstars.org),  
or the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre Box Office, (920) 733-8840  
open Monday through Friday  
Noon-3:00pm in-person or by phone

**View photos or video highlights at [www.christmasstars.org](http://www.christmasstars.org)**

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## Athletic News

### Winter Starting Dates

Mon., Nov. 6 Girls Basketball, Boys & Girls Hockey  
 Mon, Nov 13 Boys Basketball & Wrestling

### Winter Sport Coaches Information:

#### Boys Basketball

Head Coach: Matt Klarner  
[mjklarner@yahoo.com](mailto:mjklarner@yahoo.com)

#### Girls Basketball:

Head Varsity Coach: Andy Vande Hey  
[a.vandehey@vandeheys.com](mailto:a.vandehey@vandeheys.com)

#### Boys & Girls Wrestling

Head Coach: Austin Stebane  
[astebane@xaviercatholicschools.org](mailto:astebane@xaviercatholicschools.org)

#### Boys Hockey

Head Coach: Owen Stauber  
[owenstauber@gmail.com](mailto:owenstauber@gmail.com)

#### Girls Hockey

Head Coach: Blake Hackbarth  
[blake@foxvalleyhockeytraining.com](mailto:blake@foxvalleyhockeytraining.com)

## Upcoming Events

November 1	All School Mass – 10:50 at St. Bernard's (All Saints Day)
November 3	No School – End of Term 1
November 3-11	Fall Musical – The Wizard of Oz
November 10	Grandparents Day
November 17	XSC Blood Drive
November 21	Appleton Christmas Parade
November 22-24	No School – Thanksgiving Break
December 5, 7, 12	Class Reconciliation Services
December 6	Half Day – Parent-Teacher Conferences (4-7pm)
December 8	All School Mass – 10:50AM (Immaculate Conception)
December 13	Band Christmas Concert (7:00 at XHS)
December 20	Choir Christmas Concert (7:00 at XHS)
January 10	All School Mass – 10:50 at St. Bernard's
January 12	XSC Blood Drive
January 19	No School – End of Term 2
January 28-February 3	Catholic Schools Week
January 29-30	Incoming Freshmen Registration Night
January 31	All School Mass – 10:50 at St. Bernard's (Catholic Schools Week)



Celebrate meetings are fun AND productive. Join our amazing group of volunteers (including several new volunteers!) and help us create a fabulous fundraising event for everyone to enjoy at the Fox Cities Exhibition Center on Saturday, February 3, 2024. **The next planning meeting will be Thursday, November 2nd at noon at XHS** (we can direct you once you get here). Join us, meet people, and give input! As always, children not in school are welcome and there will be chocolate for the adults (and the kids can have it too IF the parents agree!).

Questions or can't attend, but still want to be involved? Contact Lisa at [lpfaff@XavierCatholicSchools.org](mailto:lpfaff@XavierCatholicSchools.org) or 735-9380.