

# **Crusader Connection**

## **December 3, 2021**

2021-2022 School Calendar

Good afternoon,

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and holiday weekend last week. We're right back at it here at school with several fun things coming up. Our PTO met Wednesday night and have several events planned, including a mother / son Cyclones game in January and Santa's Workshop in just a couple weeks! That's right, it's back! See below for more details.

St. Nick also visits Sunday night, and he has been known to make a trip to St. Henry so the kids should be looking at for him on Monday.

US Bank has called a few times recently requesting that parents no longer park in their lot across the street from school. I certainly can't blame anyone for accessing an off campus lot to avoid dismissal, but please no longer park in their lot.

Remember, there is no school this Wednesday, December 8 because it is the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mass times can be found below.

See more information below re: Covid and have a great weekend.

St. Henry, pray for us!

December After Care Sign Up

#### **COVID19 Update**

This past week has probably been the busiest week at St. Henry during the pandemic as it relates to Covid. We currently have 4 positive students, 2 positive staff and more cases of people connected to St. Henry, e.g., parents. While that may not seem like a high number to some people, the number of hours spent tracing, testing, communicating via email and phone calls is large. I

expect that the week has been especially busy since it's the week after Thanksgiving, so we expect to see fewer cases next week.

I share this information as an opportunity to ask for understanding as we work together on this. No one likes this - the masks, the distancing, contact tracing. No one wants this to be happening. It is not fun having to call families when our children are not feeling well or considered a close contact. But, these are the protocols at this time.

We do have several options if students are considered close contacts.

First, students can "test-to-stay" based on guidelines outlined in the Diocesan document shared on November 3.

Secondly, we are now ready to offer a school-based daily rapid "test-to-stay" option. This is in accordance with the NKY Health Department guidelines. We have been experimenting with this and feel confident with this option as a way to keep children in school and keep their classmates and everyone else safe. We are working on updating our St. Henry Covid requirements to reflect this.

Thirdly, students can quarantine for 7 or 10 days. A test would be required to return after the 7th day.

As for next week, masks will remain mandatory as we have more than 5 positive cases and Kenton County remains in the "red".

Remind your children to have their masks when they come to school and remind them to wear them properly. Teachers are spending a lot of time reminding students to keep masks up, wear them properly and even keeping them on at all. Again, no one likes this, but if this is currently the guideline, we have to uphold it.

Thanks for everyone's continued support during all of this. There will be a time when it's behind us, but until then let's do what needs to be done.

## **New This Week**



**Santa's Workshop:** Students can Christmas shop for the special people in their lives!

When: December 19-21

Special Preview Day: Sunday, December 19 after the 9:30 AM or 11:30 AM Mass. This is a great time for you to come with your child to purchase items or help them make a plan of attack for their scheduled class visit on December 20 or 21.

**Volunteer Elves Needed!** Volunteers will be asked to help in two-hour blocks. Elves help students with shopping, as a cashier, or in the North Pole (the activity room). This year we will be asking for volunteers in two-hour blocks of time. Elves will students with shopping, be a cashier, or help in the North Pole (Activity Room). When the signup is available, please consider donating your time to put extra smiles on the students' faces! *All volunteers must be VIRTUS trained and up-to-date on bulletins.* 

**Special Request:** We need Christmas wrapping paper and bag donations for the children's gifts this year. If you have any extra paper/bags in the bottom of a

Christmas bin that you would like to donate, please bring them to school over the next two weeks. The children may have an opportunity to wrap their purchases in the North Pole during their scheduled class time.

**Questions?** Contact the head elf, Tracy Patrick, 513-923-0532, or email gradyjamesmom@yahoo.com

Santa's Workshop Sign Up

## **Boosters**

## St. Henry 6th Grade Boys Basketball League

Please volunteer to help our Boosters and School with signing up for a shift to work the 6th grade Boys Basketball League

Please click the button below to help out; thank you!

6th Grade Boys Basketball League Volunteers





3159 Dixie Highway | Erlanger, KY

# Tuesday all day long!

DINE IN \ CARRY OUT \ DRIVE THROUGH

Be sure to mention St. Henry when ordering! Thank you for your support!



#### **Bingo Update**

Bingo is looking for fun, friendly, smiling people who can sell bingo papers to our patrons! Two volunteers are needed. Training is provided and fairly simply to understand.

#### Duties include:

- Greet customers and help customers complete bingo order forms (explain the differences between the games and the different papers)
- Ring up paper order & provide totals to customers.
- Collect money and provide change.
- Select and provide the proper bingo papers to customers.
- Answer general questions about game play.

This is a fun position where you get to meet our patrons and leave early! 5:30 pm -7:30 pm, this position allows for some sitting. Some bending and standing is required (to select papers for patrons).

One night out per month and you can help St. Henry community at the same time. Fellowship with community members. Volunteer with a friend and it's a night out. Dinner and drinks are provided. To volunteer, contact Jamie Powers, 859-814-9998, jamielpowers@gmail.com or text/call Ryan Bihl, 859-760-3325 or click the link below!

#### **Weekly Grade Volunteer Schedule**

December 6: 5th Grade
December 13: 4th Grade
December 20: 3rd Grade
December 27: 2nd Grade
January 3: 1st Grade
January 10: Kindergarten
January 17: Preschool

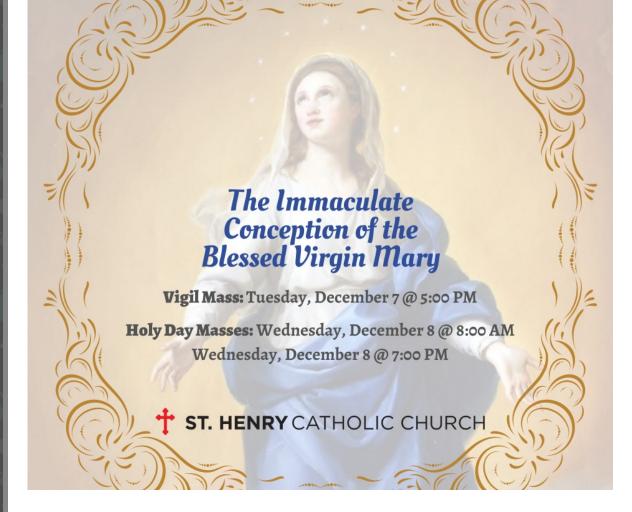
## Bingo Volunteer Sign up

#### Altar Servers Needed!

Altar servers will begin serving Masses at St. Henry this Advent! Both St. Henry and St. Barbara parishes need servers. Altar servers must be in the 4th grade through high school, have received First Holy Communion, and regularly attend Sunday obligation and holy day Masses. In order to serve school Masses, servers must be actively serving at their parish.

Altar server forms will be sent home on Monday with all students in 4th through 8th grades.

If you have any questions, please email <u>Kris Staverman</u>, server scheduler.



The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a holy day of obligation for all Catholics. You can learn more about this feast day <a href="here">here</a>.

#### Vigil Masses, Tuesday, December 7

St. Henry: 5:00 PM St. Barbara: 7:00 PM

#### Holy Day Masses, Wednesday, December 8

St. Henry: 8:00 AM, 7:00 PM (Adoration and confessions will follow the 7:00 PM

Mass)

St. Barbara: 10:00 AM, 7:00 PM



#### Middle School Youth Group

Middle School Youth Group: New Night and Time! The St. Henry Middle School Youth Group will be on Thursday nights from 6:30-8:30 PM beginning December 9. Join us for a pizza party to celebrate our new night and time!

We are still in need of volunteers to help supervise youth group activities. This is a great opportunity for junior and senior high school students to earn service hours. All adults 18 and older must be VIRTUS trained and current on

bulletins. Please contact Laura Ryan at <a href="mailto:lryan@sthenrynky.com">lryan@sthenrynky.com</a> or 859-727-2035 with questions or to volunteer.

## **VIRTUS**

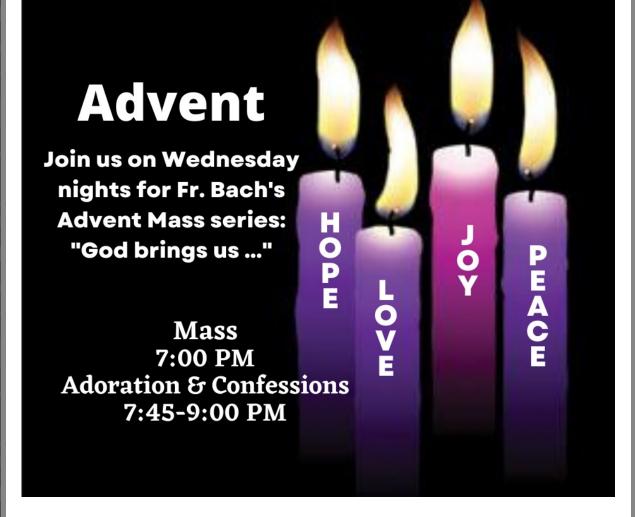
<u>VIRTUS</u>: The December bulletin is posted and is due January 4, 2022. *December is an open month for all VIRTUS users who need to catch up on their bulletins.* As a reminder, all volunteers that work with children in our parish and/or school must be VIRTUS trained and up to date on bulletins. If you have questions, please visit

<u>virtus.org</u>, email Laura Ryan, our VIRTUS Coordinator, <u>lryan@sthenynky.com</u>, or call the parish office, 859-727-2035.

## **CAFETERIA**



**From Previous Weeks** 



Advent devotional booklets were sent home with the youngest student of every family this week that can be used as a guide for prayer and reflection during the Advent season. Below are a few helpful online resources for Advent activities and daily devotions. For daily devotions, simply enter your email address where indicated on the website to receive these reflections in your inbox each day. Some are specific to Advent and some offer daily reflections throughout the year.

- Dynamic Catholic: A Free Daily Advent Experience
- Advent Gospel Reflections with Bishop Robert Barron
- Formed Daily Advent Reflections
- My Catholic Life: Advent Reflections for 2021
- <u>Teaching Catholic Kids</u>: This online resource offers various activities and reflections for children, making it a very useful tool for parents as they guide their children in the Catholic faith, particularly during this season of Advent.
- <u>Catholic Current from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops</u> has a wealth of resources including an Advent calendar, prayers, saints, and more.
- Catholic Link has Advent resources
- Blessing of an Advent Wreath

#### **Substitute Teachers Needed**

We are always looking for substitute teachers; if you or someone you know would be interested and are VIRTUS trained and compliant, please let the office know or email <u>Cindy Lageman</u>. Thank you!

# **Upcoming Events**

- December 5: Second Sunday of Advent
- **December 7:** Dine to Donate: Erlanger Skyline
- December 8: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Day of Obligation, no school
- December 9: Middle School Youth Group, 6:30-8:30 PM
- **December 11:** Church cleaning/St. Henry, 8:30 AM
- December 12: Third Sunday of Advent
- December 14: Dine to Donate: Donato's, 4-8 PM

- **December 17:** Spirit wear day
- December 19: Fourth Sunday of Advent/Bambinelli Sunday
- December 19: Santa's Workshop Preview Day after 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses
- **December 20/21:** Santa's Workshop
- December 21: Boosters Meeting
- December 22: Dine to Donate: El Loco Ocho all day
- December 22-January 4: Christmas Break
- January 4: Dine to Donate: Erlanger Skyline all day

## **Our Parishes**

St. Henry

St. Barbara

**Cristo Rey** 



## **Mission Statement**

St. Henry Catholic School is a place where we learn, grow, and become Disciples of Christ by embracing the Gospel message. We will work toward our full potential each day in order to demonstrate our respect for the sacrifices made by the entire St. Henry community to ensure our success. We will remain connected to God and others, gain confidence in our academic, social, and physical abilities, and contribute to the community through service and leadership.

## **Connect With Us**

St. Henry Catholic School
3825 Dixie Highway | Elsmere KY 41018
859.342.2551
Dennis Wolff

**Visit Us Online** 



