

# Elementary News

## A note from the Principal

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good: for His steadfast love endures forever!  
Psalm 107

Thanksgiving break is fast approaching and what a beautiful time to celebrate all that we are thankful for throughout the year. I especially want to thank our teachers and support staff for all the work they do to teach our children. Our staff is compassionate and dedicated and truly deserves our thanks!

Please note that Grandparents Mass will be held in the Activity Center on Wednesday, November 22nd at 10:30 AM. Please join us for refreshments in the cafeteria following Mass. Don't forget this day is a half day so we will not be holding after school care.

Thanksgiving break will be held Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th. Please take this time to enjoy your family and all the delicious food.

God Bless,  
Mrs. Peatrowsky

## Chilly Season is upon us...

Just a few reminders now that we are into the cooler months of the year:

- Leggings worn under skirts/jumpers MUST be navy or black, no other colors are permitted
- Leggings may NOT be worn as pants. Pants permitted may have 2-4 pockets in the front and/or back with no pockets going down the sides
- Only GACC sweatshirts, 1/4 zips and navy cardigans are allowed to be worn in the classrooms, other jackets may be worn at recess time but not during learning time
- Any shirt worn under polo MUST be solid white with no other design
- Long sleeve polos may be worn in either light blue or white
- Shorts/capris may be worn again on April 1, 2024

### REMINDERS:

- Bluejay pride shirt (or any GACC shirt) & uniform bottoms may be worn the last Wednesday of every month
- Life Runner Jerseys & uniform bottoms may be worn the first Wednesday of every month
- GACC will now be doing an all school First Friday Mass at 8:15AM unless we do not have school the first Friday, then we will have our regular scheduled Elementary Mass on Thursdays at 8:15AM
- Remember to hand in Graybeal's receipts, box tops & loaves for learning!

*Dance & Cheer fundraiser bows are completed and will be going home with students Wednesday. Thank you for your support!*

**NOTE:** If you are not receiving the batch email with the direct link to the newsletter please check your spam folder as it may be flagged for being a mass email. THANKS!

### NEWS FLASH:

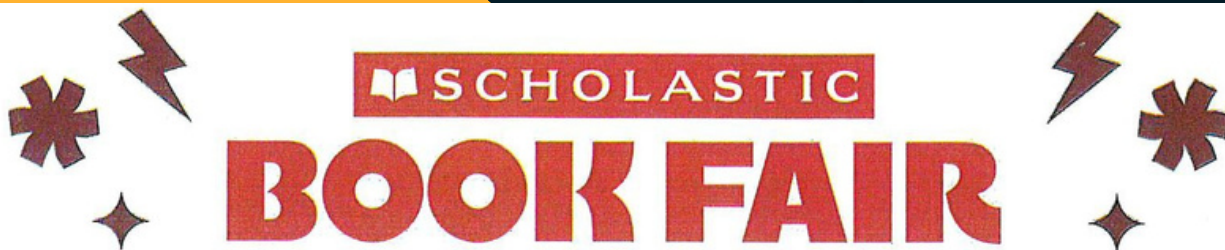
After hearing feedback, our Elementary Newsletter will start being released the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month beginning in December. Thank you!

### LOOKING AHEAD

- 11/22: Grandparents Mass 10:30AM (GACC Activities Center)
- 11/22: Noon Dismissal
- 11/23, 24: No School (Thanksgiving Break)
- 11/29: EDGE (7-8:30pm GACC Activities Center)
- 12/1: K-2 Dance Performance
- 12/7: 3-6 Dance Performance
- 12/8: No School (Holy Day)
- 12/13: Christmas Program @ 6:30PM

### DATES TO KNOW

- 11/17, 20, 22: Book Fair (hours on flyer attached)
- 11/17: Last day of the food drive
- 11/17 November birthdays "comfy clothes day"
- 11/21: Dress down day for those who donated to the food drive



Dear Families:

Get ready! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way (YAY!). Empowering kids by allowing them to choose their own books helps them on their journey to become lifelong readers. AND -as always- every purchase at the Fair benefits our school.

Say goodbye to cash and hello to **eWallet** -your child's digital payment account. Before the Fair, set up eWallet for worry-free, cash-free purchases. Anyone can contribute! Share each child's eWallet so friends and family can add funds and give your kids more books to enjoy.

If you can't make it to the Fair, then **shop at our school's Book Fair online**. All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Every online purchase will also benefit our school.

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/guardiananglesschool4>

More big event details can be found on the next page.  
The countdown to Bookjoy is on! Catch you at the Fair!

Happy Reading,  
**Mrs. Peatrowsky**  
Principal  
**Guardian Angels Central Catholic**

# GUARDIAN ANGELS CENTRAL CATHOLIC THE BOOK FAIR IS COMING SOON!

**CHOOSING THEIR OWN BOOKS EMPOWERS KIDS AND  
INSPIRES THEM TO BECOME STRONGER READERS!**

**HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BOOK FAIR!**

[HTTPS://WWW.SCHOLASTIC.COM/BF/GUARDIANANGELSSCHOOL4](https://www.scholastic.com/bf/guardianangelsschool4)

## **LOCATION**

**Guardian Angels Central Catholic Cafeteria**

**November 16th, 3:30 - 5:15 (Thursday)**

**November 17th, 3:30 - 5:15 (Friday)**

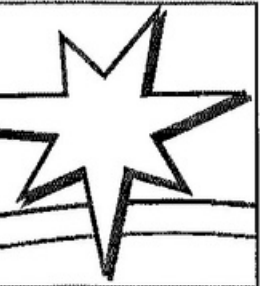
**November 20th, 3:30 - 5:15 (Monday)**

**November 21st, CLOSED (Tuesday)**

**November 22nd - after Grandparent's Mass (Wednesday)**



# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

November 2023

St. Mary's Parish  
Fr. James Weeder, Pastor



## Thoughtful Moments

### St. Margaret of Scotland

St. Margaret was beautiful, kind, and generous. Her family was shipwrecked on Scotland while fleeing from William the Conqueror. The king of Scotland welcomed them, fell in love with St. Margaret and made her his queen. St. Margaret practiced the corporal works of mercy, including feeding the poor before eating her own meals. Her private life was simple, prayerful, and penitential, and she inspired her family to imitate her. Finally, she worked to bring ecclesiastical and moral reform to the kingdom.



### Take time for gratitude

Are you stressed or anxious? Take a moment and thank God for the blessings in your life — big and small. Making a list of these blessings is a powerful way to remind ourselves of God's love. Whatever you face, you won't do it alone.

"Peace is not just the absence of war. Like a cathedral, peace must be constructed patiently and with unshakable faith."  
Pope St. John Paul II



## Giving thanks leads to generous hearts

"What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?" (Psalm 116:12) We can never repay God for His gifts to us but we can show gratitude by sharing them with others in ways that glorify Him. During the Thanksgiving season, try these suggestions to make your holiday more meaningful:

Offer prayers of gratitude. Jesus was deeply moved when one of the ten lepers He healed came back to thank Him (Luke 17:15-19). Give thanks as a family every day this season by each offering gratitude for specific blessings received throughout the year.

Go to Mass. The word "eucharist" is from the Greek for "thanksgiving" or "gratitude." "The Eucharist" refers to the

Mass and the Blessed Sacrament, the ultimate form of Thanksgiving.

When we actively take part in the Mass — praying with others, offering our own prayers, reverently receiving the Blessed Sacrament, joining in the singing — we offer heartfelt Thanksgiving to God.

Send it out. Another tradition of Thanksgiving involves sending notes of

appreciation and thanks to friends and loved ones, especially for kindness received throughout the year. Kind words are always a powerful and a much-needed gift.

Share the blessings. If you know of people without holiday plans, offer them a place at your table. Adding to your family circle sets a powerful example of generosity.



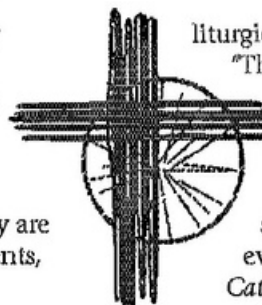
## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics follow a liturgical calendar?

Just as families remember important milestones, the Church's liturgical calendar recalls the history of our Catholic family. The feasts and seasons that draw us deeper into salvation history are reflected in the Mass vestments, readings, and music of our

liturgical celebrations.

"Thus recalling the mysteries of the redemption, she opens up to the faithful the riches of her Lord's powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present in every age" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1163).



## "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

In a time when it was a challenge to follow God's way, Joshua made a public declaration that he and his family would continue to serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15). Here are some ways you and your family can know and serve the Lord:

**Family prayer time.** At least once a day, pray as a family. Praise God for His goodness. Repent of the times you failed to love God or each other. Intercede for others. Ask for all that you need. Quietly listen for God's voice.

Experience Mass each week. Help your

children meet Christ "up close and personal" at Mass on Sunday. Let nothing come in the way of your weekly appointment with the Lord.

Keep a family gratitude journal. At mealtime, take turns writing a line or two about how God blessed you each that day.

Participate in your parish. Take your family to First Friday and Saturday observances, holy days and devotions, and support your parish's charitable efforts. These are important expressions of our Catholic spirituality.



### Scripture LESSON

### Matthew 25:31-46, "You did it for me."

In this Gospel reading, Jesus tells the parable of the separation of the sheep and the goats. In Jesus' time, sheep and goats were treated similarly and were herded together, to be separated later in the herding process. Jesus compares the separation of livestock to the separation of people —between those who really believed Christ and followed Him faithfully and those who didn't.

The evidence of our faith in Christ will show in the way we act, specifically, the way we treat people in need. How do we respond to others' suffering? Do



we try to alleviate it, like the "sheep?" What ultimately prevented the "goats" from entering the Kingdom of God was not that they harmed anyone, but that they stood by indifferently and did nothing.

*What can a parent do?* Teach children to look out for the needs of their peers and to treat them with kindness, as if it were Jesus Himself who was lonely, hungry, without a jacket and so on. Jesus counts even the smallest kindness done to someone in need as done to Him, personally.

### Feasts & Celebrations

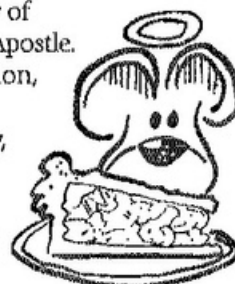
**November 1 – All Saints Day.** On All Saints Day, we honor those who lived with extraordinary virtue and are now in Heaven in God's presence.

**November 2 – All Souls Day.** On this day we pray for the dead, especially the souls in Purgatory. Our prayers and sacrifices can help them get to Heaven.

**November 11 – St. Martin of Tours (397).** The patron of soldiers, St. Martin was forced to join the army, but left to become a priest. He founded a monastery near Poitiers, France, and later became bishop of Tours.

**November 25 – St. Catherine of Alexandria (c.310).** St. Catherine converted to Christianity after receiving a vision. She rebuked Emperor Maxentius for persecuting the Christians. While in prison, 200 people came to visit her and were convinced to convert.

**November 30 – St. Andrew (1st Century).** The son of a Galilean fisherman, brother of Simon Peter, and Apostle. After the Resurrection, he conducted missions in Turkey, Greece, and Macedonia. He was martyred on a X-shaped cross.



### Parent TALK

I have wanted to get more family prayer into our days but our busy schedule seemed to get in the way.



We decided to commit to praying together three times a day. After trial and error, we now start in the morning by praying an

Angelus before breakfast. Then we pray a decade of the Rosary. This has become a peaceful way to begin the day.

After we get home from school and work, we have a snack and pray another decade of the Rosary. This only takes a few minutes but it also becomes a nice time to reconnect. Finally, we gather one more time at bedtime and pray the Angelus and another decade of the Rosary.

Although I set alarms on my phone to remind me, the children alert me to prayer time before the alarm goes off. They enjoy the opportunity to connect with God and each other.

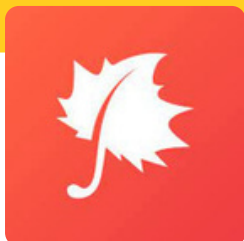
### Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™  
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>  
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

# SYCAMORE SCHOOL APP

Which logo do you have on your phone?

## WRONG APP



This app is downloaded from the app store. Please **REMOVE** it from your phone and install the correct app used by our school.

(It remains in the app store because some Sycamore schools have chosen not to move to the new app yet.)

## CORRECT APP



Use the instructions below to install the correct app!


The correct app is a “web app” accessed through an internet browser.

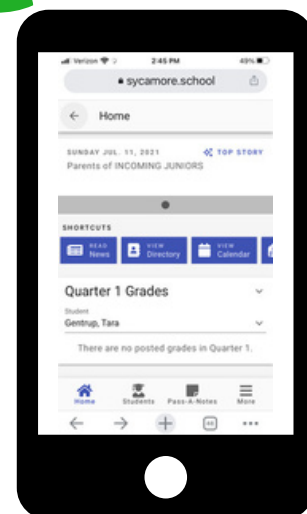
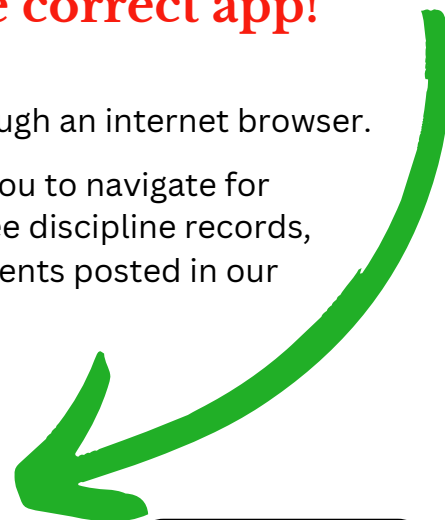
It has a much user-friendly environment for you to navigate for information. In addition, you will be able to see discipline records, service records (high school only) and documents posted in our news articles and much, much more!

## “WEB APP” INSTALL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Go to a web browser on your phone.  
(Use Safari on an iPhone and Chrome on an Android.)
2. Type in **sycamore.school**. Notice, there is no www!
3. Type in our school code (1189) and then your Sycamore family username and password.

### SAVE LINK TO HOME SCREEN

- Click the **share button** 
- Swipe up.
- Select **Add to Home Screen**.



# FOOD DRIVE

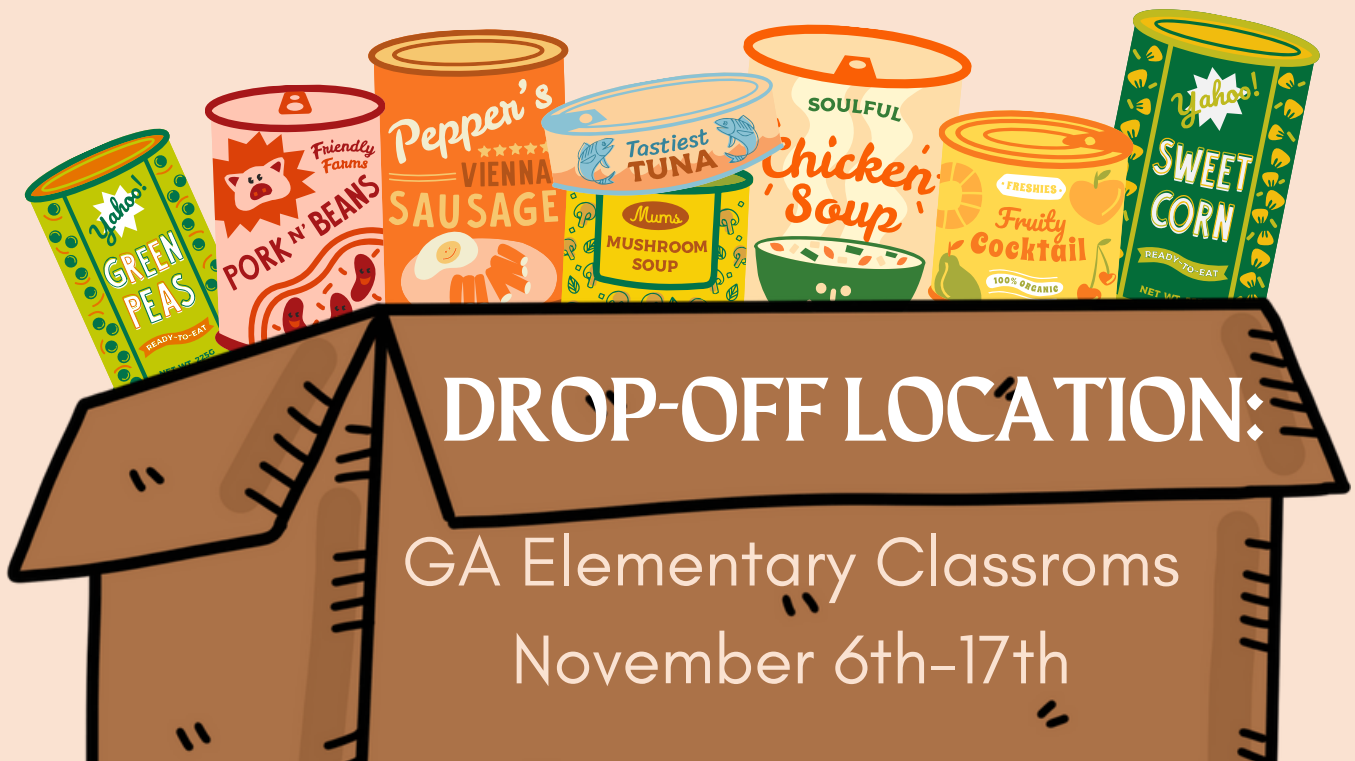
Please help us spread God's love and collect for our local food pantry.

Canned items: green beans, peas, corn, tuna, chicken, tomatoes, pasta sauce, fruit jelly, & soups

Boxed items: mac & cheese, hamburger helper, cereal, pancake mix, jello, & pudding

Other items: ramen noodles, spaghetti noodles, peanut butter, rice, shampoo conditioner, body wash, toilet paper toothpaste

*\*\* Everyone who donates will receive a "dress down" day on Tuesday, November 21st. \*\**



**DROP-OFF LOCATION:**

GA Elementary Classrooms  
November 6th-17th



# K-2 CHRISTMAS DANCE PERFORMANCE



Come join the fun!

It is time for performance #2!

**Cost \$5**

Please wear your cheer & dance camp shirt with navy, black or festive pants.

Where: GACC Activities Center  
When: Friday, December 1st - Varsity Boys HALF TIME (Game starts at 7:30pm)  
Time: Drop off at 5:30 PM at the West door of the Activities Center

Girls will eat upon arrival then learn the Christmas dance with the GACC cheerleaders and dancers.

Student Name/grade:

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Parent Name/phone:

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Payment type:

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Please Return by 11/22/23

**\*\*These will be handed out at school\*\***





# \* Lunch \*

November 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2 Chicken Fajitas Deli Salad Bar	3 Hamburger/Bun
6 Chicken Strips	7 Enchiladas Deli Salad Bar	8 Tater Tot Casserole Deli Salad Bar	9 Chicken & Biscuits Deli Salad Bar	10 Sloppy Joe/Bun Deli Salad Bar
13 Breakfast 4 Lunch	14 Taco Bags Deli Salad Bar	15 Goulash Deli Salad Bar	16 Shepherd's Pie Deli Salad Bar	17 Pulled Pork on a bun Deli Salad Bar
20 Chicken Noodle Soup	21 Turkey Dinner	22 Noon Dismissal	23 No School (Thanksgiving)	24 No School (Thanksgiving break)
27 Pizza	28 Pulled Pork Nachos Deli Salad Bar	29 Beef Stroganoff Deli Salad Bar	30 Mash Potato Bowl Deli Salad Bar	

\*Menu Subject to Change

\*An Assortment of fruits, vegetables, and milk offered daily.

\*Salad Bar Grades 4-12.

\*Deli Bar Grades 2-12.

How to sign up online for GACC  
Events Gate Worker Sign Up

**Please go to [gaccbluejays.org](http://gaccbluejays.org).**  
**Then find the Supporters tab-**  
**Bluejay Booster Club-GACC**  
**Event Sign-Up**

There you will find all the sign ups for Fall, Winter and  
Spring sports

Thank you. Your support is appreciated.

Bluejay Booster Club