



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

As I told the students yesterday at our assembly, finally - we are all here! I have been waiting a long time for this week. Nothing is better than seeing the huge smiles of our Pandas on the first day of school and hearing their loud screams as they welcome each other back to NDA!

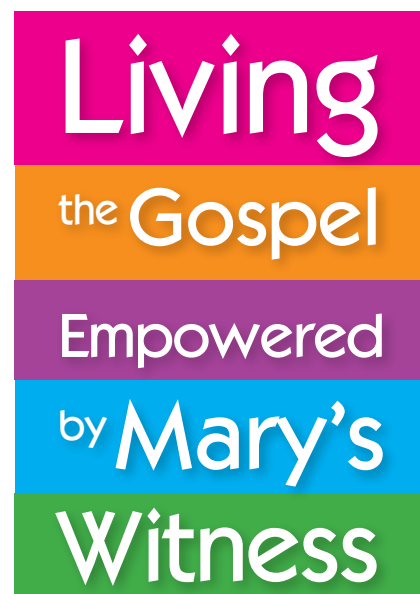
This is Notre Dame Academy's 112th year and as always, we continue to educate our students in the tradition of the Sisters of Notre Dame - believing in God's goodness and provident care. This year, as we focus on the third Educational Principal of the Sisters of Notre Dame, *The Note Dame educator as a Gospel witness*. In doing so, we will concentrate on **Living the Gospel, Empowered by Mary's Witness**. We will do this through our support of learning for all students through our commitment to collaboration and continuous improvement. We will foster an inclusive community which respects the dignity of every individual and builds unity. We will also advance the school's mission through successful implementation of our Strategic Plan and our Capital Campaign improvements. Finally, we will strive to live our lives with Mary, our Blessed Mother, as our model.

Yesterday our entire NDA community assembled and prayed the Litany of Mary of Nazareth which you can find on the following page. We talked about our goals for the school year and gave the students an update on the construction that was completed this summer. We introduced newcomers to the NDA family and installed our Student Council for the 2017-18 school year. Our students each received a bracelet from our Student Council which said "Panda Sisters 17-18 | WWMD". I have asked the students to wear the bracelet each day as a reminder keep in mind "What would Mary do?"

I'm looking forward to a wonderful school year and I hope you are too. Thank you for partnering with us in your daughter's Catholic education!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



# Litany of Mary of Nazareth

Glory to you, God of our Creator ...  
    Breathe into us new life, new meaning.

Glory to you, God our Savior ...  
    Lead us in the way of peace and justice.

Glory to you, God, healing Spirit ...  
    Transform us to empower others.

Mary, wellspring of peace ..... Be our guide.  
Model of strength  
Model of gentleness  
Model of trust Model of courage  
Model of patience  
Model of risk  
Model of openness  
Model of perseverance

Mother of the liberator ..... Pray for us.  
Mother of the homeless  
Mother of the dying  
Mother of the nonviolent  
Widowed mother  
Unwed mother  
Mother of the political prisoner  
Mother of the condemned  
Mother of an executed criminal

Oppressed woman ..... Lead us to life.  
Liberator of the oppressed  
Marginalized woman  
Comforter of the afflicted  
Cause of our joy  
Sign of contradiction  
Breaker of bondage

Political refugee..... Lead us to life.  
Seeker of sanctuary  
First disciple  
Sharer in Christ's ministry  
Participant in Christ's passion  
Seeker of God's will  
Witness to Christ's resurrection

Woman of mercy ..... Empower us.  
Woman of faith  
Woman of contemplation  
Woman of vision  
Woman of wisdom and understanding  
Woman of grace and truth  
Woman, pregnant with hope  
Woman, centered in God

Let us pray:

Mary, Queen of Peace, we entrust our lives to you. Shelter us from war, hatred and oppression. Teach us to live in peace, to educate ourselves for peace. Inspire us to act justly, to revere all God has made. Root peace firmly in our hearts and in our world. Amen.



# STUDENT LIFE

## STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀



### Attendance/Tardy Policy

Notre Dame Academy recognizes that student absences are sometimes necessary and tardies sometimes unavoidable. Our attendance policy allows a student to miss 16 class periods for a full credit course and 8 class periods for a half credit course before credit is lost due to missed class time. If a student exceeds the allotted number of days, she will lose credit in that course. Extenuating circumstances, such as health issues, chronic illness, or surgery, may prevent a student from regularly attending class and cause her to miss more school than the policy permits. If this is the case, an "Excused Absence Form" must be completed and returned to the school office. Furthermore, arriving to school on time is an important habit for all students, and repeated tardies/late arrivals do result in detention after school.

The attendance and tardy policies are derived from NDA's mission to provide a quality education for each student, and regular class attendance and punctuality will help each student benefit fully from her experience at Notre Dame Academy. Contact Mrs. Grayson for any questions regarding this school policy.

### Common Reader

Next Friday, all students will take the assessment for this year's Common Reader *The Distance Between Us*. Planning continues for our Common Reader Day scheduled for Friday, Nov. 3. With the next Common Reader Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 12 at 3:15 p.m. in Room 102. All students are welcome to join us!

**Picture Day** is next Friday, September 15, and students are invited to dress out of uniform. Order forms were handed out to all freshmen through juniors in homeroom on Monday and are due to LifeTouch on Friday. Seniors do not order pictures on this day but are expected to take pictures for transcript purposes.

Clothing on Picture Day is expected to be tidy and appropriate and that of which provides proper coverage.

**The first Mixer**, hosted by Student Council, will take place next Friday from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. All students are welcome to attend!



## HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF COLLECTION ◀

On Friday morning, September 8, we will celebrate with our Opening School Mass. As part of this mass we will take up a collection to aide in the relief efforts for Hurricane Harvey. All donations will be added to the Diocesan Collection which will be sent to the varying Dioceses in Texas that have been affected.

## SENIOR RETREAT ◀

Our first group of seniors who went on retreat this year had an amazing experience! Thanks to each of these young women for their participation in the retreat and to our team of faculty members who assisted with the retreat.



## FIRST DAY PICS! ◀



## WELCOME TO NDA! ◀

Welcome to our new faculty members: Michael Byrd (English), Megan Abbott (Religion), Angie Middendorf (Math) and Kelsey Cummings (Choral)!



## RNVTNS VOL. IV, # 1 (Think “William Tell Overture”) ◀

Don't miss the latest installment of Sr. Dolores Giblin's Heritage Blog so you can read all about our recent renovations. You can access her blog [HERE](#).

## CAN YOU LEND A HELPING HAND? ◀

Do you have just one day a month to volunteer for two hours in the NDA cafeteria? Helping out is neither difficult nor time-consuming and our current volunteers have fun visiting the school and seeing their daughters, granddaughters and friends. Volunteers are also welcome to stick around after their two-hour shift for lunch with “the crew”. Grandparents in particular seem to love this job, so please consider asking your daughter's grandparents if they would like to help out. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karen Brungs at 859.292.1856 or [brungsk@ndapandas.org](mailto:brungsk@ndapandas.org). The schedule is online and you can sign up [HERE](#).



## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



College Financial Aid Presentation  
Wednesday, September 13  
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
NDA Auditorium

A Financial Aid Specialist from NKU will be here to provide an overview of college financial aid (grants, loans and scholarships).

All parents and students are welcome! Senior parents going through the financial aid process for the first time would especially benefit from this hour-long presentation.

Questions: Contact Ms. Burgei: [burgeik@ndapandas.org](mailto:burgeik@ndapandas.org)

### DRUG FREE CLUBS OF AMERICA



#### Notice to Parents/Guardians:

The [Drug Free Clubs of America](#) Chapter at Notre Dame Academy is so successful that it is being used as a template for regional high schools in Northern Kentucky! If your daughter is not already one of the 70% majority of our students enrolled in this club, please consider giving her this gift - and soon!

Loads of helpful information, program description, and Applications for Membership are available online at [Parent Page](#): Drug Free Clubs, where you can also pay using an encrypted process. Cost to NDA students is \$25/year, due to NDA's subsidy of \$10 for each student membership. Freshman can pay for 3 years and have their Senior year membership at no cost! Applications will be accepted only through October 27.

Besides the rewards offered only to Drug Free Club members (weekly gift card giveaways, out-of-uniform days, hot beverages on winter mornings, free pizza, Prom tickets, etc), local businesses also offer [rewards](#).

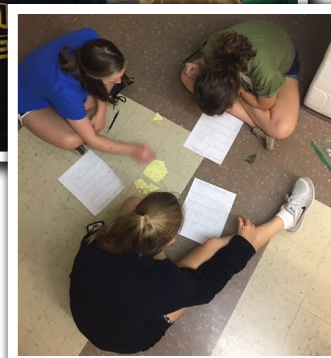
#### More food for thought:

- The vast majority of adults with a substance abuse disorder began drinking and using illicit drugs before the age of 18.
- Teens who consistently learn about the risks of drugs from their parents are up to 50% less likely to use drugs than those who don't.
- Teens who voluntarily choose to remain drug free in high school are more likely to continue to make these decisions and life choices in college, and beyond.

Please contact [Kathy Hildreth](#) if you have any questions.

### SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM

NDA's Summer Bridge Program was a great experience for our students! Some of the activities the students participated in were: Scavenger hunt, school tours, math, science, solar eclipse, academic strategies, activities with their summer reading and common reader.



## PandaTones AUDITIONS ◀

Come audition for PandaTones: NDA's audition-only Chorus Class worth a ½ Fine Arts credit. We work hard, have a lot of fun, and will perform at school events as well as in the community. We also regularly discuss music theory and the role of music in the world and how we can better our world through our messages.



Singers in this group are expected to be consistent in individual practice as well as rehearsal attendance. Because of this expectation, the group performs more challenging repertoire and singers are expected to learn music quickly. If you love singing, you already know that the more work you put in, the bigger reward you get!

Auditions: Open to all students. Will occur September 7 and September 12 after school. Rehearsals: Tuesdays 3:05-4:30\*

\*Attendance counts toward your grade and is mandatory. If you have too many schedule conflicts, you may also choose to take PandaTones as an extracurricular for no credit.

Events: Evening event (10/29), plus other (optional) opportunities, including singing the national anthem at school games. Concerts count as the Midterm and Final exams. The group will always participate in the in-school and evening Christmas Concert (12/7) and Spring Concert (TBD). The group will also perform in the community (singing in nursing homes, for example).

## NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

### BOWLING NEWS

Tryouts for varsity bowling October 2 and Oct. 3. Super Bowl Erlanger 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

There will be a bowling meeting on Friday (9/8) right after school in Alumnae Hall. If you are interested in participating in bowling please attend this meeting and if you cannot contact bowling coach Gary Wagner at [wagnerg@ndapandas.org](mailto:wagnerg@ndapandas.org).

### FRESHMAN ATHLETIC PARENT MEETING

The Freshman Athletic Parent Meeting is TONIGHT at 6:30 p.m. in the theater. It is strongly encouraged that freshmen parents attend this meeting. An overview of athletics, expectations and valuable information and dates will be shared at this time.

### FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS

Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at OrthoCincy's Edgewood Location - 560 South Loop Road, Edgewood, KY 41017. All athletes need to bring a completed KHSAA sport physical form signed with a parent's signature



### 2017-18 College Rep Visits at NDA

Throughout the school year many college representatives visit NDA to speak with students during lunch periods. Below is a list of upcoming visits.

#### SEPTEMBER

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 7  | <b>HANOVER COLLEGE</b>  |   |
|    | <b>TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY</b>                                  |   |
| 19 | <b>UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA<br/>HUNTSVILLE</b>                     |   |
|    | <b>MOUNT ST. JOSEPH UNIVERSITY</b>                              |   |
| 20 | <b>UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE 7:45-<br/>8:45AM</b>                |   |
| 26 | <b>MIAMI UNIVERSITY OXFORD</b>                                  |   |
| 27 | <b>UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE<br/>NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY</b> | <br> |

#### OCTOBER

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 2  | <b>UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA</b>              |   |
|    | <b>BALDWIN WALLACE UNIVERSITY</b>                     |   |
| 4  | <b>WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY</b>                    |   |
| 10 | <b>UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA<br/>TUSCALOOSA</b>           |   |
| 16 | <b>UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON<br/>DE PAUL UNIVERSITY</b>    | <br> |
| 19 | <b>TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY</b>                        |   |
| 25 | <b>ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY<br/>BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY</b> | <br> |



## ATTENTION NDA ALUMNAE - SIGN UP NOW! ◀

Get your team together for the first ever NDA Alumnae Volleyball Tournament on **September 16!** This fun event is open to any and all alums! You do not have to participate in the tournament to be a part of the day. Get your team together and sign up today! We are offering different levels of play so pick the one that is best for your team. Teams of 4-6 players. Remember this is an event for all alums of all ages. \$60/team, \$10/spectator. Cost includes: volleyball play, food, drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), games, giveaways and more! To sign up, use the links below or call 859-292-1852.

[TEAM REGISTRATION](#)

[SPECTATOR REGISTRATION](#)

## SAVE THE DATE! ◀

Planning for NDA's Autumn Gala is in full swing, and the committees are working hard to provide an incredible and memorable experience for all.

The 2017 Autumn Gala will be held on **Saturday, October 14** at Summit Hills Country Club. It will feature cocktails, a gourmet sit-down dinner, specialty raffles, a Bourbon Tasting Bar, Signature Cocktails, and enhanced Live and Silent Auction items. An open bar will be available throughout the evening.

Invitations to the Gala were mailed in early September. Reservations are limited and we anticipate a sell-out crowd so send yours in today or you can make your reservation online [HERE](#).

We are currently looking for additional volunteers to help with various committees, and we encourage your participation. It's a wonderful way to get involved with NDA's premier event of the year, as well as meet many more NDA parents, alumnae, and friends.



We are also looking for a variety of items for both the Silent and Live Auctions. No gift is too large or too small. Please contact the NDA Advancement Department at 292.7729 if you would like to make a contribution. Take a look at some of the items that will be available throughout the evening:

- Light My Fire Liquor
- Teenager Must Haves!
- The Gardens of Park Hills Hors d'oeuvres Party for 100
- VIP Speedway Package
- Charleston Condo
- Senior Pomp and Circumstance Graduation Package
- Belladonna Resin Wicker Outdoor 4-Piece Patio Lounge Set
- Oriental Wok –Emperor's Dinner for 12
- A Christmas Story at the Aronoff
- The Boulders Resort- Scottsdale, Arizona
- Don't Be Bothered For a Year! No Fruit for You!
- Gourmet Dinner for 10 and Bourbon Tasting
- Cabo San Lucas – Here We Come!
- How Much is that Puppy at the Gala? Havanese
- Pee Wee's South of the Border Dinner in Your Home
- Notre Dame University Football Tickets
- NDA Chapel Bench
- Xavier University \$1000 Tuition Grant
- Walt Disney World 4 Park Hopper Passes
- Coca Cola Rechargeable Coke Cooler
- NDA Custom Designed Quilt



A special performance by  
*Elisabeth von Trapp*  
**October 29, 2017**  
**4:00 p.m.**

## HIITON DR. IS ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC! ◀

Notre Dame Academy presents a special performance by Elisabeth von Trapp, granddaughter of Maria von Trapp, whose story inspired *The Sound of Music*. This special event will be held on **Sunday, October 29 at 4:00 p.m.** at NDA. Admission is \$25 - Tickets will go on sale September 18 by calling the NDA Advancement Office at 859.292.7729. Seating is limited.

## ▶ Important dates

September 7	PandaTones Auditions in Choral Room
September 8	All School Mass
September 11	Senior Mass at Cathedral
September 11	Panda Parent Club Mtg.
September 12	Common Reader Committee Mtg.
September 13	Parent Informational Coffee
September 13	Financial Aid Presentation
September 15	Common Reader Assessment
	Picture Day
September 15	Student Council Fall Mixer
September 16	NDA Alumnae Volleyball Tournament
October 14	Autumn Gala
October 29	Elisabeth vonTrapp Performance
November 3	Common Reader Day
November 5	OPEN HOUSE - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Check out the **Community News** section of **NDA's** website for news about.

- **Community Service Hours Available** - Hopebox Derby 2017
- Dr. Scott Hahn, LIVE at St. Cecilia Church
- Breaking Open the World - Diocesan Catechist Day of Reflection
- Smile and Miles 5K Run/Walk
- Moms Club of Ft. Wright - OPEN HOUSE
- National Catholic Youth Conference

For a complete list of community news CLICK [HERE](#).

