



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

*Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World*

# Panda Press Weekly

October 22, 2025

THE *nda* LIFE

## Dear Panda Families,

As we move through this beautiful fall season, I am reminded of how much there is to be grateful for here at Notre Dame Academy. Each week brings new examples of our students' growth - in faith, in learning and in character.

Last weekend, our Theatre Department presented an outstanding performance of *Pride and Prejudice*. The production showcased the incredible talent and teamwork of our students. Thank you to everyone who supported them. It was a wonderful example of our community coming together to celebrate the arts.

This week, our first group of seniors will participate in their senior retreat. This meaningful experience invites them to pause, reflect and deepen their relationship with God and one another. Please keep them in your prayers as they take time away from the busyness of daily life to encounter Christ in a profound and personal way.

Congratulations to Olivia Wallace, who was recently named a Commended Student in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program. Her achievement represents the academic excellence we strive for and the hard work our students consistently demonstrate.

As a reminder, parents are encouraged to reach out to teachers at any time to schedule conferences. Maintaining open communication between home and school ensures each student receives the support she needs to thrive both academically and personally.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we are forming young women who lead with faith, confidence and compassion.

Walk in Faith,

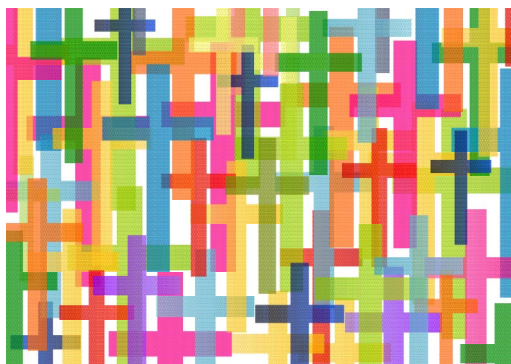
*Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding*

Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding '97



Walk in Faith!

# FAITH IN ACTION



## GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER UPCOMING LITURGIES

Our community continues to grow in faith through prayer and worship. We invite all students, faculty and families to join us for the following opportunities to gather in prayer:

- Rosary Prayer: Monday, October 27, at 7:45 a.m. in the chapel
- Morning Mass: Tuesday, October 28, at 7:20 a.m. in the chapel
- All-School Mass: Monday, November 3, at 9:30 a.m. in the gym

These moments of reflection help us stay centered in God's love and united as a community of faith.



## GUIDED BY THE SPIRIT SENIORS ON RETREAT — A CALL TO HOLINESS

Please keep our first group of seniors in your prayers this week as they embark on their senior retreat. This important time away invites them to reflect, pray and listen for God's call in their lives. May the Holy Spirit guide them to discover new ways of living out their Call to Holiness each day - with faith, courage and joy.

## Autumn Prayer

God of all seasons, we thank you for Autumn.

We thank you

for the touch of coolness in the air that gives us a new burst of energy,

for the coloring of trees that shows the creativity of the Divine Artist,

for the falling leaves that reveal the strength of the branches,

for the hues of fields that bring peace to our souls,

for the smiles on pumpkins that bring joy to children,

for the fall harvest which that brings us gratitude for the bounty of our land,

for this change of seasons that reveals the circle of life.

God of all seasons, as you transform the earth, transform us by your Spirit.

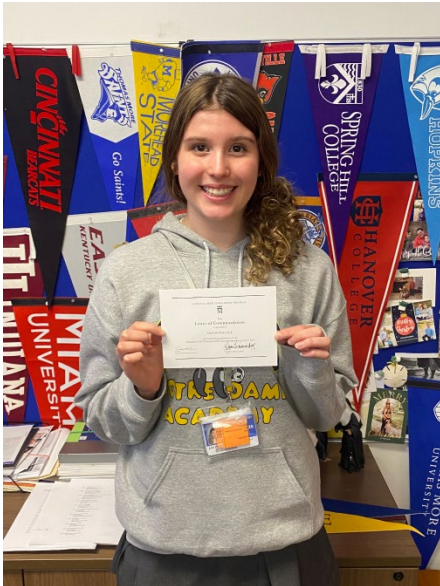
Amen



- Doug Leonhardt, S.J.



# Student Life



EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT!

## OLIVIA WALLACE NAMED COMMENDED STUDENT IN 2026 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

We are very pleased to share that Olivia Wallace has been named a Commended Student in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program. Olivia was presented with a Letter of Commendation from Notre Dame Academy and National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Congratulations to Olivia for being 1 of 34,000 students who are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise and accomplishments!



REGISTER TODAY

## MOTHER-DAUGHTER

Join us for a special Sunday afternoon to Create and Celebrate the beautiful bond between mothers and daughters! Together, you'll enjoy hands-on creative experiences-designing your own floral arrangements with Swan Florist, crafting personalized pieces with Board & Brush, and sharing a delicious lunch in great company. It's the perfect way to relax, laugh and make lasting memories together.

Tickets: \$35/person. RSVP due by October 31.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



SPOOKY PANDA SPIRIT

## HALLOWEEN TEES FOR SALE

Halloween T-shirts are now available in the Bambootique - but only for a limited time! Show your Panda spirit with festive fall style and grab yours before they're gone. Visit us 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. on school days or shop online [HERE](#).



## SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

# PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

At Notre Dame Academy, we are committed to fostering open and consistent communication among parents, students, and teachers. In place of a single designated conference night, we encourage parents to initiate conferences at any time throughout the school year. Should you wish to discuss your daughter's academic progress, social development, or any specific needs, please feel free to contact her teachers to arrange a meeting. Additionally, if a student is struggling in a particular class, the teacher will reach out to schedule a conference, as this is a required component of our failure policy. Together, we can ensure that each student receives the support necessary for her continued growth and success.



## HARD WORK SHINES BRIGHT

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE RECOGNIZED

This quarter in the Academic Advancement Program we'd like to recognize Annabelle Ficke and Hollyn Harper. Annabelle received our upper class-women award for hard work in Quarter 1. Hollyn Harper received our lower class-women award for hard work in Quarter 1. Both students are hard-working, have used their time wisely and ask for help when it's needed during class time. Annabelle and Harper are polite, caring and have a positive attitude. Great job, girls!

## TRAVELING PANDAS HEAD TO FRANCE!

# SUMMER ADVENTURE AWAITS

Exciting news! Notre Dame Academy is leading a tour to France next June! Students will have the opportunity to experience the history, culture and beauty of France alongside classmates and faculty chaperones.

There's still time to sign up - the deadline to enroll is December 19. Attendance at an information meeting is not required, and all are welcome to join the trip.

[Click here](#) to learn more and register.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Angela Lucarelli or Mrs. Lisa Timmerding for details.



## DELICIOUS NEWS

# LUNCH MENU

This week's lunch menu and the cafeteria price sheet are available [HERE](#) for easy reference. Families are encouraged to check the menu often to help students plan ahead for meals they'll enjoy.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE READ



**NOTRE DAME ACADEMY**  
*Educating Women to Make a Difference*

**2025**

**Open House**

**NOV. 9 from 1-3 PM**

## NDA TEST MESSAGE - FRIDAY

### TEST OF THE SCHOOL MESSENGER ALERT SYSTEM

We will test our emergency alert system Friday, October 24 at 9:30 a.m. These emails, texts and phone calls are how we communicate emergency changes to our schedule, like school closures, delays, and early dismissal due to inclement weather, etc. Please communicate with our office on Friday if you do not receive the message.

## OPEN HOUSE YARD SIGNS

### HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!

NDA's Open House is scheduled for Sunday, November 9 from 1 - 3 p.m. Please help us spread the word by putting a yard sign at your home and/or place of business. Yard signs are available in the school office. You can pick one up during school hours or have your daughter bring one home. Thank you!

## OPEN HOUSE 2025

### INVITE A FRIEND TO DISCOVER NDA

Notre Dame Academy's annual Open House offers prospective students and their families the opportunity to tour our campus, meet our outstanding faculty and students and experience firsthand the warmth, spirit and excellence that define an NDA education. If you have a younger daughter who's starting to think about high school or know another family who would love what makes NDA so special, please encourage them to attend. Your invitation helps others experience the joy, spirit and sisterhood that make Panda Life shine.

Register [HERE](#).

**NDA Family Event**  
***Halloween Party***  
*Hosted by the NDA Freshmen,  
Class of 2029*

*Bring your little ones for  
Halloween fun!*

Friday, October 24, 2025  
5:30-7:30 p.m.  
in the NDA Auditorium



Click the link to register or visit  
[www.ndapandas.org/alumnae/events](http://www.ndapandas.org/alumnae/events)

## NDA FRESHMEN HOST

### HALLOWEEN PARTY

Join us for a night of Halloween fun at NDA's Family Halloween Party, hosted by the freshmen Class of 2029. Bring your little ones in costume for games, treats and plenty of Panda spirit.

**Friday, October 24, 2025**

**5:30-7:30 p.m.**

**NDA Auditorium**

Click [HERE](#) to register.

## REPORTING ABSENCES

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

We have an attendance email for parents to call in a sick child or if a student is leaving early from school. Please use this email if your daughter is sick or needs to leave school early: [attendance@ndapandas.org](mailto:attendance@ndapandas.org). Remember you can always call the school office with any questions 859-261-4300.

**PLEASE NOTE!**





## NDA'S PERFECT NORTH CLUB STORE DISCOUNT PERFECT NORTH SLOPES (PNS) SEASON PASSES

Winter is almost here, and Perfect North Slopes is the place to be! Season passes are now available through NDA's PNS Club Store with an exclusive **30% discount**. Even better, this discount extends to family and friends when purchased through our link. The offer ends November 3, so make sure to take advantage before it's gone.

To purchase passes:

- Visit NDA's PNS Club Store [HERE](#)
- Username: **notredame**
- Password: **panda**

If you have any issues completing your purchase, Perfect North's team will be happy to help. For NDA related questions, email Ms. Dooling at [doolingm@ndapandas.org](mailto:doolingm@ndapandas.org).

## NDA'S PERFECT NORTH CLUB STORE DISCOUNT SKI CLUB BUS PASS REGISTRATION

Skip the hassle of transportation and let us do the driving! We're offering a round-trip bus pass for all Perfect North outings so students can travel safely and easily with their peers. Register [HERE](#) for the bus to PNS and back.

## PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN VIRTUS TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Diocese of Covington has released the updated schedule of VIRTUS trainings through the end of 2025. Sessions are offered at various schools and diocesan locations, including one here at NDA.

### Upcoming sessions include:

Diocesan Curia, Covington – Tuesday, November 11, 2025 | 9-11:30 a.m.

Diocesan Curia, Covington – Tuesday, November 11, 2025 | 6-8:30 p.m.

Diocesan Curia, Covington – Thursday, November 20, 2025 | 9-11:30 a.m.

Diocesan Curia, Covington – Thursday, November 20, 2025 | 6-8:30 p.m.

Additional sessions are scheduled monthly through November 2025.

For the full list of training dates and locations, visit [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org).

For questions, contact Marylu Steffen, Safe Environment Database Coordinator and VIRTUS Administrator, at [msteffen@covdio.org](mailto:msteffen@covdio.org) or 859-392-1565.

A PROGRAM AND SERVICE OF  
THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC.



# VIRTUS<sup>®</sup>Online

# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

## PANDA ATHLETICS

### SOCCER

Soccer finished the year with a loss to Highland in the Region 9 Finals. WE are proud of the year our Pandas had 13 - 5 season and finished REgion 9 runner-up.

### VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball ending a great regular season on Wednesday, hosting Senior Night against the Ryle Raiders! We were so happy to celebrate the seniors: Audrey Dyas, Gracie Portwood, Lizzy Larkins, and Katie Zwick  
We now start the postseason this week participating in the 35th District Tournament, with our first match Tuesday 10/21 against Holmes.

### CROSS COUNTRY

It's Regionals Week for NDA Cross Country!

The XC PaNDA's are ready to roll into one of the biggest races of the year — Regionals! The team has put in months of hard work, miles, and early mornings, and they're heading into Saturday full of confidence, belief, and heart.

They'll be racing at 9:45 AM this Saturday at Idlewild Park in Burlington, ready to leave it all out on the course and chase their goal of qualifying for State!

Let's show up in full force, NDA! Bring your signs, your cheers, and your Panda Pride to cheer on this incredible group of runners.

Let's go, PaNDA's — time to run fearless!



**WINTER SPORTS ARE ALL STARTING UP NOW!**

**Basketball**

**Swimming and Diving**

**Bowling**

**Archery**

**Those of you interested in Indoor Track, please register in Final Forms**



# COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



## DRUG FREE CLUB

### INITIAL TESTING FOR CLUB MEMBERS

During Tuesday and Wednesday this week, the majority of our Drug Free Club members received their initial drug testing for the year! We applaud all of our Drug Free Pandas for being committed to living a drug free life!

For any students worried about missing out on being a part of Drug Free Club, there is still time to sign up! [Visiting the link here](#) will take you to the online application. Our students appreciate the opportunity to use drug testing as an excuse for saying no when they might be offered substances they do NOT want to try.

Another reason to join is that here at NDA we like to reward our members with goody bags, gift cards, and more! We have a special offer for our Freshmen Pandas where any freshman signed up by October 31st will be entered into a drawing for a gift basket. The gift basket is worth over \$100 and includes gift cards, wired headphones, a Kendra Scott bracelet and more! We encourage our freshmen to sign up for all 4 years because you will get your senior year free if you sign up that way!

A large black and white stuffed panda is the central focus, sitting in a wicker basket. The basket is overflowing with various items, including gift cards from Target, Amazon, and others, as well as small bags of snacks like Jolly Ranchers and M&M's. The panda is looking directly at the camera with a friendly expression.

**COLLEGE**  
REP VISITS

## PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

### NDA COLLEGE VISIT SCHEDULE

[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of college visits specifically for NDA students/families. The visits are in the hallway outside the cafeteria. All students are welcome to visit the reps.



# Advancing the Mission



## NOTRE DAME ACADEMY ANNUAL FUND



### MAKING AN IMPACT EVERY DAY YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

Thanks to your generosity, the Annual Fund continues to make a meaningful difference - keeping a Notre Dame Academy education accessible, faith-filled and transformative.

Your support brings our Catholic mission to life through retreats and service, empowers passionate educators with the tools and training they need, and provides essential tuition assistance so every student can experience all NDA has to offer.

Every gift strengthens faith, supports families and helps our students grow into confident, compassionate leaders.

Parents, if you haven't yet made your Annual Fund gift, please join us - your participation truly matters and helps every Panda thrive.

[MAKE A DIFFERENCE HERE](#)

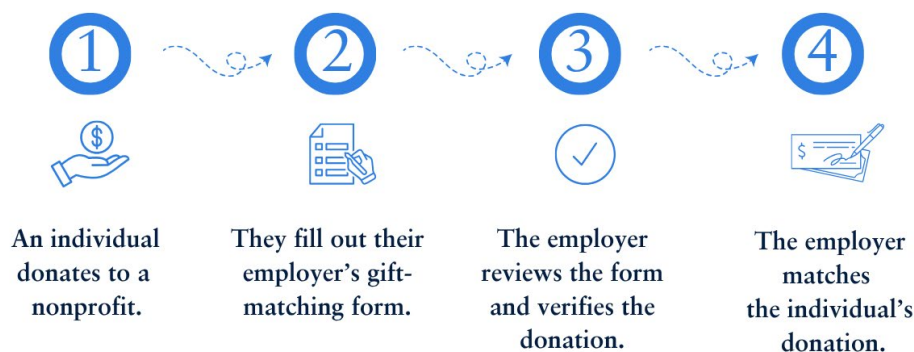
### MULTIPLY YOUR GIFT

## MAKE A MATCHING GIFT TO THE ANNUAL FUND

As we move through the last quarter of the year, your gift to the Annual Fund can make an even greater difference for our students. Many employers match charitable contributions made by employees, retirees, or even spouses. You can double or triple your support for NDA's missions quickly and easily by checking to see if your company participates [HERE](#).

*Doubling, or Tripling, your  
impact is easy!*

### The Matching Gift Process





## SHARING OUR Community News

You can find a complete list of community news [HERE](#).

- Mary's Meals, A Simple Solution to World Hunger
- Point Arc Fest 2025
- Diocesan Workshops

## Important dates

|                         |                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| October 22              | Senior Retreat #1                    |
| October 27-31           | Red Ribbon Week                      |
| October 31              | Halloween Fun at the end of the day! |
| November 3              | Remembrance Mass                     |
| November 9              | Open House                           |
| November 10 - 21        | Canned Food Drive begins             |
| November 14             | Mid-Quarter                          |
| November 16             | Mother/Daughter                      |
| November 20             | Alumnae Rosary                       |
| November 26-28          | No School - Thanksgiving Break       |
| December 5              | In School Christmas Concert          |
| December 6              | Freshman Semi-Formal Dance           |
| December 7              | Christmas Band Concert               |
| December 8              | No School - Immaculate Conception    |
| December 13             | HSPT at NDA                          |
|                         | Silver Bells                         |
| December 18             | Alumnae Rosary                       |
| December 22 - January 2 | No School - Christmas Break          |
| January 5               | Return to Classes                    |