



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Panda Press Weekly

October 29, 2025

THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Panda Families,

As October draws to a close, I am deeply grateful for the many ways our students continue to grow in faith, knowledge and compassion. Each day here at Notre Dame Academy offers opportunities for learning that extend far beyond traditional classroom walls. Our faculty are intentionally guiding students to view the world through the lens of the Gospel and the educational principles of the Sisters of Notre Dame.

This week, our juniors are exploring the topic of immigration through Catholic Social Teaching. Their thoughtful engagement demonstrated a beautiful understanding of human dignity and the importance of seeing every person as a beloved child of God. Moments like this remind us what makes a Catholic education so transformative: academic inquiry grounded in faith, truth and the call to justice.

As we celebrate Red Ribbon Week, our students are also reflecting on the importance of caring for their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. We want them to know that healthy habits are a reflection of the respect we owe ourselves as God's beloved creations, and that the choices they make today shape the lives they are being called to lead.

Our students have truly been shining in and beyond the classroom. You can read more about their accomplishments below. Also, we keep all of our fall teams in our prayers as they finish their seasons with determination and heart.

Looking ahead, we will gather as a school community next Monday for our annual Remembrance Mass. This sacred tradition offers us the opportunity to honor and pray for loved ones who have gone before us and to find comfort in the promise of Christ's eternal life.

Thank you for entrusting your daughters to us. Each one is a gift, and it is a blessing to partner with you as we help them become young women who lead with faith, courage and compassion.

Walk in Faith,

Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding

Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding '97



Walk in Faith!

FAITH IN ACTION

FAITH FORMATION

UPCOMING LITURGIES

We will celebrate mass in our chapel at 7:20 a.m. on Friday, October 31.

On Monday, November 3, we will gather as a school community for our annual Remembrance Mass. At this mass we will remember in a special way the Alumnae and family members who have passed away since November 1, 2024. This mass will take place in our gym at 9:30 a.m.

We will pray a decade of the rosary in the chapel at 7:45 a.m. on October 30 and November 4.

Please pray for Fr. Kunath as he makes a Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi next week.



WITH GRATITUDE

SENIOR RETREAT

Thank you to all who prayed for the Seniors who made their retreat last week. We were blessed with a wonderful time of reflection and community building.

A CLASSROOM OF COMPASSION:

UNDERSTANDING IMMIGRATION THROUGH CATHOLIC PRINCIPLES

This week during Catholic Social Teaching with the junior class, the Religion Department highlighted the topic of Immigration. The presentation began with Mrs. Abbott surveying the students regarding their background and heritage. This was an eye opening experience for all as many of them then shared personal stories about the journeys of their families into the United States. Our very own Mrs. Sullivan shared her immigration story about her journey from Ireland to the United States. The focus then transferred to the church's teaching on immigration and a few documents that have been publicized and are relevant to what is going on in the United States today. It is always important for our students to focus on the truth taught by the church and the lens of Catholic Social Teaching. The teachers focused on the root causes for immigration and then the five main points from Catholic Social Teaching on Immigration. A video from Father Mike Schmidt was also shared where he discussed the principles of immigration based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and the catechisms that provide guidance for our faith. He suggested that we need to hold on to the principles as we search and pray for answers. Our students demonstrated an incredible understanding that our thoughts on immigration can support and uphold the dignity of the human person, while also believing in the obligation of our country to protect its borders. They were able to recognize that part of the discord in our country is related to very polarized views that do not have to be that way. They responded to a journal prompt to conclude the session and were able to read an article published by "Catholic Vote." It is [linked here](#) for your viewing as well.



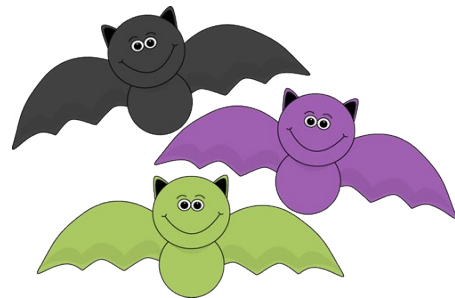
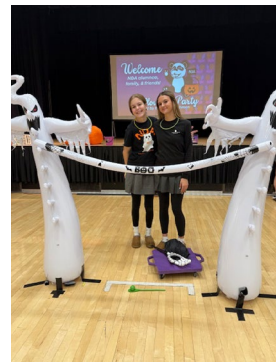
GHOULS & GIGGLES



PANDA PUMPKIN PARTY

SPOOKTACULAR FUN AT THE FRESHMAN HALLOWEEN PARTY!

What a fang-tastic night! The freshman class hosted a Halloween party for NDA alumnae and families, and it was such a treat seeing so many familiar faces back on campus. From adorable little ghosts and goblins to creative costumes of every kind, everyone had a blast playing games, enjoying delicious treats, and celebrating the spooky season together. A huge thank-you to our freshman class for making this event such a memorable and joy-filled evening!



Student Life

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.

The article above was included in the PPW last week as we began the second quarter of our school year. It was brought to our attention that this may not have aligned with previous communication sent specifically to our freshmen students. We wanted to provide context and a further explanation if you are also new to NDA and hoping to set up conferences with your daughter's teacher(s) throughout the year.

Prior to Covid, NDA held a conference day for in-person conferences and parents could schedule conferences with all six or seven of their daughter's teachers or just the teachers of the classes where there was a concern. During Covid, all schools quickly learned that conferences could be held virtually, so that has been our process since that time. In recent years, teachers have offered a few hours on a designated day for parents to schedule conferences. The faculty and administration evaluated this conference plan due to the lack of parent participation in years past and the inconvenience of just a day. Most teachers offered these conferences via Zoom or Google Meet, so we determined that this could happen at any time. Please feel free to reach out to your daughter's teachers and request a conference. The teachers will give you some available days and times and you should be able to do a virtual conference with each of them and ask any questions that you may have. Feel free to contact the office if you have questions.



**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION
PLEASE READ**

NDA TEST MESSAGE - FRIDAY

TEST OF THE SCHOOL MESSENGER ALERT SYSTEM

We tested our emergency alert system Friday, October 24. 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 if you did not receive the message.



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Educating Women to Make a Difference

2025

Open House

NOV. 9 from 1-3 PM

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](#).

ATTENTION PARENTS

FIRST QUARTER REPORT CARDS

First quarter report cards were emailed on Tuesday. The report cards are attached as PDF files sent from the School Messenger system that are password protected with the student's NDA student ID number. If you enter that number when opening the attachment, the report card should appear. Please check your SPAM folder if the message did not show up in your regular inbox. In the first quarter, we send only the digital report card since no earned credits are awarded and to save on postage. If a paper copy of the report card is needed for car insurance or some other reason, please reach out to Mr. Schlosser and one will be provided.

The Resources>PowerSchool link off of the main NDA webpage has an article explaining the various types of grades that may appear on the report card. (Report Card Grade Categories Defined) Reviewing student grades and progress is always available using the PowerSchool web portal or app and is also an easy way to communicate directly with the teachers. An explanation of how to create a parent account if you don't already have one is also available on the PowerSchool resources page found [HERE](#).

PLEASE NOTE

REGISTER TODAY - DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 31

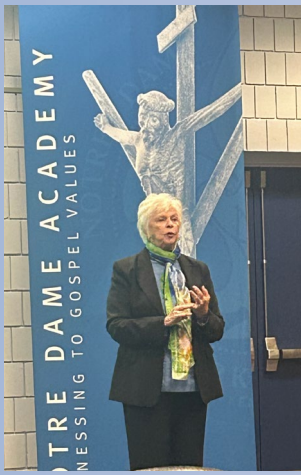
MOTHER-DAUGHTER

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](#)





FBLA



LEADING WITH INNOVATION

ALUMNA ENTREPRENEUR VISITS FBLA FOR NOVEMBER MEETING

by Lizzy Fite

On Thursday, our FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) Club had their monthly meeting. To celebrate entrepreneurship month of November, they had a special guest speaker joining them, Geraldine "Gerry" Zembrodt Schneider (NDA class of 1962).

Mrs. Zembrodt has a background in opening the Village Gallerie in Fort Wright, Kentucky with her sister LeeAnn Kordenbrock Schneider (NDA class of 1974)

She also owned 22 apartments and helped manage and operate them. As well as buying a piece of property on Pike Street in Covington and creating apartments.

Mrs. Zembrodt gave our students excellent advice about being a woman in the business world and being a responsible boss and employee!

There is still time to join FBLA, contact fitel27@ndapandas.org.



EMPOWERING FUTURE INNOVATORS

PANDAS CONNECT WITH INDUSTRY LEADERS AT WOMEN IN IT CONFERENCE

Three Pandas stepped into the world of tech leadership last Thursday, October 23, representing NDA at the Women in IT Conference hosted by Xavier University. Corryn Kohls, Cami Norris and Phoebe Desch joined nearly 200 young women from across Greater Cincinnati to explore careers in information systems and technology.

The Women in IT Conference, founded in 2004, brings together students and mentors from regional companies and universities to strengthen the pipeline of women pursuing technology careers. Through hands-on activities, networking and inspiration from industry role models, students gain firsthand insight into the many doors an IT education can open.

We are proud to support opportunities that help our students lead with confidence, curiosity and innovation. Way to represent, Pandas!



L I F E C L U B

MESSAGES OF LIFE AND HOPE

LIFE CLUB PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL PRO-LIFE CHALK DAY

Members of NDA's LIFE Club spread positivity and purpose across campus on Tuesday, October 21, by participating in National Pro-Life Chalk Day organized by Students for Life. Students gathered in the Marian Circle after school to choose designs and create colorful sidewalk messages celebrating the dignity of every human life.

Through thoughtful artwork and joyful expressions of faith, the LIFE Club offered a visible reminder of our call to protect and cherish each person as a child of God.

Thank you to these students for sharing such a meaningful witness with our NDA community.



CONGRATS!

CELEBRATING CAROLINE BOHMAN CONTINUED LEADERSHIP WITH HEY!

We're thrilled to share that Caroline Bohman '28 has once again been selected to serve as a Fellow for the Hopeful Empowered Youth (HEY) Initiative for the 2025–2026 school year! Out of more than 200 applicants, Caroline was one of only 20 students chosen — and remains the youngest fellow to be selected for a second year in a row.

In even more exciting news, Notre Dame Academy has received a grant as part of the work HEY is doing to support youth mental health and empowerment.

Congratulations to Caroline on this incredible achievement, and thank you to our faculty and staff for your continued commitment to the mental health and well-being of our students.

CONGRATS!



IT'S TIME TO SHINE ON STAGE

NDA THEATRE ANNOUNCES SPRING MUSICAL: RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S *CINDERELLA*

Every spring, the NDA Theatre Department brings a beloved story to life on stage. This year's production will sparkle with timeless music, magical transformations and plenty of heart. We are thrilled to announce that our spring musical is Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella*.

Students interested in performing should complete the [audition form](#) by Monday, November 10. [Sign up](#) for an audition time and dance call, and find audition instructions and song suggestions using the links provided.

Students who prefer working behind the scenes can join the backstage crew. Please fill out the [crew form](#) by Monday, January 19.

Let the magic begin!

HALLOWEEN FUN THIS FRIDAY

SPOOKY SPIRITS AND SCHOOL PRIDE

NDA students are invited to celebrate Halloween this Friday with festive and school-appropriate costumes. Before you plan your look, please note the following guidelines:

- Face paint or body paint is not permitted
- Masks are not permitted
- No costumes involving weapons or anything excessively gory
- Costumes must be appropriate for school with proper coverage
- Inflatables are not permitted due to safety concerns

We cannot wait to see your creativity shine while keeping our community safe and comfortable.

In addition to the costume dress up day, students can enjoy a variety of Halloween activities:

- Haunted House in the auditorium during lunches hosted by StuCo
- Adjusted schedule for Halloween activities
- A school wide celebration coordinated by the Core Leadership Team

During homeroom, each grade level will gather in designated spaces for the costume contest. One student or group per grade will advance to the final round, judged by a panel in the CLC.

Following the contest, students may choose from several fun activities across campus, including:

- Halloween show in the theater
- Halloween dancing in Alumnae Hall
- Halloween crafts in the cafeteria
- Halloween game in the gym and auditorium

We look forward to a spirited and safe celebration together. Happy Halloween, Pandas!

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!





NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Bambootique

STOCK UP ON HOLIDAY SPIRIT-WEAR BAMBOOTIQUE SEASONAL HOURS AND WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

The Bambootique will offer special holiday shopping hours on the following Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.: November 8, November 15, November 22, December 6, December 13 and December 20.

The spirit shop is also open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. throughout the season.

Stop in to grab gifts, gear and Panda favorites while supplies last. or shop online [HERE](#).



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.

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.

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. 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.

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.

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

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



VIRTUS[®]Online

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

PANDA ATHLETICS

SOCCER

Congratulations to TWO of your Notre Dame Soccer players who've earned the honors of First Team All State!!

Senior Captain, Sadie Yapp had an impressive 2025 campaign, putting up her State worthy numbers. Sadie contributed to a third of the goals scored this year, Scoring 11 and assisting in 7 more. Sadie used a combination of her speed, skills, and knowledge of the game to create many opportunities for herself and for teammates to score. Her services into the box and her pace were always a threat to the opponents back line and were sure to cause havoc near the goal.



Junior Captain, Julia Stegman dominated her minutes through the midfield. Her ability to read the game and her physical presence in the midfield helped her single handedly destroy the opponent's possession as she started our attack on many occasions. She got the attention of many other coaches, as it was nearly impossible for opponents to play through the middle. Julia ended the season with 6 Goals, 5 Assists and countless intercepted passes and battles won.

VOLLEYBALL

Congratulate Dara Jackson and Gracie Portwood on making the 35th District All-Tournament Team and Makayla Roose for being our 35th District MVP!!! Congratulations girls and well deserved!!!!

Our Pandas face St. Henry TONIGHT at 6:30 p.m. at Ryle High School in the 9th Region Championship! The winner advances to the state tournament. Let's fill the stands and cheer loud for our Pandas as they fight for their spot at State!



CROSS COUNTRY

Our Cross Country Pandas made school history this past weekend! At the Regional Meet, NDA earned the Runner-Up title and posted a record-breaking 19:54 team average - The fastest in school history! Six personal bests - unstoppable team spirit- incredible support from our JV squad, parents and the entire Panda community.

We're so proud of this team's hard work, determination, and heart. Let's keep the momentum rolling - STATE, here we come! State will be run for the 10:45 on Saturday November 1.

TIME TO VOTE

LET'S HONOR OUR ATHLETES

Time to vote, Pandas! Let's honor our student-athletes and show Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky the strength of NDA spirit. We are excited to bring back this proud tradition of celebrating our athletes whenever they are nominated for Athlete of the Week. This week, we have several standout performances to recognize:

- Notre Dame volleyball - The Pandas swept Holmes and Beechwood to claim the 35th District title, followed by another sweep of Dixie Heights to launch tournament play in the 9th Region.
- Norah Barker - Norah finished third at the Class 3A Region 5 meet with a new personal best of 19:18.3. Incredible effort and grit!
- Makayla Roose - Congratulations to Makayla for being named the 35th District Tournament MVP with 12 kills and five blocks in two impressive matches.

Cast your vote [HERE](#) and help our Pandas rise to the top. Vote once every hour and from your phones. Let's go, NDA!

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



Visit each program's website to apply, sign up for webinars and for more information.



Email Mrs. Slone if applying to GSP at slonem@ndapandas.org



STEP INTO YOUR FUTURE

APPLICATIONS FOR GSP, GSA AND GSE ARE NOW OPEN!

Students have received multiple communications about these programs over the last several weeks and we highly encourage them to apply! Please see each program's official website for details, tips and applications.

All Juniors applying for GSP need to email Mrs. Slone at slonem@ndapandas.org.

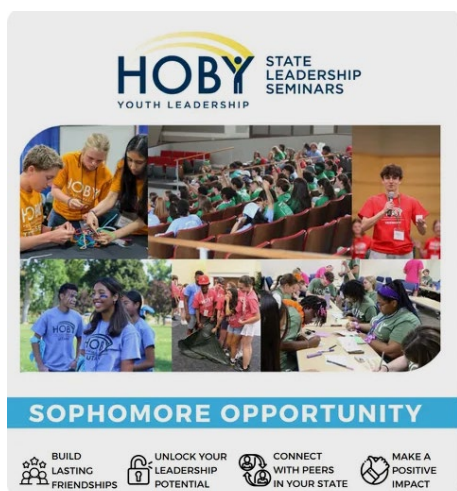
Please visit [this link](#) for a quick reference chart describing each program and who is eligible to apply.



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.



CALLING ALL FUTURE LEADERS

APPLY FOR THE 2026 HOBY SUMMER LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

Nominations are open for the Hugh O'Brian Youth Summer Leadership Seminar. This 4 day overnight event occurs on a college campus in the Summer of 2026 though dates and location in KY are TBD. This is a leadership and service focused program and wonderful opportunity for students to meet other leadership and service focused peers. You can find out more here at <https://www.hobykentucky.org/>

Interested students should complete the [google form here](#) if interested in attending the 2026 HOBY Summer Seminar. Two students will be chosen from applicants to represent NDA. This form will close on 11/15/25.



RED RIBBON WEEK

SUPPORTING HEALTHY CHOICES

This week is Red Ribbon Week which is nationally celebrated as a week to promote drug prevention in children and teens. One of the best ways to help prevent drug and alcohol use in our adolescents is for them to have healthy conversations with their parents. As parents it can be difficult to know how to have these conversations or what to say to get this type of conversation started. To help you find the words, check out one of both of these articles. The first is from [The Child Mind Institute](#) and the second is from [Partnership to End Addiction](#).

DRUG FREE CLUB

SIGN UP NOW

Another way you can help to prevent drug use in your teens is to give them a good reason to say no! The ability for a teen to say in a social situation "I can't try that, I might be drug tested and then my parents would find out" is invaluable. Please visit this link to have your daughter signed up for Drug Free Club. Remember that all Freshmen students signed up by 10.31.25 will be entered into a drawing for a gift basket worth over \$100! If you are a freshman signing up, sign up for all four years - it saves you money and then you don't have to worry about signing up every year!

To sign up, please visit [this link here](#).



REMINDER

ASSESSMENT ON NOVEMBER 10

TERRACE METRICS

A reminder to parents that all students will be taking the Terrace Metrics on November 10. If you do NOT want your student to take the assessment, which is a resiliency screener, please email Mrs. Maggard at maggarde@ndapandas.org to let her know. If you would like to know more about the assessment, additional information was sent earlier this week via a direct email to parents.

GREEN DOT TRAINING

PANDAS TAKING ACTION FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

On Tuesday this week we had 19 Pandas attend the Green Dot Bystander training on campus in partnership with members of the ION Center Prevention and Public Education team. They learned how to recognize potentially harmful situations and how to use their 3 D's, Direct, Distract, and Delegate, as bystanders to help make NDA a safer place.



Advancing the Mission



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY ANNUAL FUND



Years of More

GIVING AT NDA

FRIGHTFULLY FUN FACTS

As Halloween approaches, here are a few not-so-scary truths about the impact of giving at NDA:

- Tuition covers only about 80% of the true cost of an NDA education. The remaining 20% comes from the generosity of families, alumnae, and friends, as well as fundraisers, that help sustain the NDA experience.
- The Annual Fund makes the difference. It supports faith formation, exceptional teachers, and the opportunities that inspire young women to make a difference in the world.
- Every gift counts. Most Annual Fund gifts are under \$250, yet together they have a transformational impact on our students and school community.

With your support, NDA remains a vibrant community where faith, learning, and joy come together.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH A GIFT TO THE ANNUAL FUND [HERE](#)

Alumnae Rosary



JOIN US

ALUMNAE ROSARY

On Thursday, November 20, at 9:30 a.m., Notre Dame Academy will host an alumnae rosary in our Mary, Mother of the World Chapel. This monthly tradition offers an opportunity to pause, pray and reflect together as a school family.

Our upcoming rosary dates are December 18 and January 15, all at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel.

All are welcome to attend and join the NDA community in prayer.



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 27-31	Red Ribbon Week
October 30-31	Diaper Drive - Out of Uniform for wipes or diapers or \$3
October 31	Halloween Fun at the end of the day!
November 3	Remembrance Mass
November 9	Open House
November 10 - 21	Canned Food Drive
November 14	Mid-Quarter
November 16	Mother/Daughter
November 17	Fall Athletic Signing
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