

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL
ONE LAWTONS HILL
POTTSVILLE, PA 17901
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MAY/JUNE NEWSLETTER 2025



**Mary, Patroness of our school,
Pray for Us!**

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL:

Mary is the Patroness of our school. During the month of May, we thank Mary for giving us our Savior and we implore that she continues to intercede on our behalf. Our annual May Procession and Crowning is an important part of our spiritual life at Nativity. We welcome you to join us for this special liturgy on May 1st.

The end of the school year is always a time of mixed emotions as our seniors are winding down their high school careers. We are busy preparing for the close of the 2024-2025 academic year, the preparation for the 2025-2026 school year, and of course Graduation, Baccalaureate and other activities. We are sad to see the seniors graduate but happy that they are moving on to the next part of their lives. For most it involves college, but for all of them it will be a time of change and challenge. They will embark on a new journey, one that leads to their futures. We wish them the best of luck and will keep them in our prayers.

The final day of school for our underclassmen is Thursday, June 5, 2025. Please see the schedule for the end of the year in this newsletter. We hope that the summer brings us rest, relaxation and a renewed spirit to help us spread the word of God through our words and actions. We ask God to bless us throughout the summer. I hope that everyone has a great summer!

Mrs Lynn A. Sabol

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mr. Michael Grabowski who has been named the new principal at Nativity BVM High School beginning July 1, 2025. We are confident that Mr. Grabowski will continue to ensure that Nativity BVM High School is a beacon of light in the City of Pottsville and southern Schuylkill County while continuing the Mission of Catholic Education at Nativity!

Liturgical Calendar

Thursday, May 1st -
 Thursday, May 15th -
 Tuesday, May 27th -
 Thursday, May 29th -
 Friday, May 30th -

Liturgy and May Procession
 Liturgy and NHS Induction for Sophomores
 Baccalaureate Mass @ 7 PM
 Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension @ 1:30 PM
 Commencement @ 7 PM



Chaplain's Message

Just as we begin the school year around the time of our patronal feast day, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on September 8, it is appropriate that we end the year with a month specially dedicated to Mary. We will honor Mary with our May procession on May 1st. We also look forward to celebrating Mass on May 15th, Baccalaureate on May 27th, which will be celebrated by Bishop Schlert, and Mass for the Ascension of our Lord on May 29th.

Throughout the month of May, we pray through Mary's intercession, not only for our school, but for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis, and for the Holy Spirit's guidance in the election of our next Holy Father.

Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin
 Chaplain, Nativity BVM High School
 Pastor, St. John the Baptist Church

Welcome

We welcome the Class of 2029! Make sure to read the newsletter for important information!

Summer Hours

Please note that Main Office Summer Hours will be 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM, Monday through Thursday, beginning on Monday, June 9th until August 15th. The office will be closed on Friday's during the summer. The Main Office will close on Thursday, July 3rd @ Noon, and be closed Friday, July 4th and Monday, July 7th for the Independence Day Holiday.



Congratulations Seniors Class of 2025

Cap & Gown Distribution will be held on Thursday, May 15th!



The following students were named **Schuylkill Scholars**: Samuel Spolski, Nolan Daynorowicz, Miranda Burkot, Sara Spolski, Andrew Verchick and Brandon Schwartz

The following students were honored on April 29th as **Bishop's Catholic Scholars**: Samuel Spolski and Carleigh Palmieri

Valedictorian: Samuel Spolski

Salutatorian: Nolan Daynorowicz

Principal's Honor Roll: Samuel Spolski, Nolan Daynorowicz, Miranda Burkot, Hallie Yordy, Sara Spolski, Andrew Verchick, Brandon Schwartz

Female Scholar Athlete: Sara Spolski

Pottsville Republican Scholastic Superstars: Samuel Spolski, Nolan Daynorowicz and Miranda Burkot

Governance Board Update

Our Governance Board has been diligently working on our behalf. We are continuing to look for new sources of scholarship money to help all of our students. Enrollment continues to be the most important part of our efforts. It will ensure Nativity's bright future on the "Hill". We all must spread the good news about Nativity in our communities. **There are many possible students in our parishes and hometowns that just need to hear about Nativity and all it has to offer.** Please help us to "Spread the Good News"!!!

FROM THE DEAN'S OFFICE

Information regarding dress code and any changes in policy for next year will be sent out in the summer. Please make sure to read over any new or changed policies when they are sent home.

All hours owed due to excessive absences must be completed before schedules and transcripts are issued to students

IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A reminder that all Financial obligations, tuition and fundraising must be met in order for students to receive progress reports.

SENIORS: All financial and academic requirements must be met in order to participate in graduation exercises and attend the prom. Please refer to the senior letter which was mailed in April.

Important Upcoming Dates:

May 1st – Liturgy and May Crowning
 May 3rd & 4th – Green & Gold Basket Auction
 May 5th – 23rd – AP Exams
 May 9th – Field Day
 May 15th – Liturgy and NHS Induction for Sophomores/ Last Academic Day for Seniors
May 16th – SR/JR Prom – School Closed
 May 19th, 20th, 21st - Senior Exams
 May 22nd – All school Field Trip to Yankees Game and Bronx Zoo, New York
May 23rd – School Closed
May 26th – School Closed Memorial Day
 May 27th – Senior Practice for Baccalaureate – Report @ 8:45 AM - Early Dismissal All Students @ Noon
 May 27th – Baccalaureate Mass @ 7 PM
 May 28th – Senior Graduation practice and locker Clean-out- Report @ 8:45 AM
 May 29th - Exams all Underclassmen & Liturgy – Feast of the Ascension – Full Day
 May 30th – Commencement Exercises @ 7 PM
 May 30th - Exams all Underclassmen – Early Dismissal @ Noon
 June 2nd - Exams all Underclassmen – Early Dismissal @ 12:50 PM
 June 3rd – Sophomores and Freshmen Report – Early Dismissal @ Noon
 June 4th – Juniors only report – Early Dismissal @ Noon
 June 5th – All underclassmen report for Closing Exercises and Liturgy with dismissal at 11:00 AM



Help!

We would like to freshen up the grounds around the building for Baccalaureate and Graduation. **If you are able to help or donate towards the project, please contact Mrs. Sabol.**



FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE:

2025 JUNE SWEEPSTAKES TICKETS are now available at Nativity.

Donation: \$10 each

Tickets are good for all 30 drawings in June

\$100 prize Monday to Friday

\$150 prize for Saturday & Sunday

\$300 prize on Father's Day

\$300 prize on First Day of Summer

ATTENTION FAMILIES:

Tuition assistance determinations will be made in late June 2025. Tuition Assistance will be posted to STS accounts by the middle of July. Please contact Mrs. Daubert with any questions. There is still time to apply for tuition assistance for the 2025-2026 school year.



Studies Office

Deficiency notices for the 4th quarter were emailed on April 23rd. Parents should be aware that these deficiencies will include failures or possible failures for the quarter, semester and for **the year**. You should especially be aware if a student has the possibility of failing for the year as this will affect graduation and/or summer school.

Parents and students are reminded that attendance for examinations is mandatory. No student will be excused from any session. There will be early dismissal for all underclassmen on Friday, May 30th through Thursday, June 5th. The seniors will also have early dismissals on Monday, May 19th, Tuesday, May 20th and Wednesday May 21st for their final exams.

Final examinations will be given Thursday, May 29th through Monday, June 2nd for all underclassmen. Seniors will have their final examinations on Monday, May 19th, Tuesday May 20th, and Wednesday, May 21st.

The schedule is as follows:

Monday, May 19: Periods 1, 8, and 6 – Seniors

Tuesday, May 20: Periods 2, 4, and 5 – Seniors

Wednesday, May 21: Periods 3 and 7 – Seniors

Thursday, May 29: Periods 1, 8, and 5 – Underclassmen- full day

Friday, May 30: Periods 3 and 7 – Underclassmen

Monday, June 2: Periods 2, 4, and 6 – Underclassmen

Report cards for underclassmen will be distributed on Thursday, June 5th, 2025.

Senior report cards will be distributed after the graduation ceremony and will be mailed, if they are not ready for distribution after graduation ceremonies.

Students will receive a copy of their tentative schedule for the next school year in July. Please review this carefully and follow the directions with regards to making changes.

Students who fail a course for the year, must attend summer school. Please contact Mrs. Sabol or Mr. Naffin (Studies) at 622-8110.

Students involved in the Dual Credit Program with Alvernia College will receive information on transcript requests in a separate mailing.

AP tests will be administered May 5th – 23rd. Students taking an AP class must take the exam for their course and should be sure to be present on the day of the exam. All AP payments are due by May 12th, 2025.

AP Schedule is:

Monday, May 5 – Biology (8am)
 Tuesday, May 6 – US Government (12pm)
 Wednesday, May 7 – Literature and Composition (8am)
 Thursday, May 8 – Statistics (8am)
 Monday, May 12 – Calculus AB (8am)
 Wednesday, May 14 – Language and Composition (8am)
 Tuesday, May 15 – Art History (8am)
 Friday, May 23 – Psychology (12pm)

School Trip

Nativity BVM High School will be running a school-wide field trip to the New York Yankees vs. Texas Rangers baseball game on Thursday, May 22, 2025. The game begins at 12:35 PM. Seating for the game is in section 235, 236, 237 left field bleachers and students/faculty & staff/chaperones will be transported via Coach buses. Students not attending the Yankees game have been given the opportunity to visit the Bronx Zoo during the same time period.

We will depart Nativity at 8:30 AM for the game/zoo and arrive back at Nativity at approximately 7 PM. Students attending the trip have already signed up at school as tickets had to be purchased in advance. Cost of the trip (which includes your ticket to the game and coach bus transportation) is \$75. Checks can be made payable to Nativity High school and are due to the main office no later than May 8th.

Currently, there are 86 tickets/seats available for the game. Any student not signed up for the field trip must attend school on May 22nd as it is a regularly scheduled school day. More details will follow closer to the date of the trip. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Daubert at 570-622-8110.

POT OF GOLD WINNERS – APRIL 9, 2025

\$250 – Deb Cuff – Seller: Ryan Examitas
 \$150 – Aldajean Howells– Seller: Kyla Stewart
 \$50 – Bonnie Krammes – Seller: Jacob Fletcher
 \$50 – Brenda Croley– Seller: Lauren Clark

POT OF GOLD WINNERS 4/23/2025

\$250- Kevin Kilpatrick Seller- Carliegh Palmieri

\$150- Carla Umberger Seller- Ethan Donatti

\$50 - George Shimko Seller – George Shimko

\$50 - Jeanie Dando- Seller Janelle Ziegmont



Attention parents and/or guardians of Sophomores:

The class of 2027 will celebrate their Ring Mass ceremony in the fall semester of their junior year. If students would like to participate, they need to submit a piece of jewelry to Ms. Reynolds in order for it to be blessed at the mass. Students are not required to purchase new jewelry, but if they would like to, Sophy Jewelers in St. Clair is the only place that sells the replica of the Nativity cross. If students would like to purchase a ring, Herff-Jones online guarantees delivery as long as orders are received by the end of May. Additionally, most jewelers in the area will also make class rings. The website for Herff-Jones is: www.highschool.herffjones.com. Please contact Ms. Reynolds with any questions.

News from the Guidance Department

A Message from the Director of Guidance, Mrs. Brensinger

Happy Graduation Month families! Spring brings about a lot of transition in my office. Juniors are looking for Senior year information, course selection has been completed and Seniors are excited for graduation! Freshmen and Sophomores are excited about what next year may bring them at Nativity. No matter what it is, please know I am here to help, feel free to contact me at any time via email at guidance@nativitybvm.net

Class of 2025 Graduation Information

National Decision Day- Seniors may wear a Shirt for the school they have committed to on Friday, May 2nd with their uniform bottoms!

The graduation survey was due April 25th. This information will be used during commencement when each student is announced on stage. Please be sure to complete the survey and any questions to guidance@nativitybvm.net. This is a reminder that students are announced on stage using their full first, middle, and last names. Here is the survey again: [Link to survey](#)

Also, please remember, all college acceptance letters, and any financial aid offers, must be given to Mrs. Brensinger together at one time. Students were asked to compile a folder and bring it to the Counseling office no later than May 1st.

Summer Hours with Mrs. Brensinger

Any family looking to meet with Mrs. Brensinger during the summer may email guidance@nativitybvm.net to request a meeting, or complete this request form here: <https://forms.gle/fd5CXsg9FxympmRT9>. Office hours are very limited in the summer, so schedule early! Seniors, this is a great opportunity to get a jump start on applications!

Scholarships

Attention Junior and Senior Families, I wanted to remind you that the Guidance Page on the Nativity website has a full packet of scholarships that is updated in real time. [View the full packet here](#)

Juniors- Class of 2026

Juniors have met with Mrs. Brensinger individually to discuss thoughts after graduation, they shared if they hoped to continue their education or planned to move in a different direction. In the coming months, students should start thinking of schools they will want to apply to and determine if those schools require SAT/ ACT scores. Juniors are encouraged to visit schools over the summer break, Seniors will only receive 3 excused college visits, so utilizing summer break is imperative!

Class of 2026 Parents and Guardians that would like to do a phone conference, in May or early June, please contact me at (570) 622-8110 or via email at guidance@nativitybvm.net. Regular senior meetings may be scheduled over the summer starting in late July, and will be scheduled using this form: <https://forms.gle/fd5CXsg9FxympmRT9> Please make sure all students keeps their Google Classroom notifications turned on over the summer.

Important Notes for the 2025-2026 school year

The PSAT will once again take place in October, all students in grades 9 through 11 will be required to take the test.

Test Accommodations through College Board for the PSAT and SAT are available Please contact Mrs. Brensinger in Guidance if you have a Classroom Plan in place and are looking for accommodations for the PSAT or SAT. **This is a 7-week process at minimum**, parents are encouraged to reach out by July 1 to Mrs. Brensinger via email at guidance@nativitybvm.net . Parents will need to fill out the Consent form located on the College Board website and attach it to their email: <https://accommodations.collegeboard.org/request-accommodations/request/through-the-school>

The ASVAB- all Seniors will complete the ASVAB test in October as we have in years past.

The College and Career Fair-This Fall, all Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors will attend our annual fair. If students are interested in a specific school, please see or email Mrs. Brensinger, she will invite them.

Reminder about Google Classroom over the summer!

Students are encouraged to keep their notifications for Google Classroom on over the summer! Announcements may be made about community service opportunities, special events, and grade-specific information may be sent. Please email guidance@nativitybvm.net if you wish to be added to the classroom of your student.

Nativity SR/JR Prom and Promenade: Friday, May 16, 2025

3:00-3:45	Photographer - Ruby Laine Photography will be available at Nativity High School for formal pictures. Forms are available in the office.
3:15 -3:45 PM -	Registration / Sign in at Nativity BVM High School
3:45 PM -	Line up for Grand March backstage
4:00-5:00 PM -	Promenade - Nativity High School Gym
5:30- 5:45 PM -	Sign in at Mountain Valley , 1021 Brockton Mountain Drive, Barnesville, PA
6:00 PM -	Dinner begins PROMPTLY - the meal will be family style.
7:00- 10:00 PM -	Dessert and Dancing

***Students and Parents, Please Note:** Nativity BVM is committed to preserving a safe, drug and alcohol-free environment for our students. In accordance with this commitment, Nativity BVM reserves the right to administer random sobriety tests to students at all school functions. Please be advised that we take the safety of our students very seriously. Policy details are listed in the student handbook. If you have further questions, please call the school at 570-622-8110.



ATHLETIC NEWS

Our athletic teams faced several challenges during the month of April but none as formidable as Mother Nature. The weather impacted over 50% of the scheduled contests for baseball, softball and track and field. The teams simply readjusted their focus and were always ready when time came to compete.

The track and field squads have been patiently waiting to display their talents and the week of April 21st gave them the opportunity with two invitationals and a league tri-meet. The boys team performed in dominant fashion to take the team title at the Tamaqua Blue Raider Invitational. Individual first place finishes by Michael Stank, Nolan Daynorowicz and Noah Dolbin along with taking 2 out of 3 relays earned the win. Sara Spolski showed off her talents on the girls side with 3 wins in the 100, 200 and 400. The boys team then swept Marian and Panther Valley on Wednesday and the girls team earned a victory over Panther Valley. They finished the week at the Blue Mountain Invitational. Again, the same individuals Michael, Nolan, Noah and Sara exhibited their talents to earn gold. The boys 1600 and 3200 relay teams proved their work is paying off with victories in the 4 x 400 and 4 x 800 relays. The first two weeks in May will determine how far their preparation will take them. Schuylkill League Championships are May 6 and 7 at Mahanoy Area High School and District XI Championships are May 13th and 14th at Whitehall High School. Destination SHIPPENSBURG!!

The Hilltopper baseball team was challenged at the start of the season with replacing several key members of the 2024 team and also getting varsity experience for a lot of underclassmen. They are starting to put things together with the focus of finishing strong and preparing for the defense of a possible repeat District XI championship. A few more weeks of hard work should provide seniors Andrew Verchick, Nick Wagner, Barry Jenkins, Zeno Rugh, Nate Cooper, Matteo Auriado, Jasir Jones and Jack Gherghel

and a group of up and coming underclassmen that opportunity. DXI playoffs begin with semifinals Tuesday May 20th and championship on Saturday May 24th.

The softball team has taken great strides in developing the fundamentals needed to be a competitive team. Every game has seen this group find ways to improve and see progress. The leadership of seniors Carleigh Palmieri and Mia Haas along with juniors Macie Rushannon and Chloe Covell has taken this group on a positive journey throughout the season. As the saying goes “Rome wasn’t built in a day”, however Coach Kleeman and his staff have these girls believing and working hard to establish the foundation that will pave the way for future successes.

Attention all 2025 - 2026 student athletes and families. May 1st marks the time when prospective athletes can begin the process of becoming certified to participate in fall, winter and spring sports programs. No matter what season you participate, you are encouraged to sign up for your St. Luke’s is providing free physicals at the below sites and times. Choose a site and then sign up for an appointment. Once registered, download Section 6 of the PIAA CIPPE form and take to the appointment. If you prefer to schedule a physical with your PCP you must have your physician sign the Section 6 document and then upload to your Big Team account.

May 15th, 2025 - Blue Mountain @ 5-8PM

[Blue Mountain Site - St. Luke's 25-26 PIAA Physicals](#)

June 7th, 2025 - North Schuylkill @ 8AM - 1PM

[North Schuylkill Site - St. Luke's 25-26 PIAA Physicals](#)

June 17th, 2025 - Pottsville @ 5-8PM

[Pottsville Site - St. Luke's 25-26 PIAA Physicals](#)

June 24th, 2025 and July 15th, 2025 @ Coca-Cola Park 2-6:45 PM

[St. Luke's Coca-Cola Park Physicals \(English\).pdf](#)

Download this form to take to physical appointment

[Section 6 PIAA Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation \(CIPPE\).pdf](#)



GREEN & GOLD

The basket auction will be held May 3rd and 4th. Saturday, May 3rd, the doors open for shop and drop at 4:00 PM. Sunday the doors open at 10:00 AM with the auction starting at 2:00 PM. Please come out and support us as we raise funds for the school to assist with all activities at the school.

If you bring a food or baked good please remember to sign up for your student to receive a service hour!

We would also like to thank you for all of your help and support throughout the school year. We would not be able to accomplish our goals without your help.

SCHOOL STORE

Purchase any clothing in the School Store during May and your name will go into a drawing to win a \$500 Nativity tuition credit. Two awards of \$500 tuition credit will be given by Mrs. Eckley in memory of Brian Eckley, her husband.

Student Learning Supports

Classroom Plans

Student support plans are reviewed and renewed on a yearly basis. For students in need of learning supports Nativity has two (2) plans to meet their needs.

- 1.) Equitable Participation Service Plan (EPSP) is similar to an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). It is available to students that have been evaluated by a psychologist and have met the necessary criteria.
- 2.) Student Support Plan (SSP) is similar to a 504 plan. It is available to students that have been evaluated by a psychologist and have not met all the necessary criteria but still need supports to be successful.

If you have any concerns or questions about student support plans, please contact Al Bobinas, Ed. D. at: abobinas@nativitybvm.net

College Board Accommodations

Please contact Mrs. Brensinger in Guidance if you are looking for accommodations for the PSAT or SAT. This is a 7-week process at minimum, so parents are encouraged to reach out immediately. Parents will need to fill out the Consent form located on the College Board website and give it to the office for Mrs. Brensinger : <https://accommodations.collegeboard.org/request-accommodations/request/through-the-school>

If you need additional help please contact Mrs. Brensinger at guidance@nativitybvm.net

Attention New Students: If you had a learning plan prior to enrolling at Nativity, please be sure to bring a copy to the office for Dr. Bobinas. We ask that you give us a copy of the plan and a copy of the Evaluation/Reevaluation. Thank you.

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC
Direct Telephone: (800) 791-9209

The Diocese of Allentown, provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program.

OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W, M.S.
Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

AHERA

In compliance with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response (AHERA) an inspection for asbestos was performed at each of our schools within the Diocese of Allentown. A copy of the inspection reports is on file in the school's Administrative Office for your review any time during normal school hours. In the event you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school's principal or the Diocesan Asbestos Coordinator.