NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL, INC. ONE LAWTONS HILL POTTSVILLE, PA 17901

PHONE: (570) 622-8110



NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

News from the Principal

The month of November brings great excitement as we anticipate Thanksgiving. We all look forward to this holiday as a special time to share food and fellowship with our families. We need to take time out of our busy lives and spend quality time with our loved ones. As we enter the month of November, our minds turn to four significant celebrations — All Saints Day, All Souls Day, Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. We are thankful to all of our parents, families and friends for their support of Catholic education at Nativity BVM High School. Please know that the Nativity community will remember our deceased loved ones in prayer throughout the month of November. I hope that everyone has a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving.

We especially ask for God's blessings upon the United States of America as we remember our American Military. Please join us for a special service on **November 13, 2025 at 10:25 AM to honor our Veterans.** It is a day for us to thank God for those men and women who so bravely defend our country in times of war and peace.

Our **Thanksgiving Liturgy**, celebrated on Wednesday, November 26th, allows us to praise God and to place life in its proper perspective. It is a day for reflection about who we are and what we have to be grateful for.

May we continue to pray for each other as we journey through the month of November. Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving Day!

Principal

Thuhal Shelrash





The month of November begins with All Saints Day and All Souls Day. These days happen to fall on the weekend this year, so we will not have the opportunity to celebrate them in school. But we will continue to observe November as a special time to pray for our departed loved ones. Students are invited to write the names of deceased loved ones on a list that will be placed on the altar every time we celebrate Mass.

Our next retreat will also take place this month: the Encounter Retreat for juniors on November 24-25, held at St. John the Baptist Church. The student retreat team and I work hard to make this a powerful and meaningful experience.

Finally, November is a time for gratitude. As always, we celebrate Mass just before our Thanksgiving break, grateful for our Lord's many blessings to our school and to each of us.

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

Important Dates:

November 7th
November 2th
November 27th – December 1st
December 2nd

Early Dismissal @ Noon. No lunch provided. Early Dismissal @ Noon. No lunch provided. School Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday School Re-Opens



From the Dean's Office:

Drivers

- Exercise caution and slow down when driving around the school in the mornings and afternoons. There are many students walking during arrival and dismissal during these times and safety is of the utmost importance.
- It is illegal to pass a bus that is loading or unloading.
- All student drivers are required to have a current parking pass displayed on their rearview mirror. They are \$20 for the year and \$10 for a semester. If a permit is not purchased a hold will be placed on the students account.

• Dress Code

• Winter dress code is in effect. No shorts may be worn until the spring and all long pants must follow the guidelines in the handbook.

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Mr. Grabowski mgrabowski@nativitybvm.net 570-622-8110

Financial Concerns:

As always, we need everyone to keep their tuition and fundraising payments up to date. Students who have outstanding balances will not receive report cards, take exams or possibly not be able to participate in activities. Please make every effort to make payments in a timely fashion. It is crucial to the cash flow of the school. Thank you for your understanding!

• Important Notice to Seniors!

Seniors who are applying to college must have their financial obligations up to date in order for transcripts to be released.

Communication:

Communication between parents, teachers, administration and students is key to the smooth operation of a school. There are many ways to communicate: phone, email and appointments, to name a few. Please keep in touch with your child's teachers by using email and checking grades on the MMS portal.

If you have a concern about academics, contact the teacher first. If this does not resolve the issue, please contact Mr. Naffin, the Studies Coordinator. Discipline matters should be directed to Mr. Grabowski. Please contact Mrs. Margaret Young with financial questions and Mrs. Ruth

Weidman with athletic issues. These people stay in constant contact with the principal to oversee the programs here at Nativity.

Please know that the administration, faculty and staff make every effort to provide quality Catholic education in a supportive, disciplined and safe environment. Every child is important and every child deserves a chance to succeed. Thank you to all of the parents who have been supportive as we all make Nativity the best place for our children.



Interact Club:

Nativity's Interact Club has held several meetings over the last month. This club is service oriented and is associated with Rotary. Recently we collected items for the Winter Coat and Diaper Drive. Our next events include a school wide cleanup, sending cards to all of our partner school students and a Red Cross Blood Drive on November 3rd.

Casual Dress Days:

There is an upcoming day when students can wear something other than their school uniform. On Friday, November 7th, students may wear casual dress for a cost of \$2. All proceeds will be sent to the Knights of Columbus to help with Thanksgiving Meals in the local community. All casual dress rules apply.

Student Council News:

A special thank you to everyone who made our annual Spirit Week a success! We would especially like to thank Erin Trezise for her help in creating the Homecoming Program. A special thank you also goes out to the faculty, staff, and administration of Nativity BVM High School for giving of their time and talents to make this year's Spirit Week special. Thank you to our Homecoming candidates, and a special congratulations to our 2025 Homecoming King and Queen, Mr. Trey Keating and Ms. Chloe Covell!

On Thursday, November 13th, we will have our annual Veterans' Day Program at Nativity BVM High School. All veterans are welcome to attend. If you know a veteran who would like to join us, please call the school office by Thursday, November 6th, and give us their name and the number of guests who would like to attend. We look forward to sharing this special occasion with our local veterans.

It's almost time for the annual Christmas dance! The date for this year's Christmas dance is Friday, December 12th, at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Tickets will be on sale beginning in November. The last day to purchase tickets will be Wednesday, November 26th. Ticket prices, the schedule, and the menu will be available in the school and on Nativity BVM social media. Pictures will be available for purchase, and forms will be available in the main office. Permission slips are needed for any student who will be bringing a non-Nativity student as a date. These permission slips will be available in the main office beginning on October 31 and must be returned no later than November 21st. Please be sure to get your tickets!

Christmas Dance Attire:

Please make sure that your son or daughter are dressed appropriately. Gentleman can wear a suit and tie, dress slacks and a sport coat or a tuxedo. Ladies may wear an appropriate dress, skirt, or pant suit. Dresses may not be shorter than fingertip length and if you are wearing a long dress, the slit may not be higher than fingertip length. Midriffs must be covered and all dresses must be modest.

Studies Office News:

Parent Conferences

Parent Conferences will be held on Monday, November 10th. These conferences are **by appointment only**. Please refer to the letter which was mailed. Appointments must be made by the students or via teacher email. These appointments **cannot** be made from the Office.

Honor Roll Criteria

Honors are tabulated on grades at the end of the quarters and are based on quarter grades. Honors will be awarded to the students who meet the following criteria:

Distinguished Honors – a grade of 93 or above in all subjects

1st Honors – an average of 89.5 or above in all subjects, with grades of 85 or above in all subjects

 2^{nd} Honors – an average of 84.5 or above in all subjects, with grades 80 or above in all subjects

GPA

Student GPA's are calculated every marking period. GPA is printed on all report cards. Class rank is not printed on report cards by Allentown Diocese Policy. Please refer to the course selection booklet for the table of point values used in calculating GPA.

All transfer students have their previous credits and GPA's included in the 1st marking period grades. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Naffin.

Development News:

New Student Information Night

On Sunday, November 23rd, Nativity will be hosting an Open House for 8th grade students beginning at 4:30pm at the school. Nativity BVM High School administration, faculty, staff, parents and board members will be on hand to discuss specific information about academics, financial aid, guidance services and opportunities for students. This information will be particularly helpful for incoming freshmen, transfer students, new students and potential host families. We invite you and your family to join us for this event. No pre-registration is required. All are welcome!! Please contact the school at 570-622-8110 or jldaubert@nativitybvm.net for information.

News from the Counseling Department:

A Message from the School Counselor, Mrs. Brensinger

This month, and all year long, please don't be afraid to reach out if needed guidance@nativitybvm.net

Guardians, please stay connected with me via your students' Google Classroom. If you wish to be added, please email me.

Schuylkill Technology Center Application Opening Soon!

Attention Class of 2027 and 2028 this is a reminder that if you are interested in applying to Schuylkill Technology Center for next school year, you must complete this Google Form for me https://forms.gle/rasqx9MDoFSyRD607

Students who express interest and are in good academic and behavioral standing will receive information about the STC school day visit on November 13th!

Scholarship Packet

Attention Junior and Senior Families now is a great time to search for scholarships. Remember, scholarships are free money! We have a full packet available, please know that many deadlines have not yet been released and I update them as they come in. Nativity Scholarship Packet Link

Absences for Career Visits

A Reminder that Seniors will only receive **three** (3) **excused absences for college visits/ interviews**. Please make sure to let the main office know 3 school days before your absence and bring in documentation from the school's admission team as proof.

Seniors College Applications and Recommendation Letters

Students are reminded that we recommend doing all college applications in Common App, unless you are applying to a school that is not on Common App. This will save the student time, and effort and help them keep everything organized

Transcript Requests

All Seniors in need of transcripts being sent to the schools they have applied to may pick up a form outside of my office in the green basket. This form must be turned in with the \$35 transcript request fee and must have your resume attached to it as well when you hand it in.

DON'T DELAY, APPLY BY TURKEY DAY!

I have recommended that Seniors get their college applications in before Thanksgiving. This will prevent stress over the holidays and ensure that your materials are all in to meet your application deadlines.

*This does not pertain to Early Action and Early Decision, they are often November 1st or November 15th

Learning Support:

If you have any concerns or questions about student support plans, please contact Dr. Bobinas, Ed. D. at:

abobinas@nativitybvm.net

Athletics:



School history was made by the cross country team on October 22nd at the DXI championships. They ran one of their best team races to garner the first ever boys District XI Championship. Three of our runners finished in the top 6 with Shane Meyer 2nd, Nash Stehr 5th and Wyatt Hylka 6th. While freshmen Daniel Kim 23rd and Brady Loftus 26th helped to solidify the gold for the team outdistancing the closest school by 20 points. They advance to the PIAA State Championships at Hershey on November 1st and try to run to even higher groundbreaking results.

The Green Wave football team will take on Lackawanna Trail in the DII/XI 1A subregional playoffs. With a win they will advance to the DXI championship game on November 7th. They started the season as a young inexperienced team and now get to see how much they have improved with the challenge that awaits them.

Our volleyball team concluded a successful season with a strong finish in the DXI 1A semifinals against state ranked Tri Valley. The girls fought hard and took it to extra points in the fourth set before bowing out. Youth and match experience were the question marks going into the season and the Green Wave worked to finish the season with strong answers that set the team up for anticipated success next season.

The winter season will kick off on Friday November 14, 2025. Any student wishing to participate in basketball, wrestling or swim should register on BigTeam by November 5, 2025. All practice and game schedules can be found using the link below.

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Finance Office:

POT OF GOLD WINNERS DRAWING DATE: 10/22/2025

1st Leanne Mogish

Seller: Aaliyah Carter

2nd Courtney Wainwright

Seller: Jaxon Salm

3rd Pat Lombel

Seller: Madison Thompson

4th Jenn Gagliardi

Seller: Bentley Werez

Senior Fundraising:

It's that time of year again!!!

Seniors have received their pumpkin roll order forms to raise 2026 class funds. Please read information below regarding delivery and due dates. Extra order forms for students have been posted in the Senior class google classroom.

PUMPKIN ROLL ORDER SHEET



NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL

SENIOR CLASS FUNDRAISER 2025-2026
All order sheets due to Mrs. Achach by **November 10th. Delivery date November 24th.** Pick up at Nativity BVM
HS in the concession stand. Students/Parents must pick up entire order. Make checks payable to NATIVITY BVM
GREEN AND GOLD. Payment is due at the time you hand in your orders. All proceeds benefit the Nativity BVM Class of 2025. Cost is \$16.00 per roll. *Pumpkin Rolls must stay refrigerated*

Please contact Ms. Achach with any questions or concerns. rachach@nativitybvm.net

Green and Gold:

The Green and Gold would like to thank everyone who supported the gift card calendar fundraiser. An update will be given in the next newsletter. Thank you for supporting the Green and Gold.



Raffle Update:

The biggest fundraiser for the Green and Gold is the \$20,000.00 raffle, which goes off on Thursday, December 11, 2025. Tickets are \$100 and only 555 tickets are sold. We are reaching out to any parents interested in selling 5 tickets. If you are able to sell all 5, your child's name goes into a drawing to win a \$500 tuition credit. Contact Diane Yaneck in the main office at 570-622-8110.

School Store:

Uniform clothing including sweaters and ½ zips are all in stock for the cooler weather approaching.

New nativity apparel such as baseball hats, blankets, basketball T-shirts and sweatpants will be arriving within the next few weeks.

On Sunday, November 23rd from 4:30-6:30 the school store will be opened for Nativity's Fall Open House. Come join us and get an early jump on your Christmas shopping.

Any questions, please contact Sue Eckley at 570-640-0930.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

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.