

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL

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OCTOBER 2026

NEWSLETTER



October brings many things to us: changes in temperature, changes in leaf colors, and the end of the 1st marking period of the academic year. As Catholic high school students, the young men and women at Nativity continue to build themselves through their faith and their dedication to excellence. We continue to encourage our students academically, spiritually, athletically and socially to be the best they can be.

Michael Grabowski

Mr. Michael Grabowski
Principal



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

[2026-2027 School Calendar](#)

Check [here](#) for other important dates!



Chaplain's Message

The school year is off to a good start with daily prayer and school liturgies. On September 21 a group of students attended the Pennsylvania March for Life at the State Capitol. In October we look forward to the first retreat experience of the year: the Freshman Retreat on October 22, which has proven to be an enjoyable day of taking a break from classes to reflect on our faith and build community among the freshman class.

We also keep in mind that October is the month of the Rosary. It is one of many reminders that our school family is under the patronage of the Blessed Mother, who watches over us every day and draws us closer to Jesus.

Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin

Chaplain, Nativity BVM High School
Pastor, St. John the Baptist Church

School Safety

The administration and faculty strive to ensure that students are safe and secure while at school. Various drills and precautions are in place to make sure that students know what to do and where to go in case of an emergency. These drills are necessary and will take place monthly. In October, in addition to a fire drill, the “Shakedown Drill” will be held to prepare students for the possibility of an earthquake.

Additionally, to ensure the safety of all our students, any adult who volunteers or works at Nativity or any other Diocesan school or parish must complete the “Protecting God’s Children” seminar and complete all applicable clearances. Please know that your son/daughter’s safety and well-being is of our utmost concern.

Service Hours – MobileServe

All students must set up an account on Mobile Pass to submit and track community service hours. Information was handed out the first week of school and students were given the opportunity to set up their account.

Students must complete and log 75% of their required service hours to attend Prom in the spring and 100% of their required service hours to receive end-of-year grades or diplomas.

If you have any questions regarding MobileServe, please contact Mrs. Holohan.



Important Information for Senior Parents

Yearbook

Attention parents of Seniors: If you would like to include a celebratory baby ad for your child in the yearbook, please send the pictures, message, and payment to Ms. Reynolds by Friday, October 30th. Pictures, messages, and any questions can be sent to jreynolds@nativitybvm.net. Checks should be made payable to Nativity BVM High School.

Thank you for supporting the yearbook!



Finances

It is imperative for the financial stability of the school that everyone makes tuition and fundraising payments on time. If there is a concern, please contact Mrs. Young in the Financial Office. All students must be up to date with tuition, fees and fundraising in order to participate in activities.

Social Media

All Nativity students are aware of the appropriate use of social media. We encourage using social media to positively impact the school and community. ***The use of social media to cause harm or negatively affect Nativity BVM High School, its students, teachers, staff or legacy will not be tolerated.***

Math Club

The Math Club is offering tutoring services for students who need help in their math classes. Students can find a list of available tutors near the bulletin board on the second floor near the math classrooms. Additionally, the Math Club will be attending the Bloomsburg Math Competition on November 10th.

Music Ministry

Students involved in Music Ministry sing at all liturgical events at Nativity. We welcome new students to this group and also any student who can play a musical instrument can assist at liturgies.

Communication

It is extremely important to keep open lines of communication between parents and teachers. If you have a concern, please contact your child's teacher either by calling the school office or by emailing the teacher. All email addresses can be found on the school website.

Please look over the October calendar for many important liturgical events and school activities.

Dates for fall sports playoffs are not finalized yet and will be updated as needed.

Picture Make-up Day

Picture make-up day and Senior yearbook photos will be October 21st.

Office

Please be sure to call your child off if they are not coming to school or if they will be late because of a doctor's appointment.

Please let the office know if there are any changes of address or phone numbers. It is important that we have the correct numbers at all times in case of an emergency.

Interact Club

The Interact Club will host a winter clothing and diaper drive again this fall. The club will be collecting coats and winter clothing along with diapers from September 28th through October 23rd. All winter clothing must be washed and cleaned before being brought to school.

The Interact Club will also be sponsoring the annual Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, November 2nd. Please see attached information in the newsletter. Students who are 16 years of age are encouraged to participate.

Care Packages for the Military

We are also working on sending care packages to servicemen and women. The Army 316th Unit – Pittsburgh, PA has local men and women attached to it with over 300 deployed. The following is a list of items needed. If you can help us with this project, please send donations to Nativity BVM High School. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Sabol or Ryan Examitas (Senior) for details.

WISH LIST ITEMS

SNACKS

- Powder Drink Mix for Water (electrolytes)
- Beef Jerky
- Slim Jims
- Nuts
- Sunflower Seeds
- Peanut Butter Packets (individual serve)
- Hard Candy
- Gum
- Pretzels
- Peanut Butter–Filled Pretzels
- Trail Mix
- Dried Fruit

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothpaste
- Stick Deodorant
- Dude Wipes
- Lip Balm with SPF
- Large Heavy-Duty Body Wipes
- Travel Tissue Packs
- Cotton Swabs
- Medicated (Gold Bond) Foot Powder
- Hand Sanitizer (small, personal size)

Student Council

Student Council members for the 2026-2027 school year:

Central Office: President – Bo McDonald; Vice President – Layne Pasker; Secretary – Janelle Ziegmont; Treasurer – Finley McNamara

Senior class officers: President – Emmalee Pinkey; Vice President – Thomas Monaghan; Representatives – Samantha Krusinsky, Hunter-Rian Nothaft

Junior class officers: President – Olivia Whitaker; Vice President – Lauren Clark; Representatives – Addison Messner, Gavin Strausser, Anders Ryon

Sophomore class officers: President – Ella Grabowski; Vice President – Ava Stankavage; Representatives – Daniel Trezise, Emily Lorence, Cole Felty

Freshman class officers: President – Jacob Ziegmont; Vice President – Lily Strauss; Representatives – Cass Casanova and Matthew Mercuri

Student Council is currently preparing for Spirit Week and Homecoming. The 2026-2027 Student Council was inducted during Mass on September 24th. Student Council is looking forward to having a great year filled with fun activities!

Nativity BVM High School 2026 Homecoming Court

EmmaJoan Fox, Anna Jansson, Finley McNamara, Emmalee Pinkey, and Samantha Krusinsky
Thomas Bechtel, Bo McDonald, Shane Meyer, Layne Pasker, and Connor Palerino

Good luck to all of our candidates. The winners will be announced at the Homecoming game on Friday, October 16, 2026 vs. Shenandoah Valley. We hope to see you there!

News from the Guidance Department



A Message from the Director of Guidance, Ms. Cory

As we begin a new month, please remember that I am always here as a resource for you and your child. If you have a question, concern, or would simply like to connect, please feel free to reach out at guidance@nativitybvm.net.

PSAT

All Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors are required to take the PSAT in October. There is a \$20 fee for the PSAT. Please send the money in an envelope with your child, and they can hand it in to the main office. Thank you for your cooperation. The \$20 fee is due by October 12th. The testing schedule is as follows:

- October 19th – Freshmen
- October 22nd – Sophomores
- October 23rd – Juniors

Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Ms. Cory at guidance@nativitybvm.net.

Postsecondary Prep for Class of 2027 and 2028

A reminder that Seniors will only receive **three (3) excused absences for college and career visits, and Juniors will receive one (1)**. Utilizing weekends and school closures is imperative!

Transcript Requests

Seniors who need transcripts sent to the schools to which they have applied may pick up a transcript request form outside the Guidance Office. The completed form must be submitted along with the \$35 transcript request fee. As a friendly reminder, transcripts will not be sent if there are any outstanding financial holds on the student's account.

Virtual College Financial Aid Night – October 29th at 6:00 PM



Meet virtually with a PHEAA Representative about financial aid options and the FAFSA. ***Registration information will be coming shortly.*** This is open to Juniors and Seniors.

From the Development Office

Attention Families: All tuition assistance has been posted onto accounts unless your application has not been verified. Please contact Jenn Daubert at 570-622-8110 with any questions.

Please note: A policy has become effective for families who receive the Eastern Pennsylvania Scholarship Foundation Scholarship (EPSF). Please read the following:

The Eastern PA Scholarship Advisory Board has endorsed the following: If a family has not paid their past tuition bill (2025-2026), they will not be eligible to receive an EITC/OSTC scholarship from the Eastern Pennsylvania Scholarship Foundation.

It is the responsibility of each family to make sure that their tuition is paid in full each year. Failure to do so will make the family ineligible to receive an EPSF Scholarship.

Homecoming Football Game 50/50

Our Homecoming drawing is a huge fundraiser for the year; therefore, we will continue with this yearly tradition as our Homecoming Football game versus Shenandoah Valley is scheduled to be held at St. Clair on Friday, October 16th at 7:00 PM. Your support of Nativity and our 50/50 drawing is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration and understanding. Go Nativity!!



Athletics



The Nativity Athletic Department is excited to announce the new athletic website. At the start of the fall sports season, our programs transitioned to Arbiter Registration to sign up for their

sport's team. In addition to the new online registration platform, we also moved all of our athletic information to ArbiterSports with the link nativitybvmsports.org. Now you can go to this website to find all the teams, calendar, registration, photo gallery, social media links, livestreaming and much more. Add the URL to your favorites on your device and stay connected to NBVM athletics.

Winter sports registration will open on Monday, October 5th. Registration information is found on the new athletic website. Use the above link to access and sign up.

Pot of Gold Winners – 9/24/2026

1st Winner: Cooper Zins

Seller: Maddison Gann

2nd Winner: Brenie Sorokack

Seller: Ava Stankavage

3rd Winner: Jennifer Curran

Seller: Brady Loftus

4th Winner: Matt Slackus

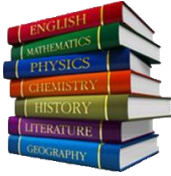
Seller: Maci Minrod

GREEN and GOLD Happenings!

In the month of November, we will be selling the Gift Card Calendars. If you would like to donate a \$25 gift card or make a \$25 donation, it would be greatly appreciated. We will be mailing out five calendars to each family to sell, but if you can sell more, please ask Mrs. Yaneck in the main office and she will get more for you. The cost will be \$10 each.

We are also getting ready for our big fundraiser – the \$20,000 raffle. Tickets are \$100 and only 550 tickets will be sold. If you are interested in selling them, please let Mrs. Yaneck in the office know. For every five tickets you sell, you will receive a chance to win a \$500 tuition award.

Gift cards are available in the Main Office during the day. This is a great way to help with your tuition aid.



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.

Attention New Students: If your student has a learning plan, please make sure that Nativity has a copy of the plan and a copy of the Evaluation/Reevaluation. Thank you.

If you have any concerns or questions about student support plans, please contact the school.

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.