

St. Francis Xavier Catholic School
200 N Washington
Junction City KS 64411
785-238-2841
www.saintxrams.org



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Fr. Gnanasekar Kulandai, Priest/Superintendent
Shawn Augustine, Principal

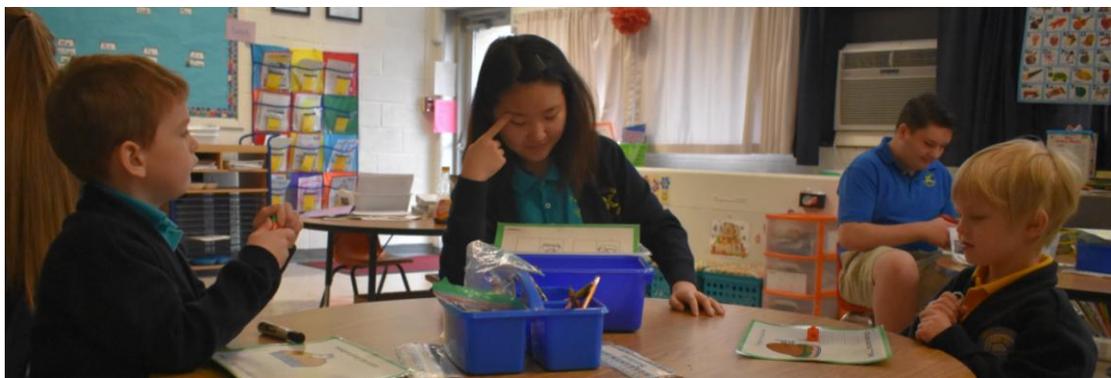
Welcome to St. Xavier Catholic Schools' Newsletter published by the High School Mass Communication Class. The Newsletter will be published several times a year with our purpose to inform you concerning personnel, students, and events at St. Francis Xavier Catholic School.

St. Xavier Students Conclude Spiritual Retreat By Participating In Service Projects

On Friday, November 22, as part of the annual Spiritual Retreat, high school students spent time participating in service projects. These projects included working around the school as well as spending time in classrooms working with students.

Some of the activities are highlighted in these photos.





November High School Student of the Month



Congratulations to our November High School Student of the Month—Leah W. She is a freshman.

Teachers state that Leah is poised, caring, and has impeccable character.

Keep up the good work!

November Teacher of the Month



Congratulations to our November Teacher of the Month—Kindergarten Teacher Mrs. Andrea Bortner.

Parents and colleagues say she has a bubbly personality, is willing to work with everyone, is caring and engaging. Excellent job, Mrs. Bortner!

November Middle School Student of the Month



Heston Janke was selected as the November Middle School Student of the Month.

Teachers state that he is a very conscientious student, caring toward others, and always striving to do his best.

Congratulations to Heston!

Student Thoughts On . . .

The St. Xavier students were asked to compose a short paragraph on one of the following topics:

My favorite thing about Advent is . . .

How does Advent make you excited for Christmas?

Some of our Advent traditions are . . .

A Christmas I remember . . .

My wish for all for Christmas is . . .

What Christmas means to me . . .

One of our Christmas traditions is . . .

Some responses from Pre K through Grade 6 students:

13 Little Ideas of What Christmas means. . . .



Advent

1. Santa delivers presents and I sing.

2. Playing in the snow and Santa comes and you get new presents.

3. Putting up a Christmas tree and making Santa Claus cookies and milk.

4. You get presents from Santa.

5. That we put up the decorations and eat Christmas pie.

6. Making snowmen and that's all I got.

7. Santa and the Christmas tree.

8. That you have to go to bed and Santa comes at night.



9. To decorate the Christmas tree and put socks on the wall where you put messages in for Santa.

10. A yellow bunny that jumps.



11. That we get lots of presents and toys.

12. Getting presents and getting candy in your stocking.

13. Toys and Santa.

Our wish for all for Christmas is:

*Everyone receives some gifts to play with and have fun.



*We wish for everyone to go to church and say thank you to Jesus for being born and sending St. Nicholas to our homes.

*We hope everyone gets happiness and has a great Christmas to spend it with family and friends.

*One last thing, we hope people spend more time with family and less time playing games. Love, from our class.

*I like Christmas because it is Jesus' birthday. Do you know why I like Christmas because the Bible says that Mary's journey was hard. And being able to make gingerbread with my Mom and family.



*It means that Jesus was born and saved us from sin. I am grateful for Santa Claus.

*I am thankful for family and friends. I am thankful for my life Jesus gave me. I am thankful for a school and class.

*I am thankful for Jesus Christ spending time with family and friends, the presents. I am thankful for food and water and mashed potatoes and gravy.

*Christmas means to me joy and happiness. Giving rather than getting. And spending time with my family during the holidays. And also I am excited for making gingerbread houses.

*Christmas means to me my family and my gifts. My love for Mom and Dad and my pets.



*What does Christmas mean to me? To me, Christmas means giving, sharing, and praising God. Because Christmas is all about Jesus and family, which means no fighting with people or your siblings. And have an amazing Christmas.

*My favorite thing about Advent is that we have boxes that we put money in to give and help people. My wish for all for Christmas is that I hope they get to have friends and family there. Advent makes you excited for Christmas because they are getting ready for Jesus' birth.

*What Christmas means to me is family to celebrate Jesus' birth for saving us from sins.

*What Christmas means to me is that there are 4 parts: 1) Knowing that it is the birth of Christ. 2) Celebrating the fact that you are with family. 3) Waking up your parents and telling them that Santa came. Last and finally least 4) Having fun opening gifts and giving gifts with family.

*To me, Christmas means Jesus' birth. How it was so special that our savior was born. Christmas might also be my favorite holiday, not just because of presents because Jesus is the best gift of all.

*What Christmas means to me is getting together with family and celebrating. Some of the things we do is cook dinner the night before Christmas. Then after we are done we go to bed and in the morning we open gifts.

*A Christmas I remember is when I woke up at 5 am too excited to sleep in. I woke up my brother(s) and sister(s), went downstairs, and started opening presents. I got a RC car and a Nintendo Switch. It was a great Christmas.

*My favorite thing about Advent is going to my grandma's house at the end of Advent. The adults do a gift exchange while the kids play outside. Before the gift exchange we eat a big lunch. At six o'clock we eat dinner. The next day we go to Mass. Sometimes my family stays for lunch. We go back home after that.



*Christmas is fun time of giving and celebration of Jesus' birth. It's very special and we share presents and spend time with our family.

Responses from Grades 7-12

*My wish for all of Christmas is to enjoy a moment of celebration, enjoy the warmth of a fireplace and Christmas is not always for presents. Christmas is a time for all family to get together enjoy a feast, drink egg nog, bake cookies, and set up your stockings for St. Nicholas.

*My favorite thing about Advent is that basketball season has started. Another thing I favor about Advent is that Christmas is close. I like opening presents from "Santa Claus."

*On Christmas Day in 2014, I was packing up luggage with my mom and sister...I could not wait to see my dad and friends again. I hope time goes fast so I can spend Christmas with my family.

*One of my family's Christmas traditions is on Christmas Eve we go over to my mother's parents' house. We have dinner with them, and then open our gifts from that side of the family, and sometimes my dad's older sister joins us as well. Before hand we will have made different types of Christmas cookies. It is fun to get together with family, usually including my grandparents and great grandparents.

*One of our Christmas traditions is going to the new Star Wars in theaters. Ever since I can remember, every time a Star Wars has come out on Christmas, we were there or at least watched one of the old ones on DVD. Even on rare occasions when relatives or one of my brothers came to visit, we would just get an extra ticket.

*Two years ago, my grandparents, my cousin, and I went to Silver Dollar City in Missouri. On Christmas morning we did Secret Santa, so we put each others' Christmas gifts under the little Christmas tree (I still don't know how this place had this adorable tree in the cabin). After we did that, we went to Silver Dollar City and came back to the cabin. That evening we had wonderful dinner together and opened our gifts.

*One of my family traditions is we get to open one small present on Christmas Eve. After we open our small present, we are anxious for Christmas morning. We are so thankful for all of our presents we receive.



*What does Christmas mean to me? Well, to me, Christmas is a holiday that family comes together and spends time with each other. Christmas is a time where all the grudges and past dramas go away and everyone laughs and has a good time being around family and friends.

*Several years ago, I was in Florida, visiting Universal Studios and Walt Disney World Resort. Even though it was Christmas, the weather was perfect and nice enough to wear shorts. It was a great time to spend a Christmas with my people.

*One of our Christmas traditions is when all of my family gathers under one roof and plays card/board games. All the kids (if they are old enough) join in on the fun. If everybody behaves, my mother will make dessert for everyone. One Christmas Eve, we are allowed to open one of our presents and it has to be the smallest.

*One of my Christmas traditions is opening one present on Christmas Eve. My mom only lets me touch one and only one. The one that I touch is the one that I have to open. You can't pick one up and then put it down. That's not how this works!



*Advent makes me excited for Christmas because I get to spend time with my family. What Christmas means to me is that you get to spend time with the ones you care about.

*Christmas means to me a time when I get to celebrate and spend time with my family. Christmas is normally the time of year my aunt and uncle come back for a visit from Japan. I always have fun celebrating with my family, even if they drive me crazy.

*My favorite thing about Advent is it means I can start counting down the days until Christmas. Advent makes me excited for Christmas because of the Christmas songs. Christmas means to me is that you get to meet new people and spend time with family.

*A Christmas I remember was the night before we were at my grandma's house and while we were there about 4 inches of snow fell on Christmas Eve. So we just stayed at her house that night. Another reason I remember that Christmas is because I got to see my cousin who we don't see that often. The last main thing I remember is that I got to stay up longer that night playing cards.

*A Christmas I remember is when I got a rabbit. My rabbit's name was Thumper--like the rabbit in Bambi. Thumper was always a cutie; he was such a nice Christmas present. I wish I still had him; he went to heaven but he was the best present I ever got from anybody in my family. Just think whenever you ask for something small, you might just get it; but you should always be thankful for what you get.

*Christmas means new life. It's close to New Years and New Years means change to me. Christmas shows bright lights and snuggles up against a warm fire with marshmallows and hot chocolate.



*Some Advent traditions in my family are opening the chocolate Advent calendar where each day a new window is opened and we eat the chocolate in it. We also light the Advent candles each Sunday and leave it in the center of the table. Our last Advent tradition is our meal after Advent is over.

*A Christmas I remember was the Christmas from last year. We spent the entire year saving, and it finally paid off. We spent the Christmas in Florida with my mother's side of the family. I will never forget taking our Christmas photos on the white Florida sand.



*To me, Christmas means to give. My favorite part of Christmas has always been watching the faces of my family when they open up my gifts. Christmas wouldn't be the same if I didn't give to others.

*One of my family's favorite Christmas traditions is every year on Christmas Eve, we have pizza for dinner. This has been a tradition my family has done since dad was a little boy. We look forward to doing this tradition every year.

*My wish for all is for them to have time to spend with family. Even those who can't be with immediate family should be around people that love them. Hopefully, this is achieved.



*A Christmas I remember was when I was about 10 years old. I remember this Christmas because a very special person to me died recently--my granddad. He would always make hot chocolate and milkshakes for us. I remember one time I was sleeping on the couch and I caught my granddad putting Christmas presents under the tree. He made a very bad excuse that saying he was Santa's helper; of course, I believed him and went back to sleep. The reason why I remember this certain Christmas Day is because he would always make a Christmas Day fun and cheerful with him around. I don't feel sad anymore about it because I know he will always be here watching over me as I get older.

*A Christmas I remember is when we went to several states. . . . I was especially snowed under with gifts and didn't know how to react. It was exhilarating even though I had to say farewell to my friends. . . . While wishing I will get presents, I want to give presents as well.

*My fondest memory of Christmas would probably be when I was 6 years old. For months, I had wanted nothing but a box of cars. Well, I woke up really early on Christmas morning and walked out into the living room and saw what I thought was Santa putting the presents under the tree. So I ran back into my room and got into

bed as fast as I could and went back to sleep. . . . I got up and went out into the living room to see what I had gotten. Sitting in the middle of the room was a bright red power wheels Mustang. . . .



*A Christmas I remember was when the "celebrations" lasted from Christmas Day to New Year's Day. . . . We planned to celebrate our Christmas with our grandmother. We were going to spend the whole week leading up to Christmas with her but . . . she didn't expect us to be there that early. . . . We spent a day with her and decided to leave one of my siblings there for the week. . . . Christmas

morning felt slightly off because it had been a really long time since I celebrated Christmas with her, but it was wonderful. . . .



St. Xavier Catholic School's Photo Gallery



Logan G. and Henry E. getting the rebound.



Veterans Day presentation--high school students listening to Captain Bortner.



Coach Stramel planning a Rams' play.



First and second graders listening to Veterans Day speaker.



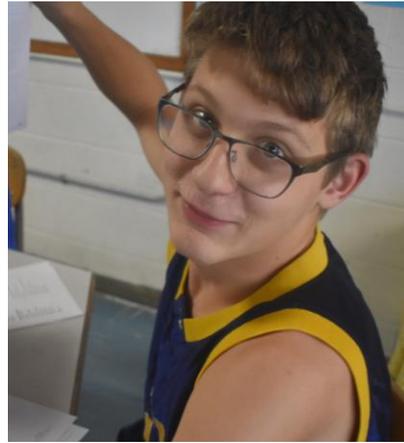
Santa Claus is comin' to town!



Go boys Go!



Pre K working hard on their project.



Spanish student at work!



Student is encouraging others to vote for dog as favorite pet. Choices were dog or cat.



Learning about fire safety from Junction City fireman.

**EDUCATING FOR ETERNITY THROUGH
FAITH & REASON.**