



THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you well as we move forward into another exciting week here at Notre Dame Academy. I wanted to take a moment to share some important updates and highlights from our community.

First, I'd like to extend a huge congratulations to three of our seniors, Anna Blair, Emma White and Chanduni Herath, who have been named National Merit Semifinalists! This is a prestigious honor and a testament to their hard work, dedication and academic excellence. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments and look forward to seeing them continue in this prestigious competition. Join me in wishing them the best as they move forward in the process.

In addition to celebrating our students' successes, we are excited to announce our new Direct Admit partnership with Thomas More University. This ground breaking program offers a guaranteed admission path to Thomas More for our NDA graduates. Beginning with the Class of 2025, this opportunity provides a streamlined college admission process and ensures continued access to faith-based higher education. It's a fantastic way to support our students as they transition into the next phase of their academic journeys.

I also want to remind everyone that we will be holding Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 22 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. These will be held virtually via Zoom, and sign-ups will be available through MyConferenceTime next week. This is a great opportunity to connect with your daughter's teachers and discuss her progress.

Lastly, October 1st is a significant day in Notre Dame Academy's history, as it marks the foundation of the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame. This annual event is an opportunity for our community to come together in gratitude for the countless gifts the Sisters have bestowed upon us. We invite you to join us on October 1st for Giving Day, as we celebrate this legacy and support the future of Notre Dame Academy. Your contributions will help ensure that our mission of empowering young women through faith-based education continues for generations to come. Together, let's make a lasting difference.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to provide an enriching and empowering environment for all our students. Have a blessed week ahead!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



CAMPUS MINISTRY



Mary Rose Mission
TO LOVE AS GOD LOVES



CONTINUING OUR DISCUSSION ON POVERTY CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Last week in Catholic Social Teaching we continued our discussion on Poverty, by exploring what poverty in the NKY/Cin area looks like. Students took part in an online simulation where they had to make it through a month meeting challenges that many people face when living in poverty. We also welcomed Cindy Carris from the Mary Rose Mission and Karen Zengel from St. Vincent De Paul NKY to share about how their agencies serve the local communities and how our students can help.



JOIN US

UPCOMING LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

On October 1st we will celebrate Foundation Day as a whole school community. This is a day when we celebrate the founding of the Sisters of Notre Dame of Coesfeld, Germany. We will celebrate mass together at 9:30 am in the gym.



SERVICE REQUIREMENTS FOR SOPHOMORES EXPECTATIONS AND UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Last week, Mrs. Price met with all of the Sophomore Religion Classes to review the Sophomore Service Requirements and to answer any questions. A full list of Service Requirements can be found [here](#).

Students are reminded that all service work, Blue and Gold, must be direct service with non-profit organizations. [Here is a list](#) of all upcoming service opportunities that have been called into the Campus Ministry Office. This list is updated each week and students can access it on the Padlet.



ATTENTION NDA COMMUNITY

PLEASE NOTE:

We will NOT have mass this Friday, Sept. 27 in the chapel as Fr. Kunath is out of town.

Student Life

CONGRATULATIONS

NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

We are thrilled to announce that three of our amazing NDA seniors, Anna Blair, Emma White and Chanduni Herath, have been named National Merit Semifinalists! This prestigious honor recognizes their exceptional academic achievements, dedication, and hard work.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) has announced the names of more than 16,000 Semifinalists in the 2025 National Merit® Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have the opportunity to compete for one of 6,870 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$26 million, which will be offered next spring. Semifinalists must advance to Finalist standing by fulfilling additional requirements, and about 95% are expected to become Finalists. Of those, about half will win a National Merit Scholarship and earn the Merit Scholar® title.

Join us in congratulating Anna, Emma, and Chanduni on this incredible accomplishment and wishing them the best of luck in the next phase of the competition!



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

FRESHMAN HALLOWEEN DANCE

Get ready for a spooky night of fun! On Friday, October 11, we'll be hosting a Halloween Dance with the freshmen from Covington Catholic. Here are the details:

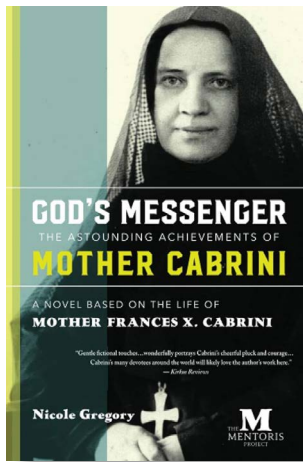
Time: 8:00-10:30 p.m. (Arrive by 8:30, and no one leaves before 10:00)

Place: Upper level of The Gardens next to CCH

Who: Only NDA and CCH freshmen (no other schools or grades)

What: Wear your best costume (everyone does!), enjoy fun decorations, prizes, food, drinks, and a DJ!

Tickets are only \$5 (cash only) and must be purchased in advance. Mrs. Monohan will be selling tickets during lunches next week and at other times to be announced.



A LOOK AHEAD

COMMON READER AND FOOD TRUCK DAY

Two amazing NDA traditions will be combined once again this year. Mark your calendars for October 17 when we will hold our annual Common Reader Day in conjunction with the Student Council planned Fall Food Truck Day. Students should watch for more information and be sure to finish reading our common reader titled, *God's Messenger, The Astounding Achievements of Mother Cabrini*. The English classes have enjoyed incorporating this common reader into their fall instructional plans.

STU CO NEWS

LEADERSHIP

STU CO NEWS

Student Council Freshman Representative Applications were due on Monday. We will elect 8 Freshmen to represent their classmates throughout the school year on Monday, September 30. We look forward to having some freshmen join in the leadership roles throughout the school!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MOTHER/DAUGHTER DANCE!

Mark your calendars for November 22, our Mother / Daughter Dance. A great deal of help is needed to make this night a success. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Lisa Timmerding at timmerdingl@ndapandas.org.

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

GOOD LUCK PANDAS

PLEASE VOTE

Please take some time to vote for some of our very own successful athlete: Abby Carnes. She helped the Pandas finish in second place in the team standings at the Midwest Catholic Championships with a 14th place finish in 20:17.

You can vote [here!](#)

Please be sure to vote from your phones and vote once every hour.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DAY OFF FOR STUDENTS

On October 11, students will have the day off as our faculty and staff dedicate their time to a day of service, fully embracing our mission to make a meaningful impact in the world by serving others. Please be sure to mark your calendar!



Parent/ Teacher Conferences

October
22

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 22 PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

We are pleased to announce that Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on October 22 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. via Zoom. This is a great opportunity to connect with your daughter's teachers and discuss her academic progress. Sign-up details will be available through MyConferenceTime starting next week. We look forward to meeting with you and working together to support your daughter's success.

CLUB ORIENTATION

SHOWCASING OUR ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

This Friday, our students will have the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic assembly where our activities and clubs will be showcased for our students. At NDA, we offer 38 clubs and activities to our students. Drug Free Club, Green Dot, LIFE Club, Healthcare Professionals Club, and Investment Club are just a sampling of the opportunities offered to our girls. This assembly showcases each one, advertises their mission and goal, and informs the girls about their meetings. After the orientation, the students can complete a form to show their interest in the various clubs and activities that are offered. At NDA, the girls are challenged to take healthy risks, attempt new things, and branch out as they grow through their high school years.

Join the
Club!

CORRECTION ISSUED AFTER ERROR

EMERGENCY MESSENGER SYSTEM TEST

On Thursday, September 19, NDA conducted a scheduled test of our new emergency messaging system, PowerSchool School Messenger Communicate. Unfortunately, an incorrect message was inadvertently sent out during the test, causing some concern. A correction was sent immediately following the error, and we are happy to report that the issue has been resolved. Fortunately, this occurred after school hours, but we sincerely apologize for any confusion or worry this may have caused. Moving forward, we are confident the system will operate correctly to ensure effective communication during emergencies. Thank you for your understanding.





NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Bambootique

PANDA SPIRIT WEAR! BAMBOOTIQUE

Get the best deals on Panda spirit wear in the Bambootique! Take a look and shop online [HERE](#).



IMPORTANT INFORMATION WEEKLY LUNCH MENU

A hot lunch and salad bar will be available for purchase each day at our NDA cafeteria. You can find a menu price sheet as well as this week's lunch menu [HERE](#).



REALITY TUESDAY CAFE

GOURMET
COFFEESHOP

Panda Student Discount

SHOW YOUR STUDENT ID FOR 50% OFF ANY
DRINK MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS IN
OCTOBER



Happy Hour 3p- Close

50% OFF BAKED
GOOD ITEMS

BUY ONE
SPECIALITY DRINK,
GET ONE HALF OFF

\$2 OFF LUNCH
SANDWICH OR SALAD

COMING IN OCTOBER

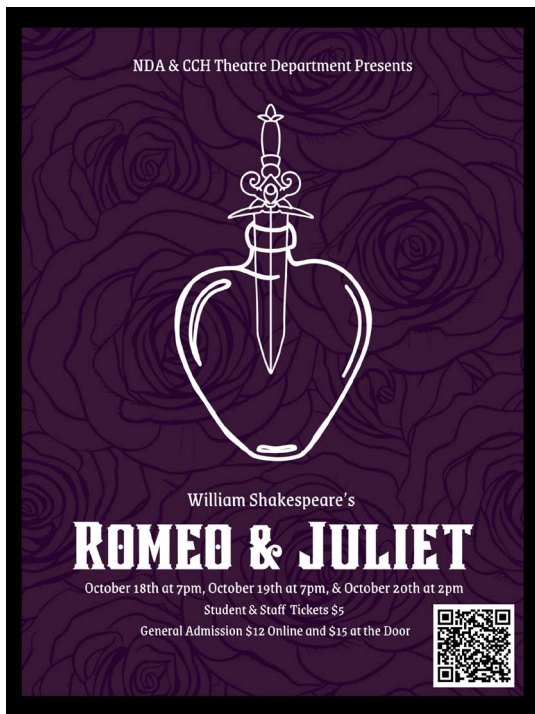
SPECIAL STUDENT DISCOUNT

Exciting news! Reality Tuesday will be offering Notre Dame Academy students a 50% discount on drinks every Monday and Friday throughout the month of October. It's the perfect way to kick off and wrap up your week, so don't miss out on this great opportunity to grab your favorite drinks at half the price!



SHADOW DAY ST. PIUS X 8TH GRADERS EXPERIENCE NDA LIFE

On September 24, 8th grade students from St. Pius X School had the opportunity to experience "The NDA Life" during their shadow day, where they explored campus, participated in classes, and got a firsthand look at what it's like to be a Panda.



NDA AND CCH PRESENT SHAKESPEARE'S ROMEO AND JULIET

An age-old vendetta between two powerful families erupts into bloodshed. A group of masked Montagues risk further conflict by gate crashing a Capulet party. A young lovesick Romeo Montague falls instantly in love with Juliet Capulet, who is due to marry her father's choice, the Count Paris. With the help of Juliet's nurse, the women arrange for the couple to marry the next day, but Romeo's attempt to halt a street fight leads to the death of Juliet's own cousin, Tybalt, for which Romeo is banished. In a desperate attempt to be reunited with Romeo, Juliet follows the Friar's plot and fakes her own death. After a series of misfortunes and woe, the pair of star-crossed lovers take their lives.

Friday, October 18 at 7 p.m.
Saturday, October 19 at 7 p.m.
Sunday, October 20 at 2 p.m.

[BUY TICKETS HERE](#) - \$5 student tickets

PLEASE NOTE!

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.

EXCITING NEWS HELP US REACH 50 DONORS!

If we can reach a total of **50 donors by October 27**, NDA will receive a \$500 grant! Every donation counts, whether it's at our school or any Hoxworth location. We are still eligible for this Hoxworth grant, so please spread the word and encourage others to donate. Let's work together to meet this goal and secure valuable funds for NDA.

Let's continue to make a positive impact and help save even more lives in our community!

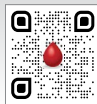
SUPPORT SCHOOL CHOICE VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT 2 THIS NOVEMBER

There will be an important piece of legislation on the ballot in November supported by the Bishops of Kentucky, a state constitutional amendment – Vote YES on Amendment 2.

For many years Ky. families have been advocating for school choice to no avail. This may be Kentucky's last chance to join the rest of the nation!

The amendment does NOT propose or authorize any school choice program now, it simply keeps the door open for future programs when Kentucky's ready. Learn more about the amendment and ways you can get involved in supporting its passing at <https://covidio.org/YesOnTwo>.

Schedule Donation
hoxworth.org | (513) 451-0910



FUN FACT

**THE
AMENDMENT
BILL PASSED
ON MARCH 15,
2024**

EXCITING NEWS



GOOD NEWS!

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY & THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY LAUNCH HISTORIC DIRECT COLLEGE ADMISSION PARTNERSHIP

Notre Dame Academy is thrilled to announce a groundbreaking partnership with Thomas More University, offering direct admission for NDA graduates starting with the Class of 2025. This innovative agreement, signed on September 12, 2024, will provide a streamlined path for NDA students to continue their education at Thomas More, the Catholic university of the Diocese of Covington. The NDA Class of 2025 will be the first to benefit from this program, which guarantees a seamless transition into higher education for eligible students.

The partnership between Notre Dame Academy and Thomas More University reflects the long-standing relationship between the two institutions, both rooted in Catholic values and dedicated to empowering young women. NDA, founded in 1906 by the Sisters of Notre Dame, has been a beacon of academic excellence for women in the Diocese of Covington. Similarly, Thomas More University, established in 1921 to provide higher education for women and Catholic school teachers, continues to lead in faith-based education.

“This partnership allows us to extend the mission of Notre Dame Academy and provide a seamless transition for our graduates into a university that shares our values of academic excellence, service, and faith,” said Jane Kleier, Interim President and Chief Communications Officer of Notre Dame Academy. “We are proud to collaborate with Thomas More University to offer this opportunity to our students, and we are confident it will further prepare them to make a positive impact in the world.”

To qualify for the direct admission program, NDA students must meet academic and disciplinary requirements, release their transcripts to Thomas More at the end of their junior year, and opt into the program by completing a short online profile. This initiative eliminates the stress of the traditional college application process, offering students a clear path to further their education in a supportive, Catholic environment.

“This partnership strengthens the bonds between our two historic institutions, while honoring our shared legacy and the values of a Catholic, faith-based education. This announcement today expands the work of Thomas More University to reduce barriers and increase access to Catholic higher education,” says Thomas More University President Joseph L. Chillo, L.P.D.

In addition to guaranteed admission, NDA students will benefit from professional development opportunities for their teachers and staff through Thomas More University. Thomas More’s School of Education will offer annual professional development sessions, reinforcing the commitment to academic rigor and excellence shared by both institutions.

This historic program is the first of its kind between an all-girls Catholic high school and a university in the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky area. It further strengthens the relationship between NDA and Thomas More, offering students and their families new opportunities for academic and personal growth. Through this collaboration, NDA and Thomas More will continue to empower future generations of leaders who are grounded in faith, service, and academic excellence.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Soccer - Soccer had a hard fought against rivals Highlands with an outcome of 0 - 0 tie. We played Beechwood on Monday and won 4 - 0 . We have three matches left in the regular season. We play Bishop Brossart on Wednesday Sept. 25th, Campbell County on Saturday Sept. 28th and finish with St. Henry on Oct. 5th (senior night)



Golf - The Golf team has had 2 great events. They finished second at the NKAC championships and then followed it up with a second place finish at the Region 7 championship. Next they will head to the first round of the KHSAA State Championship on Oct. 2nd.



Volleyball - Our volleyball team had some great wins against an Ohio State rival St. Ursula. This week they are busy playing Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy, Holy Cross and Cooper this week before heading out to Chicago for the Asics Challenge. Currently the team is 13 - 2 as we look towards the later part of our schedule.

Cross Country - The Cross Country team had another great weekend with wins in the Senior Run, Midwest Championships and JV race. The team is really coming together and looking forward the Saturday Night Lights event this weekend.



NOMINATION TIME ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Please submit any nominations for our 2025 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony [HERE](#) by October 31. We'll announce the inductees in mid-November 2024, and the Hall of Fame ceremony will take place in the first week of February. Stay tuned for more details!

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



STAY INFORMED WITH THE PPC

JOIN THE NDA PANDA PARENT CLUB TO SUPPORT AND CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

The Notre Dame Academy Panda Parent Club (PPC) is an opportunity for parents, organized by the Student Services Department, to learn more about topics and information to support families in navigating pressures and concerns our students face daily. It is designed to help enhance communication between parents and the Student Services Department and to occasionally coordinate volunteering opportunities and community events to provide support for the school's educational goals. Meetings will be bi-monthly and information regarding presenters and topics can be found here.



Upcoming meetings:

September 26, 2024 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall -

Erin Stanley will be presenting on The Effects of Drugs and Alcohol on the Teenage Brain and Legal Consequences. Our Diocesan SRO Ted Edgington and the Commonwealth Attorney Rob Sanders will also be presenting at this meeting.

November 21, 2024 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall -

Debbie Zegarra from Ethan's Purpose will be presenting on suicide prevention and parents will be trained in QPR (think CPR but for mental health emergencies). See the flyer to the left.

*** PLEASE NOTE: These meetings are for parents only. Students will get this information via Drug Free Club and other education initiatives through DFC throughout the year.**

We want to hear more from you about topics you, as a parent, would be interested in learning more about. Please complete the brief survey [HERE](#) to help us better support you!

ETHAN'S PURPOSE;
MY STORY ISN'T OVER YET

SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING
QUESTION
PERSUADE
REFER
Three steps anyone can learn to save a life!

OBJECTIVE
QPR is an evidenced-based training providing practical and proven suicide prevention strategies for work, school, at home and in your community. Upon request, our QPR trained associates will schedule a presentation to provide certified training at your school or workplace.

WHAT TO EXPECT
Through lecture, slide presentations and videos, you will learn:

- suicide prevention data and needs;
- how to recognize the warning signs for someone at risk for suicide;
- to increase knowledge of intervention skills and how to question a person about suicidal thoughts;
- referral resources and services
- how to persuade someone to get help and how to refer the person for help;
- common myths of suicide.

BENEFITS

- Reduce suicide;
- Offer HOPE to someone in crisis;
- Early recognition of warning signs to avoid a crisis situation;
- Help save a life!
- Certification

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT GOOD MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION!
To schedule a training presentation contact patty@ethanspurpose.org

SUICIDE AT A GLANCE
Suicide is one of the leading causes of death in the United States;
Over 49,000 people died by suicide in 2022;
1 death in every 11 minutes;
13.2 million people seriously thought about suicide;
3.8 million made a plan for suicide;
1.6 million attempted suicide.

ETHAN'S PURPOSE FOUNDATION

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

QPR INSTITUTE



SENIORS SHARE INSIGHTS

FRESHMEN GAIN ADVICE ON ACADEMICS, FRIENDSHIPS AND NAVIGATING NDA LIFE

Last Friday, September 20, after freshmen took the CERT test, they were able to listen to a panel of seniors speak about their experiences as NDA students. The seniors passed along wisdom about multiple topics including friendships, how to do well academically, reaching out for help if you need it, and how to walk on the right side of the hallway to keep traffic flowing smoothly!

DRUG FREE CLUB - JOIN TODAY!

“MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE EASY”



The time is NOW to sign up for Drug Free Clubs of America (DFCA). Drug Free Club is the largest club at Notre Dame Academy, with over 400 members last year. It offers confidential drug testing, education, school and community rewards, positive reinforcement, student leadership opportunities, parent support, and a safety net when dealing with drug situations by saying, “I can’t, I might be tested.” Parents can obtain more information and complete online applications on the Drug Free Club website found [here](#). For more information about how Drug Free Club works at Notre Dame Academy, please reach out to school counselor Erin Maggard at maggarde@ndapandas.org.

COLLEGE
REP VISITS

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

NDA COLLEGE VISIT SCHEDULE

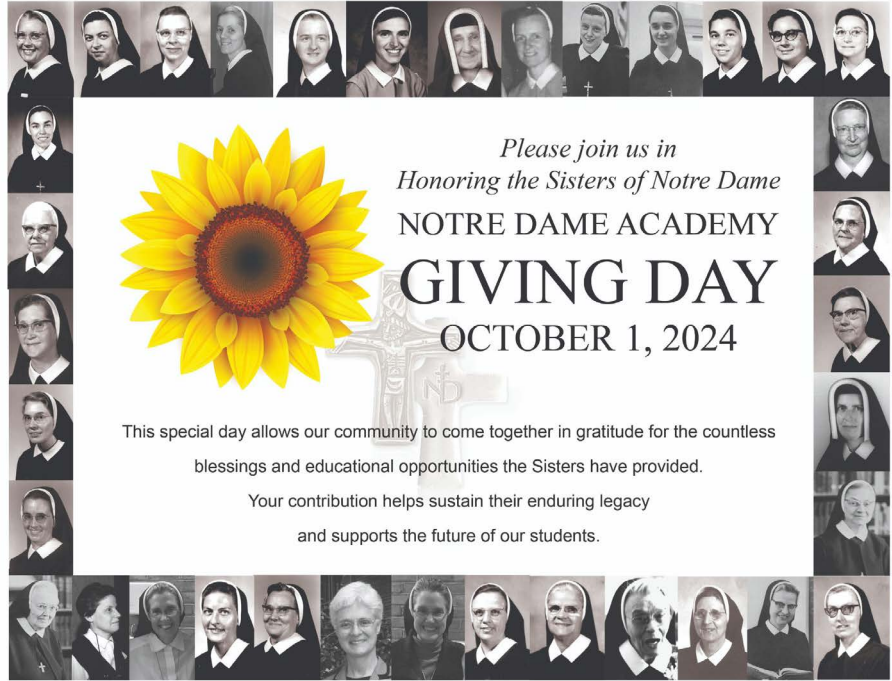
[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of college visits specifically for NDA students/families. The visits are in the hallway outside the cafeteria. All students are welcome to visit the reps.

ADVANCING THE MISSION

CELEBRATING GIVING DAY HONORING THE LEGACY OF THE SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME

Giving day is October 1st! This is an annual event that honors the foundation date of the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame.

October 1st 1850 is when our founders, Hilligonde Wolbring and Elisabeth Kuhling became Sr. Maria Aloysia and Maria Ignatia, beginning the Sisters of Notre Dame order Coesfeld, Germany. This special day serves as a celebration of our sponsors and an opportunity for our community to come together in gratitude for the numerous gifts bestowed upon us by the Sisters of Notre Dame. We will be celebrating as a school community on October 1st as we carry forward this legacy of our founding Sisters by offering a premier education the young women of our region, made possible through the generosity of our NDA alumnae, families, and friends.



Please join us in
Honoring the Sisters of Notre Dame
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
GIVING DAY
OCTOBER 1, 2024

This special day allows our community to come together in gratitude for the countless blessings and educational opportunities the Sisters have provided.
Your contribution helps sustain their enduring legacy and supports the future of our students.

We invite you to join us as we collectively strive to make a difference through this Giving Day. Please support Notre Dame Academy and ensure that our tradition of excellence in education continues for generations to come.

[CLICK HERE to make a donation to NDA's Annual Fund in honor of the Sisters of Notre Dame](#)



PRESENTED BY
PERFORMANCE LEXUS
NORTHERN KENTUCKY

11.16.24 | 6:30-10:30 PM | The Grand Ballroom

You're Invited!

Cocktail Hour | Dinner | Open Bar | Auction & Raffles

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Did you miss your grade level Gift Gathering Party?

Shop our
amazon Wishlist
HERE



You're invited to the
Sophomore Parent Gift Gathering Party
Thursday 10.03.24 7 pm - 9 pm
The Views Clubhouse - 1250 Grays Peak Covington, KY 41011

All items donated benefit Notre Dame Academy's Fall Fundraiser Light the Night for NDA. Presented by Performance Lexus Northern Kentucky.

- Gift cards to local restaurants
- Rare bourbon
- Entertainment / Sports Tickets
- Contribute to larger gift card raffle with a cash / Venmo donation

Party Hosted By:
Charity Kirtley

RSVP here 





You can find a complete list of community news. [HERE](#).

- St. Tim's Mission Trip
- YES on 2
- Hero Night

Important dates

September 26	Rosary in Chapel 7:45 a.m. St. Agnes/Prince of Peace Shadow Day Panda Parent Club Meeting 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
September 27	Rosary in Chapel 7:45 a.m. Club Orientation
October 1	Foundation Day Mass and Accreditation Celebration
October 3	Green Dot Bystander Training NDA Information Night for Potential students
October 6	Golden Girls Mass and Luncheon
October 7	Non-Feeder Shadow Day
October 8	NHS Induction Ceremony
October 9	Super Day
October 11	NO SCHOOL - PD -Faculty/Staff Service project NDA/CCH Frosh Halloween Dance
October 14-16	Senior Retreat
October 15	Freshman Retreat
October 17	Common Reader Day
October 18	Picture Re-Take Day
October 18-20	Romeo and Juliet
October 22	Parent/Teacher Conferences via Zoom NDA Information Night for Potential students
October 23	Alumnae Coffee Shop
October 25	Graduate Services - Senior Meeting
October 29	Senior College/Career Visit OR ACT
November 1	NO SCHOOL - All Saints' Day
November 5	NO SCHOOL - Election Day
November 10	Open House
November 16	Light the Night for NDA
November 27	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
November 28-29	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break