

JANUARY 2026



NEWSLETTER



ISSUE NO.
TWENTY-TWO

WESTSIDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

Dear Lord, please give me...

A few friends who understand me and remain my friends;

A work to do which has real value, without which the world would be the poorer;

A mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail be not blazed;

An understanding heart;

A sense of humor;

Time for quiet, silent meditation;

A feeling of the presence of God;

The patience to wait for the coming of these things,

With the wisdom to recognize them when they come.

Amen.

IN THIS ISSUE



WESTSIDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

UNITED IN FAITH & COMMUNITY

Week
Sunday, January 25 - January 30

<p>SUNDAY</p> <p>We celebrate our Parish</p> <p>Join us at the 10:00 am Mass at Saint Boniface as we celebrate the gift of a Catholic Education</p>	<p>MONDAY</p> <p>We celebrate the Evansville Community</p> <p>Dress as your future self (what will you be when you grow up?) *No sweats or jeans*</p> <p>Thank you cards & trail mix delivered to first responders</p>	<p>TUESDAY</p> <p>We celebrate our students</p> <p>A comfy day: sweats and jeans allowed *no pajamas* (8th grade can change after the Diocesan Mass)</p> <p>Friendship feast at Saint Agnes Movie & popcorn in the afternoon</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <p>We celebrate our Country</p> <p>Uniform bottoms with red/ white/ blue tops</p> <p>1:30 ALL School Rosary & Benediction at Saint Boniface</p>	<p>THURSDAY</p> <p>We celebrate our Vocations</p> <p>Uniform bottoms with house shirts</p> <p>8:00 ALL School Mass at Saint Agnes 9:00-10:15 House Meeting 5:00-7:00 Come and See Night at Saint Agnes</p>	<p>FRIDAY</p> <p>We celebrate our families</p> <p>Dress as a novel character or a story book character</p> <p>10:30-11:30: Open House (visit classrooms) 11:30-12:00: Join us for lunch *reservation needed* *continued below*</p>

FRIDAY CONT.

12:00-12:30: Play with us
12:30-1:30: Family activity in your child's classroom
1:30: Optional dismissal time if you choose to continue celebrating with your family elsewhere

YOUTH FIRST PARENT AND CAREGIVER RESOURCES FOR RESILIENCY



Youth First is empowering parents with monthly talks

January 2026

"Talk. They Hear You."

**Topic: Parenting in a Digital World:
Navigating the Challenges & Opportunities**

Read the full article [here](#)

DIOCESAN REPORT AND INFORM POLICY

[Policy Link](#)



A MESSAGE FROM PTO

Happy New Year, WCS Families!

Thank you to all who volunteered to help with school events last semester! You are appreciated! There are more activities coming up this semester with the first being another staff luncheon at the end of the month for Catholic Schools Week. Please check the link below and sign up to cover any shifts you will be able to help with. If you haven't yet completed safe environment training, contact the school office at either campus to get this taken care of. As always, volunteering is a great way to get to know both your student's teachers and classmates and other school families! Also, if you weren't able to get coverage for your families shifts during the Fall Festival, volunteering for other events is a way your family can still support the school!

[WCS Volunteer Second Semester Sign Up](#)



**FATHER
CHRISTOPHER DROSTE**
PASTOR

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

The first major blockbuster movie that ignited my sense of wonder as a child was E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial. Ironically, the Netflix series Stranger Things has once again captivated the attention of everyone, particularly our youth. It's intriguing why the 1980s are once again considered prime time for mysterious creatures to descend upon Earth. However, I believe there's something profound about our collective imagination's desire to either confront or befriend these strange entities in our universe. I'll delve deeper into this topic in my homily this weekend, so if you're interested in hearing more, I'll see you then!

FEATURED 8TH GRADER

HENRY ZENTHOEFER

What do you like best about WCS:

Kickball tournament and bowling party

Favorite Sport: Football

Favorite Food: Chicken Parmesan

**What do you want to be when
you grow up:** Software developer



Most of the fliers are “clickable” on the PDF version of the newsletter and will direct you to a larger image of the flier, the associated website, or the forms that are needed.

JANUARY 2026

ISSUE NO. TWENTY-TWO

ST. HILDEGARD SYMPOSIUM

Speaker Line-Up

January 31, 2026 | 8:00 am | Griffin Center, University of Southern Indiana

For More Information & Register eaglecatholic.com/symposium

Early Bird Registration until January 3, 2026
Faculty/Person - Regularly \$25 (faculty, staff, community members)
Student - Regularly \$20 (students with a current college ID)

American Labor Movement
Speaker: [Name], Indiana University
Topic: Foundations of Catholic Social Teaching. Discover how labor workers' rights, unionization, and the American labor movement principles of human dignity.

Schuermann's Medieval Latin Epoch
Speaker: [Name], Evansville African American Museum
Topic: Schuermann's reading of Meister Eckhart in *Broken Hegemonies* for those oriented towards healing and service, participate in the divine life. By re-examining the medieval Latin era through a feminist lens, Vyvoda centered scholarship and demonstrates how incorporating women's voices understanding of medieval religious philosophy.

Dental Chair
Speaker: [Name], Chair of Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene Programs, USI
Topic: Education reveal the presence of God's beauty within the ordinary realities of those oriented towards healing and service, participate in the divine life. As inherent in dental hygiene and education assume a contemplative call to service to the Body of Christ. Work can become sacramental when we face where personhood and vulnerability meet.

HOLY FIRE

INDIANAPOLIS

Sat., February 28, 2026 - 5:00am to 7:30pm
Pike Performing Arts Center
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

A Collaboration of Evansville Parishes
Holy Redeemer, St. Boniface, Corpus Christi, Resurrection, St. Philip, St. Joe Co., St. Wendel, St. Francis Xavier, Good Shepherd, Holy Rosary, St. Benedict, Annunciation, St. John the Baptist - Newburgh, St. John Evangelist - Daylight

For 6th, 7th & 8th Graders!

Noelle Garcia, Brian Greenfield, Most Rev. Charles C. Thompson, Giancarlo Bernini

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! ARCHINDYYM.COM/HOLY-FIRE

Hosted by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

★ WANTED ★

VOLUNTEERS

REWARD
Help our child's school!
Get to know other parents, students and the teachers!

There are many opportunities available for help!
Please ensure your CMG Connect Safe Environment training is up to date. If you need assistance, contact either campus.

ALL YOUR HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

★ **WCS Volunteer Link** ★

INDIANA YOUTH RALLY FOR LIFE

JANUARY 22, 2026

9:00AM - YOUTH RALLY FOR LIFE
11:30 AM - MASS FOR LIFE
INDIANA CONVENTION CENTER - SAGAMORE BALLROOM
LUNCH, PRE-MARCH RALLY, & MARCH THROUGH DOWNTOWN TO FOLLOW AFTER MASS

FEATURING
MOTHER OLGA
AND THE NICO CABRERA BAND

Ascension St. Vincent

SPONSORED BY THE DIOCESES IN INDIANA
OPEN TO ALL 8TH - 12TH GRADE STUDENTS & ADULT CHAPERONES

WESTSIDE WILDCATS

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

MARCH 14 & 18, 2026

[FACEBOOK.COM/evvwestsidewildcats/](https://facebook.com/evvwestsidewildcats/)

7U TRYOUT QR CODE **8U TRYOUT QR CODE**

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF THE WEST SIDE OF EVANSVILLE INVITES STUDENTS IN GRADES 6TH-8TH

ICE SKATING

@ Swonder

JANUARY 17, 2026 **\$10 PER PERSON**

INCLUDES ADMISSION TO PRIVATE RENTED RINK, SKATE RENTAL - CONCESSIONS AVAIL. FOR EXTRA COST

4:00-6:00PM

CASH/CHECK ACCEPTED. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OUT TO YOUR PARISH

SWONDER ICE ARENA || 209 N. BOEKE RD.

RSVP: BY JAN. 15 TO YOUR PARISH CONTACT

****DIOCESAN EVENT PERMISSION & MEDICAL FORM REQUIRED****

CORPUS CHRISTI: CECILIA REISING
HOLY REDEEMER: MARY JO KEEN
RESURRECTION: AUBREE BEYER
ST. BONIFACE: JENNY MAYER

ST. JOE: JESSICA RECKELHOFF
ST. PHILIP: MARY WEEGER
ST. WENDEL/ST. FRANCIS XAVIER: SHERIE COOLEY

Mater Dei High School CHEER CLINIC

CLINIC DATE: Sunday, January 25th
TIME: 1 PM-3 PM
LOCATION: Mater Dei High School Main Gym

PARTICIPANTS WILL PERFORM DURING THE VARSITY GAME @ HALFTIME ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 27TH. GAME STARTS @ 7 P.M.

PRICE: \$35- CASH OR CHECK ONLY

SCAN ME

MATER DEI CHEERLEADING

FOR CLINIC UPDATES & REMINDERS: FOLLOW US ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

7TH AND 8TH GRADE GLOW DANCE

Friday, January 23rd
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
St. Joe Catholic School
Gym Doors
6130 W St Joseph Rd

ADMISSION \$5.00

A valid school ID must be presented for entry into the dance.

Glow bracelets will be available for purchase at door.
\$.50 per bracelet

KEEPING YOUR KIDS SAFE ON ROBLOX



Step 1 - The Setup: Link Your Accounts

The "Gold Standard" for Roblox safety is linking your parent account to your child's. This allows you to monitor activity and change settings remotely.

- Create a parent account: Sign up for your own Roblox account if you do not have one.
- Verify your identity: You will need to verify you are an adult using a government-issued ID or credit card. This "Parent Privilege" prevents kids from simply changing the settings back.
- Link the Accounts: In the Parental Controls section of your settings, select "Add Parent" (or respond to the link request sent from your child's account).

[Parental Controls Overview - Roblox Support](#)
[Roblox parental controls guide | Internet Matters](#)



Step 2 - Key Safety Settings to Toggle

Once linked, you can manage these 4 "pillars" of safety from your dashboard.

PDF LINK OF FLYER

A. Communication

Roblox now uses Age-Based Chat. By default, users under 9 years old have chat turned OFF unless you specifically enable it.

- Experience Chat: Set this to "No One" or "Friends" to prevent strangers from messaging your child during a game.
- Platform Chat: For kids under 13, direct messaging outside of games is now disabled by default.
- Trusted Connections: A new 2026 feature that allows you to "whitelist" specific people (like siblings or cousins) so they can chat even if they are in different age groups.



B. Content Maturity Labels

Roblox no longer uses "Age Recommendations" (like 9+ or 13+). Instead, the use Content Labels.

- Minimal: Safe for all (no violence/ blood.)
- Mild: Light cartoon violence.
- Moderate: Includes realistic violence or "crude humor."
- Restricted: Requires parent permission; may contain more intense themes.

Pro tip: Set your child to "Minimal" or "Mild" to ensure they aren't stumbling into "horror" games or social "hangout" spaces that aren't age appropriate.



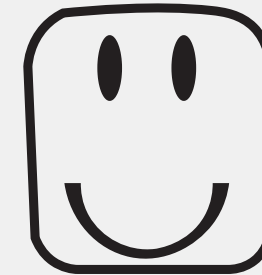
C. Spending Limits

To avoid "bill shock" from Roblox purchases:

- Set a Monthly Spend Limit. Once reached, no more purchases can be made until the next month.
- Enable Spend Notifications so you get an email every time they buy something.

D. Screen Time Controls

You can now set a Daily Time Limit (e.g. 2 hours.) When the timer hits zero, the app automatically locks the child out until the following day.



Step 3 - Monitoring & Reporting

Even with settings locked down, it's good to keep an eye on what they are doing.

- Top Experience: Your dashboard shows the top 20 games your child played in the last week. If you see a game that looks suspicious, you can block that specific game entirely.
- Friends List: You can view who your child is "friends" with on the platform and remove anyone you don't recognize.
- Reporting: Teach your child the "Red Flag" rule. If someone asks for their real name, address, or the move the conversation to Discord/ Snapchat, they should use the 'Report Abuse' button (the small Roblox logo in the top left of any game).

Step 4 - Helpful Monitoring Apps

If you want a layer of protection beyond Roblox's built-in tools, these third-party apps are highly rated:

- Bark: Monitors for "high-risk" language or bullying and send you an alert.
- Qustodio: Excellent for seeing exactly how much time is spent on the app and setting "dead zones" (like Roblox during homework hours.)
- Google Family Link/ Apple Screen Time: Best for blocking the app entirely at bedtime.

Other Resources

These go beyond Roblox and cover Tiktok, as well as others.

- [Connect Safely](#)
- [Keep Children Safe Online: Information, Advice, Support - Internet Matters](#)



MADE FOR MORE

with **CHRISTOPHER WEST & MIKE MANGIONE**

Brought to you by Holy Redeemer and St. Boniface Parishes & The Theology of The Body Institute

February 5, 2026

7-9:30 PM

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church

MADE FOR MORE is an inspired blend of teaching, live music, and art that taps the deepest desires of the human heart revealing their ultimate purpose and goal. Want to be inspired by beauty and the wisdom of the Church? Join Christopher West and Mike Mangione as they offer a vision of the Gospel like you've never heard through the lens of Saint John Paul II's Theology of the Body.

Tickets are on sale now and are limited! Grab your tickets today in the parish office or online at <https://aftontickets.com/M4MIN>. Tickets are \$25.



Please contact Amy Schroeder at jimandamyschroeder@gmail.com or Abby Zenthoefer at abbyzenthoefer@gmail.com if you would like more information.

Check out the promo video at the link below

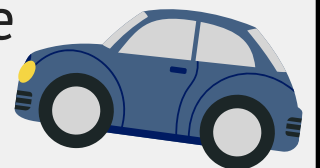
<https://vimeo.com/251850893>



REMINDER

If you have a transportation change for your child, you need to **call the office** to inform them.

If you only send a message to the teacher, it could be missed.



conGRATulations

SYMPHONY OF COLOR COMPETITION WINNER

Marshall W. in 1st grade wins the Symphony of Color competition in his category (1st grade). His artwork will be projected on a big screen during the January 17th concert at the Victory Theater.

He also receives three tickets to attend the concert, a certificate, and \$50.00. Congratulations Marshall!



"MY SPARK MOMENT" ESSAY CONTEST RUNNER UP

We are excited to share that one of our students was recognized in the Junior Achievement "My Spark Moment" Essay Contest! After reviewing many inspiring submissions from across the area, JA selected essays that truly captured the impact of their programs.

Congratulations to Chloe W. in 8th grade, who earned 2nd Place in the contest! We are so proud of her for sharing such a meaningful Spark Moment. Way to go, Chloe!





**SAINT AGNES
CHURCH**

THURSDAY - 8:00 AM
SATURDAY - 4:30 PM

SCHOOL MASSES



**SAINT BONIFACE
CHURCH**

TUESDAY - 8:00 AM
WEDNESDAY - 5:30 PM
SUNDAY - 10:00 AM

GROTTO

SATURDAY - 8:00 AM



**SACRED HEART
CHURCH**

MONDAY - 7:30 PM
FRIDAY - 7:30 AM
SUNDAY - 7:30 AM

LATIN MASS

SUNDAY - 12:00 PM

ADORATION TIMES

MONDAY - 6:30 PM SACRED HEART
FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH - 8:00
AM - 5:00 PM - SACRED HEART

SAINTBONIFACEPARISH.ORG

UPCOMING DATES

- MLK Day No School - January 19
- Second Participation Partnership Meeting - January 22
- Kick off Mass for Catholic Schools Week & Change for Change Mass- January 25
- Catholic Schools Week - January 25-30
- All School Mass at Saint Agnes - January 29
- Come & See Night - January 29
- Lent Family Activity after 10am Mass - February 8
- Science Fair - February 10
- 5th Grade to Soup Kitchen - February 11
- No School (snow make up) - February 16
- Mardi Gras party - February 17

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Scarlett Oldham - 2
- Troy Lockett - 3
- Beckett Farmer - 4
- Jael Atwood - 5
- John Atwood - 5
- Eli Van Hook - 9



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

- Leann Helmer - 10
- Braven Klingaman - 11
- Mr. Rust - 21
- Adler Bordelon - 26
- Annaleigh Hollis - 28
- Lacey Fisher - 29

ONE FAITH. ONE FAMILY. ONE FUTURE.