

# St. Aloysius Catholic School

PO Box 522, Gilbertville, MA 01031



The Birds of Prey performance on March 7th received rave reviews! Wildlife rehabilitation expert Tom Ricardi is such a wealth of knowledge. Students learned all about the various hawks, owls and the eagle he brought with him, explaining to the group all about their habitats and how our own actions can best protect the birds. We thank the Hardwick - New Braintree Cultural Council, part of Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, for providing the grant that allowed us this experience!



On April 10, Grades 4-8 will visit the American Heritage Museum in Hudson. We thank the PTO for sponsoring the bus for this field trip.



**Help us spread the Word!** The Knights of Columbus Council #183 will be holding a Chicken Barbecue at St. Mary's Church Hall on May 10, 2025 from 1-4 pm to benefit our school. A flyer and ticket order form will go home with your youngest child next week. In addition to a yummy lunch, there will be music by DJ Brian, a grand prize offering, raffles and face painting for the kids! Please consider attending this event to support our school. Tickets must be purchased by April 30, 2025 and are also available online at <https://www.staloyuscs.com/support/k-of-c-barbecue/> . If you know of anyone interested in donating to our raffle baskets or becoming an event sponsor, please have them reach out to Roberta at [rmcquaid@staloyuscatholicsschool.com](mailto:rmcquaid@staloyuscatholicsschool.com)



Our Annual Fund Drive is wrapping up! With just 6 days to go we have raised a whopping \$53,840, surpassing our \$40,000 goal! It will be exciting to hear what we raise over these next few days and what our match will end up being. Please help to spread the word to your friends and family for this final push. No donation is too small and every little bit will help us address the rising costs of operating the school. Donate online at <https://www.staloyuscs.com/support/> or by mail to the address above!

On April 7, 2025 we will host another **Open House** from 3:30-5:30. Invite your friends and family to come and tour our wonderful school, see what would be their child's classroom and meet our engaging faculty. Applications are available online at <https://www.staloyuscs.com/join-our-family/application/> . **Financial Aid** determinations through the Roman Catholic Diocese of Worcester are usually sent out to those families who applied, sometime in late April / early May.

### The Mission Statement of St. Aloysius Catholic School

St. Aloysius Catholic School is traditional in its teaching and understanding of Catholic doctrine. With a foundation built on faith, rooted in the incarnate love of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we are dedicated to challenging each student through the following: innovative academics, developing good character, cultivating a spirit of charity for the community, supporting the family, and fostering a deep love for Jesus. Our ultimate goal is for each child to be set on a path to be the very best person that our Lord created them to be.

## Faith Formation *with Ms. DiPietro*

The forty days of the Season of Lent exist so that we can prepare ourselves well to pray the three days of the Easter Triduum. The term Easter Triduum might not sound familiar to you, however, you are very familiar with it. The Triduum is our annual three day celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Many people when asked what three days are included in the Triduum will respond: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday; clearly, four days rather than three. But the days of the Triduum are counted according to the Jewish custom of measuring days from sunset to sunset. The first day of the Triduum goes from sunset on Holy Thursday to sunset on Good Friday. The second day begins at sunset on Good Friday and ends at sunset on Holy Saturday. The third day is counted from sunset on Holy Saturday to sunset on Easter Sunday.



To prepare for the Easter Triduum and Easter we will explore each of the three days of the Triduum in the classes and also we will bring the classes over to the church to pray the Stations of the Cross.

### Happy April Birthdays!

Thea - K      Lachlan -Gr 3      Jackson - Gr 5      Finnegan - PS  
Nicholas - Gr 5      Victoria - Gr 2      Gabriel - Gr 2      Sebastian - PS

*May the Lord bless you on your birthday and always!*

## From the Desk of Nurse Debbie

### Playground Safety

Playgrounds provide important opportunities for children to explore their environments, develop skills for play and gain confidence. They are also exciting places for children to be outdoors and active, and to make friends.

Despite these great benefits, playgrounds are also common places where kids get hurt. Each year, more than 220,000 children under age 14 are treated in hospital emergency rooms across the United States for injuries occurring on playgrounds.



There are several things that parents and caregivers can do to help make the playground safer for children. This includes providing strong supervision, ensuring that equipment is free of potential hazards, and steering kids to age-appropriate play areas.

## Art

Upper grade Art classes are working on long term sculpture projects. In younger grades, we're welcoming April with Spring themed art!

## Music

In music class, we're working on playing as an ensemble in all classes (boomwhackers for K - 3 and recorders for 4 - 8). Spring brings new Romantic Era facts and hopefully days we can go outside for classes!

## French

**Pre-K** - Tying shoes, colors & numbers 1-5. **K** - The 5 Senses and numbers 1-10. **Gr 1-3** - [Unit 1](#) - Expressing likes and dislikes. **Gr 4-5** - [Unit 2](#) - The Family - Listening and reading activities. **Gr 6-7** - [Unit 3](#) - The City - Listening and reading activities. **Gr 8** - [Unit 6](#) - Daily routines and reading activities.

## Science Exploration

We will continue spring exploration on the trail; plant growth and observations of migratory birds coming through! If the weather is inclement we will do experiments in the classroom.

## Gym

This month in gym we will be playing capture the flag and dodgeball weather permitting. Games will be held inside when the weather does not cooperate.