



GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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December 13, 2024

“Made for Greatness”

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Benefactor, Friend, and Alumni of Gibault Catholic High School,

“GAUDETE SUNDAY” THIRD WEEK IN ADVENT Rejoice! Advent is half over (4 Sundays). In this week’s Messenger, in the Bishop’s Column, we are told the *Madonna and Child* by Giovanni Battista Salvi da Sassoferrato has been selected to become a U.S. postage stamp -- 210 million of them! In this Madonna and Child, Mary’s eyes are not fixed on Jesus but looking outward to us. Mary makes eye contact with us! Mary is our human thread to the Divine. Let Mary draw us all into the miracle of Bethlehem. Jesus wants to make eye contact with us too! Use the Sacraments and know God stays with us in Sacred Scripture, in prayer, in each other, and in the Eucharist. Make eye contact! Our God is relational!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT What a delightful evening! As a small school, our talent gets to shine brighter as Mr. Ruppel finds a way and our motivated students work extra hard on their initiative to help us smile through the Arts! Mr. O’Brien was a shining star as he shared his talent on the piano and of course, there is always Clement Moore with “The Night Before Christmas”. We are so proud of our Band, Chorus, Hawkapellas, Jazz Band, and Mr. Ruppel! Thanks for the punch and cookie party afterwards and all who set up and restored.



VFW'S VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST ALEXA CROWE was presented First Place in the Voice of Democracy Contest this week. Her essay will move on to the District Level competition. As first place winner, Alexa read her essay *A Republic if You Can Keep It* to the guests. Do yourself a favor and listen to it through the link provided. Congratulations Alexa! We are so proud of you!

https://gibault-my.sharepoint.com/personal/slanham_gibaulthawks_com/_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fslanham%5Fgibaulthawks%5Fcom%2FDocuments%2FAttachments%2FIMG%5F9644%2Emov&ct=1734104533895&or=OWA%2DNT%2DMail&cid=23d248c7%2D34b5%2D998d%2D0016%2Df38e7c7e829a&ga=1&referrer=StreamWebApp%2EWeb&referrerScenario=AddressBarCopied%2Eview%2Ed60e2317%2D1531%2D4862%2D9a5c%2D9e132a44ac0b

YOUNG WOMEN OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS Congratulations to **Gabby Vause** who was selected for the Women's Leadership Initiative sponsored through the office of Illinois State Representative David Friess. This is a mentorship program that connects female high school students with female leaders in our community. They meet monthly for mentorship meetings to develop the students' leadership skills, core values, and goals. Check out Gabby on the website!

Congratulations to **Sophie Winkeler** who was nominated for the Illinois Council on Women and Girls, and I learned today that she was chosen for it. This council "advises the Governor and the General Assembly on policy issues impacting women and girls in the State." Sophie is now one of 19 female high school students in the entire state serving on the Girls Committee of this council. We are #gibaultproud of these two girls and their accomplishments!

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST *Well Begun is Half-Way, Half-Done.* We will hold a second Placement Test on January 10th at noon here at Gibault. Contact Mrs. Pam Kueker at pkueker@gibaulthawks.com. Please help us recruit. Opportunity lives here! We give your child roots and wings!

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SENIOR NEIGHBORS The Gibault community wrote Advent/Christmas greeting cards this week to be delivered next Tuesday. Our brothers and sisters stuck in the prison of a nursing home, totally dependent on others for everything, serves as a great reminder to us to enjoy the Great Now. Getting old is good. Being old is not good. Our hearts hurt for them, but they uplift us when we visit or send them a card. We all have little things we do this time of year where we reach out or donate or even get together with the lost sheep in our own families. Prepare the way of the Lord. It is through others! Relationships!

ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS Alumni, we want to hear from you! Any weddings, engagements, new babies, achievements and awards...please send to Klair Krebel – kkrebel@gibaulthawks.com.

WOMENS VARSITY BASKETBALL This week the Women's basketball team hosted Belleville West. It was a close score of 44-41, however, BW took the win for the game. Next week we will be hosting the Candy Cane Classic. Here is the schedule:

2024 GIBAULT CANDY CANE CLASSIC December 16, 17, 18, and 21, 2024. Pool Play
Pool A: Red Bud, New Athens, Columbia. Pool B: MEL, Riverview Gardens, Gibault
December 16, 2024, 6:00 pm New Athens vs Columbia, 7:30 pm Gibault vs Riverview Gardens
December 17, 2024, 6:00 pm Red Bud vs New Athens, 7:30 pm Gibault vs Metro East Lutheran
December 18, 2024, 6:00 pm Riverview Gardens vs MEL, 7:30 pm Columbia vs Red Bud
December 21, 2024, 10:00 am - Pool A 3rd place team vs Pool B 3rd place team, 11:30 am - Pool A 2nd place team vs Pool B 2nd place team, 1:00 pm - Pool A 1st place team vs Pool B 1st place team

MENS VARSITY BASKETBALL The Men's Basketball team traveled to New Athens earlier this week and lost by a score of 61-53. Last weekend the Trico Tournament wrapped up and Ryan Biffar was named to the Trico All-Tournament Team. Congratulations, Ryan! The Men's Basketball team has their first home game tomorrow, tonight against Waterloo. Let's fill the gym with cardinal red!

HAWK BOWLING TEAM The Hawks Bowling Team traveled to Cahokia this week for a good match against the Comanches!

TEDDY BEAR TOSS On December 20th you can throw new and tagged stuffed animals on the court for donation to St. Louis Children's Hospital sponsored by our HOPE FOR TOMORROW Club. There is a box in the front office for collection or your homeroom or Mrs. LeSaulnier's room if you can't make the game. Thanks for the comfort for children in need.

BASEBALL WINTER CAMP The 5-8 grade baseball camp is December 26-28 from 9:00-11:30am in the Fr. Hustedde Gymnasium. Use the link: <https://igfn.us/form/A6ySXg> or text "gibaultbaseball" to 41444 to register today!

SOFTBALL WINTER CAMP The 5-8 grade softball winter camp will take place December 26-28 from 1:00-3:30pm in the Fr. Hustedde Gymnasium. Use the link: <https://igfn.us/form/SBiBWQ> or text "gibaultsoftball" to 41444 to register today!

BOOSTER CLUB Gibault's Booster Club is looking for a few more chairpersons or officers to join their group! If you've ever worn the jersey or cheered on a Hawk, they want you to join! Are you interested? Stop by for their next meeting on January 9th at 6:30pm in the Innovation Commons.

ALUMNI BASKETBALL GAME Mark your calendars! There's an exciting event coming up. The Alumni Basketball Game is on January 11, 2025, at 7:45 p.m. in the Fr. Ed Hustedde Gymnasium. Make a night out of it. Watch the varsity basketball game at 6:15, the Alumni game follows. A reception will be held afterwards in the gym lobby. Interested in participating? Contact Dennis Rueter to register by January 6, 2025 – drhawks@charter.net

COOKIE WALK Sts. Peter and Paul is having their annual Cookie Walk this Saturday the 14th! Stop by the SPPCS Cafeteria from 8am-noon for sweet treats!

FUNDERWEAR GAME The Funderwear game is this Saturday, the 14th at 2pm in the Fr. Hustedde Gymnasium. Watch the SPPCS girls vs ICS, and stay for the boys' games. 3:15pm – SPPCS vs ICS, 5:15pm – JV Waterloo vs Gibault, 6:30pm – Varsity Waterloo vs Gibault. Can't make it to the game? Watch virtually: <https://youtube.com/live/Co0lah9ndXg?feature=share>

FUTURE HAWKS NIGHT FUTURE HAWKS, cheer on the Gibault Hawks at the varsity basketball game on January 10th! Run out onto the court with the Hawks, then take a seat in the Student section to cheer them on! Sign up today! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44AAAC28A5FEC16-53275203-future>

GIBAULT WEAR Crafted in the Loo is selling Gibault wear...grab a new piece today! They also have Ugly Christmas Sweaters and they're on SALE! <https://bit.ly/Loo-GCHS>

RAFFLEMANIA



Gibault Catholic High School
2025 Raffle-Mania
Tickets \$25 each with 10 grand prizes

It's time for the best Christmas gifts of the year - Raffle-Mania tickets!

Raffle-Mania is the only fundraiser required for all students at Gibault Catholic High School, and **each student** must sell **10 tickets***. Our goal this year is to sell \$50,000 of tickets. The tickets are \$25 each and can be sold through January 31st. The holidays are a great time to ask your relatives and friends to take a chance to win great prizes AND help your school. All tickets turned in by December 1st will have a chance at an early bird bonus drawing of \$250!

Tickets are only available online! Tickets can be purchased at <https://givebutter.com/rafflemania> which can be shared on social media. Buyers will have a space to designate a student/parent name. Please make sure buyers are entering a student or parent name, so that each student's progress can be tracked. Buyers can use credit cards, Venmo, Paypal, Apple Pay, Google Pay, or even checks!



GRAND PRIZES of \$5000, \$1000, \$500, and \$250, and 6 @ \$100
Prizes will be drawn on February 3rd

STUDENT INCENTIVES:

1. Dress down days:

- 25% of our goal by December 2nd, dress down on December 6th.
- 50% of our goal by December 20th, dress down January 7th – 10th
- 75% of our goal January 13th, dress down on January 17th.
- Meet or exceed our goal by February 1st, a week of dress down days TBD.

2. Top Seller: Sell the most raffle tickets and receive **\$100!**

Any questions? Contact Katie Robben at 618-939-3883 or krobben@gibalthawks.com

*unsold tickets will be invoiced to your account

CALENDAR

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on even Wednesdays during Club time.

XLT Adoration - Please join us in at Sts. Peter and Paul Church for our next XLT Adoration on Wednesday, **December 18 from 7 – 8 pm**. This form of Adoration includes contemporary Christian music, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Eucharistic procession in Church, reading and reflection on the Eucharist, a brief period of quiet Adoration, and Benediction.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12, God picks the lowly to do great things. What a story we have in St. Juan Diego and Archbishop Zumarraga and the Apparitions of Mary and the roses and the Tilma and millions of converts. The God we have in Jesus who came to take care of the lowly befits a Mother Mary who does the same. If you ever get to Mexico City, look at the Tilma. And look at Mary's eye and see the reflection of St. Juan Diego!

A PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Patroness of the Americas, you remind us not only of God's ongoing presence among us, but of that fact that God looks like us, talks like us and meets us where we are at. Guide us as we work to be attentive to the lowly in the way that you cared for Juan Diego and his family. Inspire in us his faithfulness and courage, that we, too, may trust in God's providence and care. Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us. Saint Juan Diego, pray for us. Amen —via Catholic Health Association

PRAYER LIST:

Let us pray for world peace and the understanding that working together and getting along with each other at home can ripple out to the world...We pray to the Lord.

Let us pray for Jozie, Adam, Jacob and all who are suffering from major health issues of mind and body...We pray to the Lord.

And please keep in your prayers . . .

-Ella Jackson has a lifelong friend, **Jack Higgins**, a Senior at Vianney. Jack is losing his battle with Bone Cancer. Jack's mother, Michelle, was also recently diagnosed with a Brain Tumor.

-Nora Wirth's grandmother, Bonnie has been in and out of the hospital.

-Izzy and Claire Schuchardt's grandfather, **George Demetrulias**. George has been in the hospital awaiting surgery

-**Darlene Niebruegge**, Gibault volunteer, Dan's mom and Drew and Evan's grandma. Darlene had surgery today.

-Pam Kueker's grandmother who was recently in the hospital.

-The intentions of one another this holy season.

-Oak Park Detective **Allan Reddins** was killed in the line of duty last week. In accordance with the Illinois Flag Display Act, we lowered our Flag to half-staff in his honor. Let us pray for the safety of all our first responders.

God always speaks to us right where we are! Gospel Lk 3:10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?"

He said to them in reply,

1 "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none.

2 And whoever has food should do likewise."

Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them,

3 “Stop collecting more than what is prescribed.”

Soldiers also asked him, “And what is it that we should do?” He told them,

4 “Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages.”

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ.

John answered them all, saying, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy of loosening the thongs of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

Thank you, Lord, for staying with us in Sacred Scripture!

Have a great weekend! Rejoice!

Sarah Lanham

Principal

Gibault Catholic High School

This is a great read on the power of this season. Our counter-cultural God turns the world upside down by fulfilling the Law. Our perspective of the God of the Old Testament is changed.

A New Vision of God Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

—Philippians 2:5–8

Brian McLaren shows how Jesus as the image of God changes our understandings of who God is:

The implications of the Philippians 2 passage are staggering. Simply put, God as known in the Christ is not the stereotypical Supreme Being of traditional “omnitheology.” That Supreme Being of Christian theology was characterized first and foremost by controlling, dominating, dictatorial power ... not limited by any law except the will of the Supreme Being Himself: omnipotence.

In sharp contrast, the God imaged by Jesus exerts no dominating supremacy. In Christ, we see an image of a God who is not armed with lightning bolts but with basin and towel, who spewed not threats but good news for all, who rode not a warhorse but a donkey, weeping in compassion for people who do not know the way of peace. In Christ, God is supreme, but not in the old discredited paradigm of supremacy; God is the supreme healer, the supreme friend, the supreme lover, the supreme life-giver who self-empties in gracious love for all. The king of kings and lord of lords is the servant of all and the friend of sinners. The so-called weakness and foolishness of God are greater than the so-called power and wisdom of human regimes.

In the aftermath of Jesus and his cross, we should never again define God’s sovereignty or supremacy by analogy to the kings of this world who dominate, oppress, subordinate, exploit,

scapegoat and marginalize. Instead, we have migrated to an entirely new universe, or, as Paul says, “a new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17) in which old ideas of supremacy are subverted.

If this is true, to follow Jesus is to change one’s understanding of God. To accept Jesus and to accept the God Jesus loved is to become an atheist in relation to the Supreme Being of violent and dominating power. We are not demoting God to a lower, weaker level; we are rising to a higher and deeper understanding of God as pure light, with no shadow of violence, conquest, exclusion, hostility, or hate at all.

We might say that two thousand years ago, Jesus inserted into the human imagination a radical new vision of God—nondominating, nonviolent, supreme in service, and self-giving.... Maybe only now ... are we becoming ready to let Jesus’s radical new vision replace the old vision instead of being accommodated within it. Could some sectors of Christian faith finally be ready to worship and follow the God that Jesus was trying to show them [and us]?

Reference:

Brian D. McLaren, *The Great Spiritual Migration: How the World’s Largest Religion Is Seeking a Better Way to Be Christian* (New York: Convergent, 2016), 92–93.

Jenna Keiper, *Untitled* (detail), 2020, photo, New Mexico. [Click here to enlarge image.](#) *God inhabits the rainbow of our being(s). We are all in God and God is represented in all of us, plant, human, animal, earth, star, light, dark.*