



The Latest Word

St. Perpetua School - Weekly Newsletter

December 6, 2023



Weekly Update from Mrs. Gotchet

This past Sunday at our monthly Rise & Shine Mass, St. Nicolas came to visit to share with our children about our call as Catholics during the Advent and Christmas seasons. St. Nicholas shared that "the truest gift of Christmas is the gift of self." As we get caught up in the busyness of the holiday season, let us take a moment to pause and think how we can be of service to others.

As you know, Pizza Thursdays are a huge hit with our students (and teachers, too!). Out of the 268 students enrolled at St. P's, we are averaging 215 pizza orders every Thursday. As you can imagine, with the majority of the school receiving pizza each week, it is a heavy lift for our parent volunteers - especially because we do not have a lead volunteer for Thursdays. We are looking for someone who can commit as the lead volunteer for our Pizza Thursdays beginning in January through May. Along with three other parent volunteers (and plenty of hands-on training), the organization and service will be so smooth and manageable for our parent volunteers. As it is said, "many hands make light work."

However, if we are unable to find a Thursday lead, unfortunately, we may have to cancel our Pizza Thursdays. (In November alone, we raised over \$4,500 which goes directly to funding field trips and special activities on campus for all of our students). Not only would we lose out on these additional funds, but our students (and teachers) would miss out on the pizza treat they look forward to each week!

This is something to think about as you begin to plan how you can be of service in 2024! If you are interested, please reach out to Kate MacGinley at katie.johnston@gmail.com for more information.

School Schedule and Calendar

Normal Bell Schedule

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays: 8:00 - 3:05pm
- Wednesdays: 9:00 - 3:05pm - Late start and mass uniforms
- Fridays: Cafe Perpetua 7:20 - 9:30am ~ unless stated as a 'No Cafe' day ~ (cash or check only). Students may wear St. Perpetua spirit-wear tops and uniform bottoms.
- [Lunch Schedule](#)

Next 10 Days

- Thursday, 12/7 - [community meeting for connecting Lafayette: downtown pathways and schools safety program](#)
- Friday, 12/8 - Cafe Perpetua is open 7:20 - 9:30
- Friday, 12/8 - 8:00 start / **school mass at 8:30** - Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Friday, 12/15 - Panther House Fun Friday after-school event (pre-registered kids only)
- Friday, 12/15 - last day to bring in Christmas [gifts for Youth Homes](#) recipients
- Friday, 12/15 - last day to order [Gryco student sweatshirts / outerwear](#)
- Monday, 12/17 - last day to contribute to the [Teacher & Staff Christmas Fund](#)

Other Important Dates

- Monday, 12/18 - last day to order [January SEEDs Pizza](#)
- Thursday, 12/21 - **Christmas Sharing Performances 10:30 - 11:45 / NOON Dismissal**
- 12/22 - 1/7/24 - Christmas Break**
- Friday, 1/12/24 - Diocese Professional Development Day (no school for students)
- Monday, 1/15 - Martin Luther King Holiday ~ no school

Monthly School Calendar

Christmas Fund Donations for Teachers & Staff

Dear St. Perpetua Families.....

The St. Perpetua parent community has a long-standing tradition of giving cash gifts for Christmas to our teachers and staff. This is our opportunity to show our gratitude to them for their dedication to our children, St. Perpetua and providing a Catholic Education. Every dollar donated goes directly the teachers and staff to soften the gap between themselves and public school compensation. Each year, we hope to show them how much they are appreciated with the most generous give.

So, as we are making our lists and checking them twice, let's remember to add the very special teachers and staff who enrich our students each and everyday!

If you wish to contribute to this gift, visit <https://stperpetua.ejoinme.org/teachers> or click the red link below below by December 17th.

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday!

The Parent Association

Christmas Fund
Donations



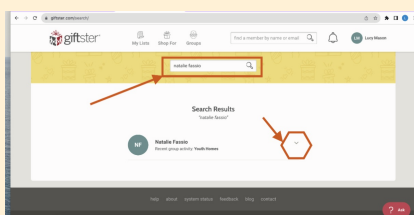
St. Perpetua's Christmas Outreach for Youth Homes

We will be supporting Youth Homes of Contra Costa County for our Christmas "giving tree" Outreach Project.

Only a few gifts have been selected/purchased as of today. There are younger children that are requesting items other than gift cards ~ please scroll down far enough on the recipient list to see Youth Homes residents that have smaller items that they are hoping to get from Santa.

Youth Homes is Contra Costa County's leading provider of trauma-informed programs for foster youth. Our giving focus is those children who have aged out of foster care and those who have suffered significant trauma and live in group homes rather than traditional foster homes. **We will be the sole source of Christmas gifts for these children.**

- Please deliver all gifts to the school Christmas tree **no later than Friday December 15th**.
- You can drop them off or have them shipped directly from Amazon, Target, etc.
- Please **DO NOT WRAP** your gifts and **please include who they are for** (e.g., "TS age 11").
- If you ship directly from a store you can include who the gift is for on the gift message.
- Reach out to [Lucy Mason](#) with any questions. Thank you!



How To Access the Wish Lists for Youth Homes Recipients:

Please use the following link:

<https://www.giftster.com/search/>

Once on the website, type "Natalie Fassio" into the

search bar. Once her name comes up, click on the drop down menu next to Youth Homes and you will see the wish list for each child.



January SEEDs Thursday Pizza Fundraiser

We will have our Pizza Fundraiser on THREE Thursdays in January. Orders need to be placed before we leave for Christmas break - **order deadline is Monday, 12/18**

[Pizza Order Link](#)



Order Your Student Sweatshirts & Outerwear

The Gryco order link is now open for you to order students sweatshirts, fleece jackets, rain jackets, etc. Don't miss this opportunity to keep your growing kids all set for the cold winter months!

Order link closes on December 15th!

[Gryco Order Link](#)

A Note From Monette Meo...

There are no truer words that are ever said, then it takes a village, and I am beyond belief blessed to have the best one ever! Thank you so much to all of the volunteers who made the Christmas Cafe and Boutique on Friday and Saturday such an incredible success!!

We are open this Friday, and if you didn't have a chance to shop at last week's boutiques, we still have plenty of amazing gift items for sale!

Love, Monette Meo



Christmas Sharing is coming soon!!

Mark your calendars for this heart-warming event on Thursday, December 21st.

The performance will take place in the Church beginning with the TK at 10:30 a.m. and finishing with our wonderful community sing-a-long of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Come early to get a good seat!

Hot Lunch ~ Wednesday & Thursday Leads Needed!

- 11:00 - 12:30 each Wednesday
- 11:00 - 1:00 each Thursday
- We're offering 35 hours for each Daily Lead Volunteer
- Kate MacGinley will be there to train you for the first week or two! It's not really all that different from what you've done in the past as a supporting volunteer, it's just that you have a dedicated day to serve hot lunch for the semester.
- Here is [brief description](#) of the role. Contact [Kate MacGinley](#) with any questions.



Panther House After-School Care

Panther House after school care is available. Please take time to review the [program details](#). If you are interested in enrolling your child(ren), please fill out the [enrollment form](#) (required for all students).

Submit forms via email to pantherhouse@stperpetuaschool.org.

[January Parent Calendar](#)

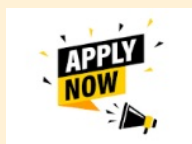
Junior High Service Hour Opportunities

We are proud of our Junior High students for their involvement in the community. Don't forget their 10 hours are due November 15th and there are [many opportunities](#) available.

- [Sign Up for Donut Service](#) at mass
- [Create Birthday Bags](#) for Monument Crisis Center
- [Monument Crisis Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [Youth Homes Organization](#)



[Service Hours Form](#)



Application for 2024-2025 School Year

[Application Link](#) for **NEW STUDENTS** interested in the upcoming school year

Contact Gretchen Trapp, our Admissions Director gtrapp@csdo.org for more information on class availability or to set up a tour.



Volunteer Opportunities and Links

We need your help at St. Perpetua. Please review the [volunteer participation agreement](#) and sign up now to complete your hours and get to know our wonderful St. Perpetua school community.

Sign Up Now to Volunteer

- [Hot Lunch Volunteers Needed](#)
- [Yard Duty Volunteer](#) - 2 required for each family
- [Crosswalk Volunteer](#) - 1 required for each family
- [Become an 'All Clear' volunteer](#)

[Log Volunteer Hours](#)

Important Links

- [Choice Lunch Service](#)
- [PowerSchool Login](#)

- [Family Directory](#)
- [Scrip Obligation & ordering information](#)
- [2023-2024 Parent & Student Handbook](#)
- [Faculty Directory](#)
- [Attendance Policy](#)
- [Uniform Policy](#)
- [Printable School Calendar](#)
- [Archived Constant Contact Newsletters](#)



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