

# ECHOES OF ANGELS

Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ...

## Room Parents

We are still in need of two more volunteers in rooms 101 and 801. Please email me if you can help. Thank you.

## Making Memories

This year's yearbook committee is already hard at work! They are looking for volunteers to take pictures at events that happen throughout the school year. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Denise Villalpando at [dmgriffin4@aol.com](mailto:dmgriffin4@aol.com). If you have any photos that they could use please send them digitally to [yearbook@holyangelsschool.net](mailto:yearbook@holyangelsschool.net). Thanks!



## Birds of a Feather

Just in case you haven't heard - our Boosterthon was so successful that I will be dressing in a chicken costume to lead the school in the chicken dance! Thank you to all of our generous donors for exceeding our school goal and raising over \$24,000.

## Grandparents "R" Us

Holy Angels School will be hosting Grandparents'/Grandfriends' Day tomorrow from 8:15 AM until 11:30 AM.

Mass starts at 8:15 in the church. Following Mass, all students will perform a musical program under the direction of Mrs. Taylor **in the church**. There will be refreshments in the narthex. Once the





## Run for Charity

The Knights of Columbus will hold their second 5K Mark Bancroft Run for Charity on Saturday, October 6. Entry fee for each runner is \$30 in advance and \$35 on the day of the race. For further information, please contact either Phil Brink at 630-947-9489 ([ptbrink@att.net](mailto:ptbrink@att.net)) or Rick March at 708-466-2593 ([richardmarch2@aol.com](mailto:richardmarch2@aol.com)). The registration link is <https://www.raceentry.com/races/mark-bancroft-memorial-runwalk/2018/register>.

## Late Night Catechism

Knights of Columbus 16660 are hosting Late Nite Catechism at Rosary High School on Saturday, October 6 at 7 PM. Tickets are \$30 and proceeds will benefit the Dominican Sisters of Springfield and seminarians of the Rockford Diocese.

## Come Holy Spirit

Blessings to our 8th graders as they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit on Sunday at 1:00.

**entire** program is finished, grandparents/friends will be released to the school to pick up the youngest sibling in a group. There will be HSA helpers offering rides in golf carts back to the school as well as helping to direct traffic into the school. Every child must be checked out with his/her teacher and receive a sticker to exit the building. This is an early dismissal day. There will be a restaurant fundraiser at Mother's for any grandparents who choose to take their child there for lunch. A portion of the proceeds for the day will be donated back to Holy Angels.

Finally, as much as we would love to accommodate all of our parents, due to the sheer volume of people, the Mass, musical program at church, and school tours are reserved only for our students and their special guest(s). Unfortunately, this means that parents should not plan on attending.

## For Love of the Game

This year we will be trying something different. Team and individual photos of our fall athletes (football, soccer, volleyball, cross-country, and cheerleading) will be taken by Feltes Photography at school on Wednesday, September 26. Order forms came home today, so please check backpacks. All athletes should plan to wear their sports uniform to school next Wednesday in lieu of their school uniform. Even if not purchasing pictures, please have your children wear their sports uniforms for the team photos.

## Dance to the Music

Junior high students are invited to attend the Fall Barn Dance on Friday, October 19 from 2:30-4:45 PM. Students are encouraged to wear their favorite western wear i.e., jeans, cowboy hats, boots, etc. Clothing must abide by the dress down day guidelines in the Parent Handbook. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Candy will also be available for purchase for \$1. Raffle tickets are available to win various prize baskets. These are 3 for \$1. All proceeds go to offset the cost of the 8th grade banquet. For more information contact Nicole Coffman ([thgoods@comcast.net](mailto:thgoods@comcast.net)) or Emily Anderson ([emilyanderson005@gmail.com](mailto:emilyanderson005@gmail.com)). Permission slips along with the \$7 admission fee are due on Wednesday, October 17.

## Buddies Not Bullies

We are pleased to announce that Jodee Blanco, an internationally

renowned expert on school bullying will be leading programming for our teachers, students, and parents. We are partnering with the following area Catholic schools: Annunciation, Holy Cross, St. Rita, and St. Peter in putting this bullying prevention program together.

Mrs. Blanco partners with the National Catholic Education Association and is the author for the NCEA's new Anti-bullying Survival Series. Her first title, [A Primer on Bullying Intervention: How to Save a Child in Crisis Using Core Catholic Values as the Catalyst](#) serves as a companion to her faculty workshops. Here is the outline for her presentations:

- Friday, October 5 - Mrs. Blanco will be conducting a faculty in-service for the staff of the five participating schools.
- Tuesday, October 23 - Mrs. Blanco will lead a 5th-8th grade program here with Annunciation and St. Rita students in attendance.
- Wednesday, October 24 - Mrs. Blanco will lead a K-4th grade program at St. Rita with Annunciation and Holy Angels students in attendance.
- Wednesday, October 24 - Parent/Family Seminar led by Mrs. Blanco at Aurora Central Catholic High School from 6:30 - 8:00 PM.

Mrs. Blanco's program includes a comprehensive twelve-themed follow up curriculum that keeps the message of compassion and forgiveness alive for the entire school year. This is an important and timely topic so please mark your calendars to attend.

## Early Bird Catches the...Ticket!

The early bird catches the worm and the best discount too! For a limited time only, Holy Angels School is offering an early bird discount for advance Seraphim Ball ticket purchases made during the month of October. The Seraphim Ball is the school's largest fundraising event. Student parents, educators, parishioners, and parish friends will enjoy an elegant evening - complete with dinner, dancing, cash raffles, live and silent auctions, and an open premium bar - all while supporting Holy Angels School. Tickets are regular \$100 per person but can be purchased through October for \$75 - a \$25 savings per person! The promotion will run from October 1 through 31, 2018. Standard tickets prices will apply after October, so purchase your tickets now while you still can at this reduced rate. To purchase tickets, visit <https://aesbid.com/ELP/SERAPHIM19/> or contact Cathy Medernach at 630-241-2284 or [sandcat86@yahoo.com](mailto:sandcat86@yahoo.com). We hope you'll take part in this fun-filled celebration of the Holy Angel's community.

On a related note, if you won an auction item from last year's Seraphim Ball, please be sure to use the certificates in a timely manner. We don't want to offend any of our donors by not using their gifts so that they don't offer to help us out this year.

### Next Week at a Glance

*Monday - Co-gat testing for grades 3, 5, & 7*

*Tuesday -*

*Wednesday - Sports Pictures*

*Thursday -*

*Friday - Mass 8:15*

*Hot Lunch*

*Saturday - Trivia Night 6:00*

## **Bringing Home the Faith**

Jodee Blanco experienced bullying throughout most of her years at Catholic schools in the 1970s. Teased, taunted, spat upon, Elmer's glue spitballs caked in her hair and snow shoved down her throat by two girls while three boys pinned her down are some of the painful memories that once made her wish she was dead. When her mom reported it to the principal, things only got worse.

After high school graduation, Blanco built a successful career as a Hollywood publicist, but the Columbine High School shootings in Colorado inspired her to make a difference in schools. She wrote her New York Times bestselling memoir, "Please Stop Laughing At Me ... One Woman's Inspirational Story" (Adams Media, \$14.99), and its sequel "Please Stop Laughing at Us ..." (BenBella Books, \$12.95). Blanco has presented her advocacy program "It's NOT Just Joking Around!" to more than half a million people during the last 13 years, including to hundreds of Catholic schools.

Blanco said her message of compassion and mercy fits perfectly with Catholic teaching.

"I advocate compassion for the bullies as being an important way to stop the behavior, and Catholic schools embrace that message." According to her, bullying occurs in every school. She said it has not changed over the years, but the weaponry has become more sophisticated. "Kids used to write a note in math class and pass it around to start a rumor," she said. "Now, a rumor is put out into cyberspace and in minutes, it reaches thousands."

"Bullying is about the desperate need to fit in run amuck," Blanco said. There are two types of bullying, according to her: the traditional bullies who push people around and those who use exclusion leading kids to think, "There's something wrong with me." Often, those who might be too easily labeled as the "mean, spoiled rich kids" are hurting too, Blanco said. "Getting everything they want is meaningless when their parents compensate for a lack of involvement by giving them everything they want but nothing of what they need."

Blanco admitted that it can be hard to feel compassion for the ones who hurt others, so she tells parents and school to ask questions. "If you are curious and find out as much about the bully's life as you can, you will often learn that they are in a horrible situation," she said. "And once you feel compassion for the bully, you will be better able to navigate a solution."

According to Blanco, the old clichés to just walk away or ignore bullies does not work. Compassionate discipline for the bully, she stated, helps them grow character and heart, and produces the best results. "First, we need to perform triage on the bullied child," she said. Her suggestions include helping a child identify interests and creating a social life where they can make new friends outside of school. As for the bullies, Blanco said to keep in mind that kids are motivated by a desperate desire to fit in. "Adults could see a reduction in bullying if they would remember this and change their approach," she said. For instance, she cautioned teachers never to chastise a bully in front of his peers but to instead discreetly extricate the victim from the limelight by asking for help or striking up a conversation. The goal, according to Blanco, is to seek to remember that bullies need support and then positive discipline.

“It doesn’t mean they get away with it,” she said. When she speaks at schools, Blanco asks students to consider if their own behavior has been hurtful and to tell a teacher or counselor when they see a classmate struggling to fit in or being maligned. An anti-bullying atmosphere is ultimately about compassion, she said. “Bullying isn’t just the mean things you do, it’s all the nice things you never do on purpose, like letting someone walk to class alone or sit by themselves at lunch, or choosing the same student last whenever you divide into teams in class or gym.” She asks students that when they see a classmate struggling to fit in or being maligned to tell a teacher or counselor. “It could change a person’s life,” she said.

(Our Sunday Visitor)

*Mass Times:*                      *Saturdays 4:30*  
*Sundays 6:45, 8:00 (Extraordinary Form, Latin, 1st & 3rd Sundays), 9:30, 11:00*

*Confession Times:*            *Sunday after 9:30 Mass*  
*Tuesday after 8:00 Mass*  
*Wednesday 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM*  
*Friday after 6:30 AM Mass*  
*Saturday after 8:15 Mass and 3:15 PM - 4:00 PM*

### **Mission Statement**

Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Holy Angels School is committed to spiritual formation, which nurtures the Catholic faith and inspires its practice. It is committed to academic excellence, which fosters the growth of each individual. Holy Angels School strives to meet the intellectual, social, and ethical challenges of living in a technological, global, and culturally diverse society.