



school.nool.us | August 30, 2018

NATIVITY
FAITH & REASON

THE KNIGHT TIMES



**WELCOME BACK
KNIGHTS!**



NATIVITY IN DENVER CATHOLIC / SUMMER ADVENTURES / NEW FACULTY & STAFF
NATIVITY FAMILIES PROGRAM / SUMMER BEAUTIFICATION

SCHOOL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

3 | Labor Day • *No School*

4 | Adam Ginther Cross
Country Invitational

5 | Picture Day

Back-to-School Night
(*Elementary*)

6 | Back-to-School Night
(*Middle*)

10 | Scholastic Book Fair Begins

15 | Broomfield Days

21 | Family Picnic

24 | Flag Football/Cross
Country Pictures

27 | Race for Education

28 | Professional Development
Day • *No School*
Tiger Run

CONTACT INFORMATION

Location:

900 W. Midway Blvd
Broomfield, CO 80020

Website: school.nool.us

Phone: 303-466-4177

With questions about
admission or to schedule
a tour, contact our
Director of Marketing,
Katie Mikesell.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday,
8:00am-4:00pm

Fax: 303-460-0391

Parish: 303-469-5171

 /nativityfaithreason

 /nativityfaithreason

FACULTY AND STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Pastor

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Associate Pastor

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Associate Pastor

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Published this week in Denver Catholic:

Nativity: Faith & Reason Emphasizes Religion as 'The Fabric of Life'

*Moira Cullings
August 27, 2018*

When Nativity Catholic School in Broomfield changed its name to Nativity: Faith & Reason, some parishioners were concerned it meant a backing away from the Catholicity of the school. Father Michael Carvill, the parish's pastor, assured them the opposite was true.

"The title 'Faith & Reason' comes from the encyclical letter of John Paul II *Fides et Ratio*," said Father Carvill. "It's something that St. John Paul II saw as a vital part of the way the faith has to present itself in the world."

Father Carvill hopes the name change will help the students realize something very special.

"The kids need to learn not that religion is something you do at certain moments, but they need to learn that it's in the very fabric of life, the Catholicity of the school has to be in the DNA of every moment," he said.

Nativity: Faith & Reason has big dreams for students who pass through its doors.

"We're hoping that slowly, the classroom becomes a more dynamic place of dialogue," said principal Holly Peterson. "It can't take place in a traditional education where I speak, you write, you learn, and you test."

This is Peterson's first year as active principal, and she brings with her an expansive background in education. Her hope is that Nativity will be a place where children are encouraged to ask questions, so they don't simply learn about the faith and the subjects they study, but they actually own and carry them throughout their lives.

Peterson is joined by seven new teachers and an all-new office staff. But the foundation laid by Kathy Shadel, who served at the school for 44 years as a teacher and eventually the principal, has helped the school transition smoothly into these changes, said Peterson.

The desire to focus on faith and reason came out of the archdiocesan symposium on education held a few years ago that encouraged school leaders to implement a value proposition, said Father Carvill. Rather than choose a classical or STEM approach, Nativity wanted to offer something different.

"We want to give [the students] a critical ability to question, verify and discover the truth for themselves of the proposals that we make to them," he said.

"It's only verified conviction that will carry the kids in a world in which everything is saying the opposite to the faith."

The school also wanted to fulfill needs families have today. Two important new offerings are before and after school care and a preschool, which were both created to alleviate families particularly where both parents work.

"In the 21st century, you're speaking to a different audience than when I began teaching 30 plus years ago," said Peterson. "We saw [those features] as necessary to meet the needs of our new families coming in."

The school is also accommodating students with a new look both outside and inside the building - fresh paint, logos and modern updates - that serve to create a sleek, welcoming environment.

Katie Mikesell, Nativity's Director of Marketing, is most excited about those updates, which she hopes will inspire the students to strive for excellence.

"It looks bright, and I'm excited to get kids in here and have that energy fill the hallways," she said.

Mikesell hopes Nativity will continue to be a home away from home for its students.

"It should feel that inviting," she said. "I'm really looking forward to getting them in here and showing off all the changes that have been made to make their educational experience better."

Aside from the positive environment, Peterson wants the students to feel cared for in an even more important way.

"We don't want the kids to be measured here according to what they're able to do," she said. "You're measured by the one who made you. You are a piece of the glory of God; you're a masterpiece of the glory of God, as John Paul would say."

"So, how can we help kids grow and learn in an environment where they feel safe, they feel loved, and they learn the skills they're going to need for their lives?"

Those are challenges Nativity: Faith & Reason hopes to meet head on in the next few years as new changes and features are implemented. Father Carvill hopes for a smooth transition so the school "can really roll up our sleeves and begin to do the work of bringing this faith and reason into the very core of everything that we're doing."

SUMMER ADVENTURES

SPORTS

Makenna Schowe participated in the Drive, Chip, and Putt Championships at CommonGround Golf Course on July 2. It was her first time competing and she took first place in the Chipping competition and finished fourth overall for her age group. Great job, Makenna!

William Perrotto and Ryan Hill competed in the Junior Olympics Water Polo tournament at Stanford University this summer with their team, the Rocky Mountain Neptunes. They took 9th place in their division – and their division had teams from across the country!

Nathan McCracken swam for the Front Range Barracudas Club and he qualified for six individual events and two relays in the Colorado State LCM at the Air Force Academy. He won his heat for the 200 individual medley and got a person best time at the state meet. Way to go, Nathan!

John Robert and Patrick Hamill both made it to the Boulder Valley Summer Swim League championships. John Robert took 9th place out of 50 kids who competed!

Will Fava won Weapons Forms Colorado State Champion in Tae Kwon Do – make sure to watch out for Will's ninja skills!

TRIPS

Ava Crumplar and her family traveled through Europe and attended the Feast Mass of Saints Peter and Paul at the Vatican. What a wonderful way for Ava to experience the worldwide impact of our Catholic faith.

Zach Hurd spent an entire week a whale camp on Grand Manan Island in Canada. I'm sure Nemo would approve!

Aaron Kotarek went on a family cruise through England, Ireland, Scotland, and Paris with his family!

Isabella Rossi got the chance to snorkel in Cabo Pulmo, a marine park 60 miles off of the coast of Cabo San Lucas in Baja Sur, Mexico. This water is home to the northern hemisphere's largest coral reef and Bella got to swim with manta rays, skipjack tuna, sea turtles, and all kinds of tropical fish.

Matthew Denfeld even traveled all the way to Israel to explore the Holy Land!

The Spafford girls, Camryn and Jaclyn, got to explore the great American Midwest. They got to visit family and friends in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and Nebraska!

Cody Wasserburger and Ryan Harvey paddled over 60 miles in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in July. They went with eight other members of Nativity's Boy Scout Troop 766. We're sure it was a fun five days!

PERFORMANCES

Abbey Sterling danced her way through the summer, moving up to pointe shoes. What an accomplishment!

Madison Nguyen was bitten by the performance bug! She was Little Red Riding Hood in the Westminster Theater Company's summer production of Into the Woods and loved every minute of it.

Kathryn Maciolek danced in Danse Etoile's performance of the Little Mermaid. I'm sure she had Under the Sea stuck in her head for weeks! Congratulations, Kathryn!



BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

◆◆◆ *Welcome Social* ◆◆◆

Hosted by the Nativity School Fund 2019 Gala Committee

Please join us in Ryan Hall for wine, beer, snacks, and socializing immediately following Back to School Night.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
8:00-9:00PM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
8:00-9:00PM

Looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones!
The 2019 Gala Committee

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

CARLA RIGLI

Carla is the new Preschool Director for Nativity: Faith & Reason and spent countless hours getting the preschool ready for our littlest Knights. She opened two different preschools in the Jefferson County School System before retiring to help care for her grandchildren and is excited to be back in the classroom here! When Carla's not singing The Wheels on the Bus with our students, she enjoys spending time with her husband of 37 years Keith, her children, and her seven grandchildren.

LISA DOMIER

Mrs. Domier is the teacher in the preschool. She spent five years working as an aide in a kindergarten classroom and this is her first year as preschool teacher. She's currently working on obtaining her bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Colorado. Lisa's a mom to two kids, both of whom graduated for Holy Family and now attend Colorado State University. She loves spending time with her family, gardening, and cooking.

KATIE REGAN

Ms. Regan is our newest first grade teacher. She graduated from the CU – Boulder and is working toward her master's at CU – Denver. Katie's really looking forward to getting to know the students in her classroom and helping to foster a real love of learning from an early age. She loves to spend time in the Colorado wilderness and can regularly be found hiking 14ers; the last one she hiked was Mt. Harvard!

TIFFANI DALME

Ms. Dalme will be teaching our third graders this year. She received her degree from Southeastern Louisiana University and is currently working on her masters through Ball State University. Before joining the Nativity community, she worked as a speech therapist. When Tiffani isn't in the classroom, she likes heading out on the town to explore new restaurants.

CASSONDRA ANDERSON

Ms. Anderson is the new 5th grade teacher and it is her fifth year teaching! She is so excited to be a part of the



Nativity community and is eager to help her students grow closer to God throughout the year. Outside of school hours, Cassondra is a big sports fan and cheers on the Iowa Hawkeyes.

SEBASTIAN CALVINO

Mr. Calvino is our middle school Social Studies teacher and can't wait to combine his love of Catholic Education and his passion for history. He graduated from Benedictine College in 2017 and spent last year as a history teacher at a high school in Topeka, Kansas. Sebastian loves to head up to the mountains and hike when he's not teaching the middle schoolers about the Civil War!

GARY SIMMONS

Mr. Simmons comes to Nativity: Faith & Reason from CU Boulder, where he recently graduated with his master's in Physics. He will be teaching math to our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Gary recently picked up the hobby of ballroom dancing and he sure can cut a rug!

DECKER BABCOCK

Mr. B is our new music teacher. He received his bachelor's degree from Georgia State University and received his masters of music from CU Boulder. Away from the school, you can find Decker grooving with his band, Joe Smith & The Spicy Pickles and spending time with his wife.

THOMAS ARINELLO

Mr. Arinello is our new middle school Literature teacher. He's a Holy Family Tiger and recently graduated from Santa Clara University. Despite his St. Anne's background, he's excited to be a part of the Nativity community. Thomas spends his spare time writing plays and acting!

NATIVITY FAMILIES PROGRAM

School Families is a new, school wide opportunity this school year at Nativity: Faith & Reason. Every student has been assigned to a family and each year they will be promoted within their family as they advance to a new grade. At least once a month, families will meet and do some sort of activity together, focusing primarily on service projects. Students will be in their school family at the end of each day for carline and they will sit together every Friday at Mass.

The idea behind this program is to encourage a better sense of community between grade levels. We believe that it will also provide leadership opportunities for our older students, as they will be responsible for keeping an eye on the younger members of their family.

Be sure to ask your student about their school family and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask!



SUMMER BEAUTIFICATION



While our families and teachers were enjoying a well-deserved summer off, we have been busy around the school! We added a terrace with picnic tables so that our students can enjoy the Colorado sunshine, we gave all of the walls in the hallway a fresh coat of paint, and we even installed a new water bottle filling station by the gym!

One of the biggest changes that we made were to the school entrance. Everyone who has business in the school will now be entering through the door by the gym. We put up a new awning, poured fresh concrete, and installed a new security system. The decision that change the front entrance of the school was made primarily for safety reasons. The office staff will now be able to see all individuals trying to enter the school through both the conference room windows and our security system. Every single person who enters the building will need to be buzzed in by someone in the office before signing in and receiving a visitor's badge.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask the front office staff.

SUMMER THANK YOU'S

Summer Volunteers

We would like to take a moment to recognize all of the volunteers who gave so much of their time, talent, and treasure over the summer to make sure that the school was in top shape before our students returned.

Thank you to all of the following people for all of the help:

- Frank Hildebrand
- Joe Corrigan
- Danny and Amy Gryzmala
- John Parks
- Mike Hebert
- Sandy Gryzmala
- Benna Hermes
- Joyce Grycecell
- Jen Kuzik
- Lawrence Arkoff
- Alyssa Spinuzzi
- Alexander, Nathan, and Caleb Brandenburg
- Kyla, Graham, and Hayes Hermes
- Liam and Sam Harris
- Ethan, Emma, and Ivy Grycell
- Lydia and Julia Barr
- Michaela and Emily Woods
- John Hulquest
- Jackson Ward
- Rocco Gabriel
- Sam and Joe Sarno
- Andrew Kuzik
- John Denfeld and Boy Scout Troop 766
- Ava, Samantha, and Jacob Gryzmala

We'd like to extend a special thank you to Kathi Carey who painted several murals throughout the school, including the one that welcomes our families into the school. (Seen on the cover)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Learning Specialist Assistant

Nativity: Faith & Reason is looking for volunteers who would like to assist our learning specialist, Marianne Arling. As a volunteer, you would be working with students one on one in both reading and math. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Arling at m.arling@nool.us.

Broomfield Days

Broomfield Days is only two weeks away on Saturday, September 15! We need parent and student volunteers to help decorate the float the Friday before the parade immediately following school dismissal. We also need students to dress up in costume and ride on our school float. This year's float theme is the Wedding Feast at Cana.

If you or your child would like to volunteer, please visit our SignUpGenius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d44a8ad2ca7f85-broomfield>

Any old decorative throw pillows you are trying to get rid of? We will take them for the float. Please label them "BDP" and drop them off at the school office.

Race for Education

Race for Education is coming up quickly! Information was sent home with your student on the first day of school. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Dolan.

CARLINE DROP-OFF

Carline Reminders

Parents, just a few quick reminders about dropping off your student in the morning. Please pull all the way to the end of carline to drop your student off in the morning. It will expedite the entire process. We also ask if you are going to park and walk your child in, please use the cross-walk and do not cross until you are told to do so. This is an issue that we take very seriously. Thank you for your help in keeping our students safe!

