



ABERDEEN CATHOLIC  
SCHOOL SYSTEM

# NEWSLETTER

1400 N. Dakota St.,  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

Central Office:

605.226.2100

Middle/High School:

605.225.7440

Elementary School:

605.229.4100

Primary School:

605.225.3460

aberndeeroncalli.org

SEPTEMBER 2023

## Featured Article

**-Tim Weisz, ACSS President**

*"Do not conform yourselves to this age but  
be transformed by the renewal of your  
mind, that you may discern what is the will  
of God, what is good and  
pleasing and perfect."  
Romans 12: 2*

Welcome back. The scripture verse above is one I have asked the staff to keep in mind throughout the school year.

I feel the verse alerts me to avoid getting lost in the noise of our current world. The evil one wants me to be busy and have little time to develop my relationship with Jesus Christ. These words also point me toward the importance of making the conscious decision to be a follower of Jesus Christ. It also poses the question of 'what am I filling my mind with?' These words encourage me to safeguard what I watch, listen to, and read.

I found it a God moment when I realized the scripture reading for Mass this weekend contains this verse. Helping our young men and women listen to God's direction, allow his love to transform them, and to develop



*the sense of purpose the Lord has in mind  
for each one of them, this is one of the  
most important goals we have at Roncalli  
this year.*

*Among the other goals of the 2023-2024  
school year is the review and evaluation  
of the Catholic Identity Standards  
document we have spent the last year  
developing, and looking at how best to  
incorporate CGS, Catechesis of the Good  
Shepard, into the religious formation of  
our students in the Primary school.*

*We are going to have a fantastic year!  
Please pray for us as we endeavor to help  
you, the parents, form your children into  
the missionary disciples they were meant  
to be.*

*- Instilling Catholic values and promoting academic -  
excellence by nurturing mind, body and soul.*

## WELCOME TO NEW ACSS STAFF



**CATE KNAPP**

*Primary School  
Counselor Assistant*

-Originally from Motley, MN  
-Cate graduated from the College of St. Benedict with a History major in 1990; SDSU with a Masters in Counseling in 1997

-She has worked in education at the University of Minnesota and as a Sub Teacher at Roncalli. She also coaches the Roncalli Oral Interp Team.

-Married to Michael for 30 years; they have 2 children, Noah & Rachel, both graduates of Roncalli! They also have a very old, fluffy, white dog named Daisy.

*"I am so excited about my new role at Roncalli and I am excited to share my love & faith with RPS. I am also looking forward to getting to know a whole new generation of Cavaliers!!"*



**STACI LARSON**

*Preschool Teacher*

-Originally from Lemmon, SD  
-Graduated from Weber State University in Ogden, UT and received her Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Elementary Education

-She has 20 years experience teaching in areas PreK-4th grade

-Married to Jeff, Asst. FB Coach at NSU. Their daughter Mali is in 7th grade.

-In her spare time she enjoys spending time with family, traveling, walking, biking, and hiking.

*"Welcome to the beginning of a New School Year! New goals, new friends, and new beginnings. I am very honored to be teaching at the Roncalli Sonshine Patch this year and am looking forward to a wonderful school year".*



**REBECCA GROSS**

*2nd Grade Teacher*

-Originally from Aberdeen  
-Rebecca graduated from NSU in 2020 and is currently attending NSU, working on a graduate degree in teaching and learning.

-She has 4 years of teaching experience.

-She has a younger brother named Thomas and a cat named Butters.

*"I student taught in Mrs. Buechler's room and Mrs. Keller's room. I was so impressed with the welcoming environment and friendly staff that I knew this was a district I wanted to work at someday."*



## WELCOME TO NEW ACSS STAFF



### DAVID PIERSON

*9-12 Science Teacher*

- From Claremont, SD
- David graduated from NSU for both his Bachelors and Masters degrees
- He has 26 years teaching experience. Most of these years were spent at the Center for Statewide E-Learning.
- David and his wife Amy have 3 grown children and he is grandpa to one grandson so far.

### EMMA SCHERR

*RPS Custodian*



- Lives in Aberdeen
- Emma joined the staff at ACSS last spring
- We are grateful to have her as part of our facilities staff.
- We could not function without her and the other valuable facilities caretakers



### GREG LUX

*6-12 STREAMLab Facilitator*

- From Eden Valley, MN
- Greg graduated from Northern State
- He joined the ACSS staff after graduating last December
- Greg will be joined in marriage to Ms. Sarah Schafer, who teaches 9-12 English at Roncalli, this month.
- "Roncalli does a very good job of focusing on the faith, and that starts with my administrators and coworkers. Working here has helped me improve my relationship with Jesus".*



### CASEY STEELE

*6-12 SPED Teacher*

- Originally from Aberdeen and graduated from Roncalli.
- Casey graduated from NSU with a B.S. in Communication Disorders. Has an M.S. in Physical Education from St. Cloud State University, and a M.Ed in Special Education from Grand Canyon University
- He is married and has 6 children and 5 grandchildren.
- "I am looking forward to teaching in a faith filled environment and enjoying the development of the Aberdeen Catholic School System from the time that I attended."*



## CONGRATULATIONS



The South Dakota Board of Education just announced an initiative to move literacy forward in South Dakota. By looking at a body of research referred to as "the science of reading" we can better understand how all children learn to read. I am proud to say that our Roncalli teachers began this process over two years ago!! This outstanding group of educators just completed a 24-month course on how kids learn to read. This was an incredible time commitment for them outside of the school day, but something we felt we must do to ensure equitable reading opportunities for all of our Roncalli students. Please join me in congratulating this amazing group of dedicated educators on this outstanding achievement.

Our students are in very good hands!!

-Principal Tammy Kost

*Pictured above, left to right: Mandy Smid, Breanna Weig, Sandy Andera, Samee Scherr, Danielle Schmitz, Jennifer Aman, Laurie Zemlicka, Ashley Brockhouse, and Jill Sieh*

## SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

The South Dakota Interscholastic Athletic Administrator's Association (SDIAAA) and the South Dakota High School Coaches' Association (SDHSCA) have provided us with valuable information about teen suicides. This information is being furnished to us by the Jason Foundation, a corporate partner of both organizations. Please refer to the information on page 12 of the newsletter.





# HOME-COMING WEEK

## MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL

September 4-8



### Homecoming week sports/activities

#### Homecoming Cross Country

Thursday- at Lee Park, 10am

#### Homecoming Volleyball

Thursday- vs. Groton, C teams starts at 5pm

#### Homecoming Parade

Friday- starts at RPS, 10:30am

#### Homecoming Football

Friday- vs. Dakota Hills Coop, Dacotah Bank Stadium, 7pm

#### MONDAY

No School

#### TUESDAY

Business Casual (No jeans/sweats.)

Coronation 8:10 AM

Mass Following

#### WEDNESDAY

Color/Game Day (No uniform.)

-Seniors Black

-Juniors Blue

-Sophomores Purple

-Freshmen Pink

-8th Grade Green

-7th Grade Gold

-6th Grade White

#### THURSDAY

Barbies and Kens (No uniform.)

Cross Country 10 AM, Lee Park

Volleyball Game 5 PM, RHS

#### FRIDAY

Spirit Day (No uniform.)

Parade Start 10:30 AM, RPS

Pepfest 11:25 AM, RHS

All-School Lunch 11:45 AM

HS/MS Service Project 12:45 PM

Student v. Staff BB Game 2:15 PM

Freewill Tailgating 5:15 PM,

NSU's Dacotah Bank Stadium

Football Game 7 PM,

Dacotah Bank Stadium

## Congratulations to Homecoming Royalty Court

### Lord Candidates:

John Florey, Andrew Gerlach,  
Palmer Johnson, Caden Shelton,  
and Landon Zikmund

### Lady Candidates:

Eva Madsen, Madisen Martin,  
Isabella Martinez, Paige Schmidt  
and Sarah Schmidt

# HOME-COMING WEEK

## PREK-5

September 4-8



#### MONDAY

No School

#### TUESDAY

Pajama Day (No uniform.)

#### WEDNESDAY

Color Day

(Colored shirt with uniform bottoms.)

-PreK Blue

-Kindergarten Black

-First Grade Green

-Second Grade Purple

-Third Grade Yellow

-Fourth Grade Red

-Fifth Grade White

RES Mass 8:30 AM

#### THURSDAY

Hats Off to Homecoming!

(Hats/Caps with full uniform.)

RPS Mass 10:10 AM

Cross Country 10 AM, Lee Park

Volleyball Game 5 PM, RHS

#### FRIDAY

Spirit Day (No uniform.)

Parade Start 10:30 AM, RPS

(PreK not marching, will stay at RPS.)

Pepfest 11:25 AM, RHS

All-School Lunch 11:45 AM

RPS bussed back 12:45 PM

RES to Manor Park 12:45 PM

Freewill Tailgating 5:15 PM,

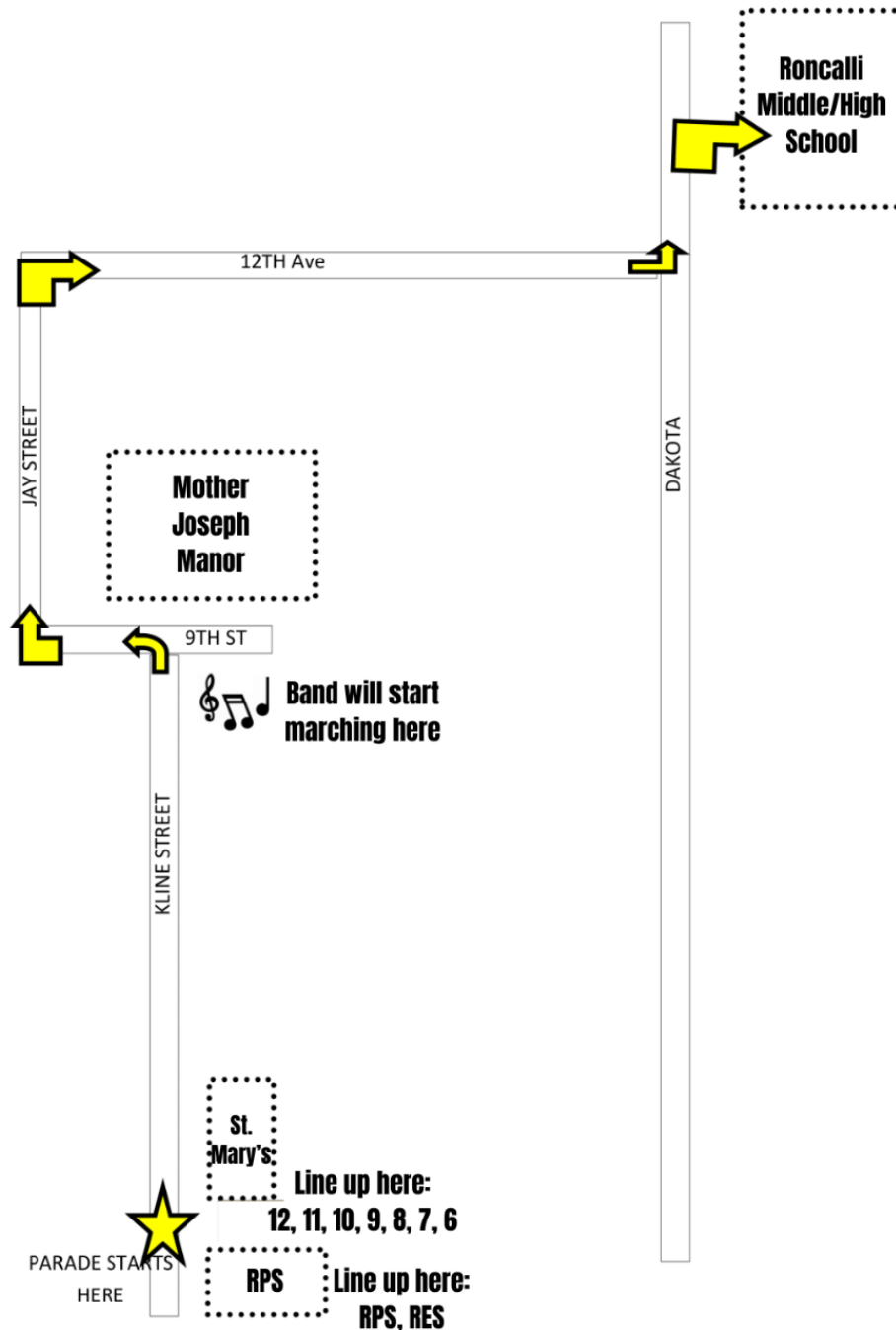
NSU's Dacotah Bank Stadium

Football Game 7 PM,

Dacotah Bank Stadium



# Roncalli 2023 Homecoming Parade Route





## ACSS 23-24 Help Take A Child To School Days

September 15    January 12  
October 20    February 16  
November 17    March 15  
December 15    April 12  
May 3

On these no uniform days, every student wishing to participate is asked to bring \$1 and is not required to wear a uniform for the day. Money goes into the Help Take a Child to School fund, which provides tuition assistance. Small contributions build into something big!

## BAND APPAREL ORDER FORM ON PAGE 8

Band Apparel is available for purchase.  
Deadline is Tuesday, Sept. 5. Orders should  
be given to Mrs. Carda at RHS or RES. Find  
order form on page 8.

The Roncalli Marching Band Festival is  
Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 9:30am. The parade  
of bands marches east on 15th Ave. NE from  
N. Lincoln Street to Dakota Street. All are  
welcome to attend.

**Financial Aid Night**  
Wednesday  
September 27th  
6:30pm  
Mr. Nygaard's room  
It will last 1 hour.

## NO UNIFORM FUNDRAISERS

Once a month

Each month throughout the year a Friday  
is set aside as a **Help take a child to  
school day**. On these days students who  
wish to participate bring \$1 to school and  
are not required to wear their uniform that  
day. The dollars raised on these days go  
into the tuition assistance fund.

## 2023-2024 Roncalli Band Apparel Design

Front



Back

+

**ROMANS 12:5**

SO IN CHRIST WE, THOUGH MANY, FORM ONE BODY,  
AND EACH MEMBER BELONGS TO ALL THE OTHERS.



# 2023-2024 BAND T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

*The shirts are dark grey with green & white ink, and all types of shirts are the super soft material.*

Front Design: Roncalli Cavaliers Band, Tradition of Excellence

Back Design: Romans 12:5

ADULT Shirt Type	X-Small	Small	Medium	Large	XL	*2XL	**3XL
Short Sleeve T-shirt							
Long Sleeve T-shirt							
Crewneck Sweatshirt							

Number of Adult Short Sleeve T-shirts: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adult Long Sleeve T-shirts: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adult Crewneck Sweatshirts: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

\* For 2XL, additional charge: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$2.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* For 3XL, additional charge: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$3.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

YOUTH Shirt Type	X-Small	Small	Medium	Large	XL
Short Sleeve T-shirt					
Long Sleeve T-shirt					
Crewneck Sweatshirt					

Number of Youth Short Sleeve T-shirts: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Youth Long Sleeve T-shirts: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Youth Crewneck Sweatshirts: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

**GRANDTOTAL FOR ADULT AND YOUTH SHIRTS ORDERED: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**FORMS DUE TO  
MRS. CARDA BY:**

**WEDNESDAY  
September 5, 2023**

*Late orders are not accepted.*

**Checks payable to: Roncalli**

Method of Payment: \_\_\_\_\_





Bazaar Volunteer  
sign up QR code

## PARISH NEWS

### **Sacred Heart**

#### **Family Formation Information Night:**

Wed. September 6th, 5:30–7:30pm for  
families with kids in grades 1–6

#### **Youth Group Service Project Night:**

Wed. September 6th, 6:30–7:30pm  
in the RES gym (grades 7–12)

#### **Youth Group Night (grades 7–12):**

Wed. September 13th, 7–8:15pm in the parish hall  
**more details on page 13**

#### **Setup for the Bazaar:**

Sat. September 16th. Scan QR code to sign up to help  
**Sacred Heart Bazaar!**

Sun. September 17th, 11am–6:30pm

**Event details on page 13.** Scan QR code to sign up to help

#### **Confirmation Information meeting:**

Sun. September 24th, 4pm from 4–5:30pm  
for 10th grade students and their parents

#### **First Reconciliation Information meeting:**

Sun. September 24th, 7pm for parents of 2nd graders

#### **Youth Group Night (grades 7–12):**

Wed. September 27th from 7–8:15pm in the parish hall

### **Saint Mary's**

#### **First Reconciliation Parent Meeting:**

Wed. September 6 at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall

#### **Confirmation Meeting, Parents & 10th gr. Students:**

Wed. September 6 at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall

#### **Confirmation Class:**

Wed. September 10 at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall

#### **Confirmation Class:**

Wed. September 24 at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall



*We invite everyone to our Schriver's Memorial Mortuary and Crematory sponsored*  
**Tailgate Festivities**

**Home Football games:** Sept. 1st and 8th,  
starting at 5:15

**Homecoming Volleyball game:** Sept. 7th vs Groton, from  
5:30-7pm at RHS.

*Have you purchased your Green/Gold Card? These  
Booster Club Membership cards are your pass to so many  
activities at Roncalli. To check out the different levels and  
what they offer please refer to page 11.*

*A huge thank you to the winner that donated \$400 back to  
the Booster Club from his winning card being pulled at the  
football game vs Deuel.*

## **RONCALLI PRAYER MINISTRY**

We are blessed at Roncalli to have a group of parents, grandparents, and alumni praying for our students/staff throughout the year. We invite you to consider becoming a part of the **RONCALLI INTERCESSORS** ministry. It is easy to join. Let Michala Heller, in the Central Office, know of your interest. She will send you a list of students/staff that you will pray for throughout the entire year. Invite grandparents to be a part as well. You can pray from anywhere, even in the chapel at Roncalli Middle/High School.

In addition we are blessed to have **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** two days each week, from 8:30-3:00pm, in the RMS/RHS chapel. We are looking for more community members to cover an hour of prayer on Tuesday or Thursday. Please contact Michala Heller to reserve your time.

Michala Heller- [michala.heller@aberdeenroncalli.org](mailto:michala.heller@aberdeenroncalli.org), 605-226-2100





## 2023 – 2024 Membership Levels

### **GRIDIRON Membership** **Cost: \$50**

Includes: Membership with the Booster Club  
One pass to all regular-season home football games  
*\*Second pass available for additional \$25*

### **GREEN Membership** **Cost: \$150**

Includes: Membership with the Booster Club  
One pass to all regular-season home games  
- FB, VB, GBB, BBB  
One free popcorn for all home games played at RHS  
Admission for one to the RHS fall and spring plays

### **GOLD Membership** **Cost: \$250**

Includes: Membership with the Booster Club  
Two passes to all regular-season home games  
- FB, VB, GBB, BBB  
Two free popcorns for all home games played at RHS  
Admission for two to the RHS fall and spring plays

### **Platinum Membership** **Cost: \$350**

Includes: Membership with the Booster Club  
Two passes to all regular-season home games  
- FB, VB, GBB, BBB  
Two free popcorns for all home games played at RHS  
Admission for two to the RHS fall and spring plays  
Two tickets to the "Cavalier Bash for Cash"

Member Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address(s): \_\_\_\_\_

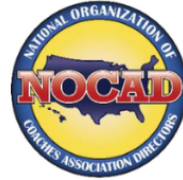
Cell Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Roncalli Booster Club  
Return to RHS Office or mail to:  
Roncalli High School, Attn: Booster Club, 1400 N Dakota Street, Aberdeen, SD 57401

## Warning Signs of Youth and Young Adult Suicide



**Four** out of **Five** individuals considering suicide give some sign of their intentions, either verbally or behaviorally. Learn to identify youth and young adults who are struggling before they think taking their life is the only way to end their pain. Below are some of the warning signs that may be exhibited.



- Extreme depression, withdrawal
- Sleeplessness, lowered grades, poor performance
- Giving away personal possessions
- Putting affairs in order (goodbye letters, wills)
- Suicide threats (written, verbal, nonverbal)
- Previous suicide attempts
- Acquiring the means to attempt suicide (pills, rope, gun, knives, etc.)
- A sudden lift in spirits after extreme depression (this can mean a person is relieved that problems will "soon be ended")

If you are ever concerned about someone who exhibits concerning signs, reach out for professional help. The Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is available 24/7 for those in distress or looking for prevention and crisis resources. Call or text 988 for free, confidential support. Also, identify local resources in your area. Visit your nearest ER or call 911 if you need emergency assistance.

The Jason Foundation has many programs and resources for coaches, educators, youth workers, parents, and students available at no cost. These programs are available for education and to help guide in assisting at-risk youth. Visit [jasonfoundation.com](http://jasonfoundation.com) to learn more.

[www.JasonFoundation.com](http://www.JasonFoundation.com)

The Jason Foundation | 18 Volunteer Drive | Hendersonville, TN 37075 | (615) 264-2323



SACRED HEART CHURCH



# FALL BAZAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

11 AM-6 PM

CONCESSIONS | SWEET SHOP  
BOOK ROOM | CHANCE & SILENT AUCTION

1 PM-6 PM

CAKE WALK | BINGO  
MIDWAY GAMES | AND MORE!

4 PM-6:30 PM

ROAST PORK DINNER

ADULTS \$12 | KIDS 6-12 \$8 | 5/UNDER FREE  
TAKE OUT AND DELIVERY MEALS AVAILABLE

CALL 605-225-7065

502 2ND AVE SE, ABERDEEN  
[FACEBOOK.COM/SACREDHEARTABERDEEN](https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartaberdeen)



REGISTER TODAY!

# Sacred Heart Youth Group

COMMUNITY - GAMES - FUN  
FAITH - FRIENDSHIP

FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 7-12

PARENT / STUDENT  
INFORMATION MEETING:  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30TH [AT] 7PM

[SACREDHEARTABERDEEN.NET/YOUTH-FORMATION](https://sacredheartaberdeen.net/youth-formation)

REGISTER TODAY!  
FILL OUT A PAPER FORM OR ONLINE

