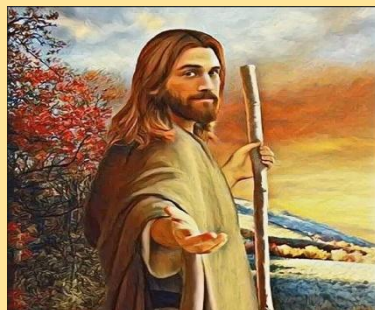


ST. ANTHONY COUGAR CONNECTION

Issue 21 – January 20, 2026

FROM the desk of MRS. SCHWEITZER



For the 2025-2026 school year, our theme will be “Come Follow Me.” In the Gospel of John 10: 27-29, Jesus says, “My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father’s hand.”

What do these words mean to us as disciples of Jesus? During this Jubilee year in our church, we are called to be “Pilgrims of Hope.” We are supposed to contribute to our Church’s mission of unity and charity. John 10: 27-29 shows that Jesus knows us inside and out; He knows everything about us, and He loves us deeply. Jesus is our “Good Shepherd”, and we are “His flock” who are called to listen to His will for us and follow Him. In order to do this, we must try to learn and understand scripture and the traditions of the Catholic church.

This school year, we will spend time focusing on the Sunday Gospel readings and what they tell us about how we, as Pilgrims of Hope, are to follow Jesus, so that when our Good Shepherd says to us, “COME FOLLOW ME”, we listen, follow, and become a more unified Church.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4: 12-23

Word of the Week: casting

Prayer for the week: Jesus, Leader and Perfector of Faith (Hebrews 12: 2), we accept your invitation to follow you and practice holiness in our lives.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Anthony Catholic School accepts the responsibility, along with the parents, to educate students spiritually, morally, and academically in a safe & caring Christian atmosphere. Each individual is assured academic achievement and develops social and emotional growth while embracing the gospel message of Jesus Christ.

VISION STATEMENT

St. Anthony Catholic School’s vision is to work together as a team composed of students, parents, teachers and staff in a positive manner to build strong, spiritual children who give witness to their faith.

DRAMA CLUB – Drama Club will meet after school next Tuesday, January 27th until 4:00. Students will be dismissed on the lower lot.

MAP TESTING – Three times a year it is required that our school administer MAP Tests to students in Grades K-8. Students in Kindergarten and Grade 1, Reading and Math are tested. In Grades 2-8, Reading, Math, and Language are tested. Please be sure that your children are well rested, and as always, encourage them to do their best to stay focused and give their best effort.

PTO MEETING – Today Tuesday, Jan. 20th, PTO will hold its monthly meeting in the school library at 7PM. All are welcome to attend as we plan for upcoming events.

SERVER & MASS PARTICIPANT APPRECIATION – After school tomorrow Wednesday, Jan. 21st, from 2:30 – 3:30, Fr. Ivan will host a pizza party in appreciation for all the students who serve or read at mass. Students should already have signed up for this if they plan to attend.

Holy Cross High School Launches River Cities Scholars Program - HCDHS has launched the River Cities Scholars Program, a new educational initiative supported by a \$2 million challenge grant from the Butler Foundation. The program is designed to expand access to Catholic education for students from Northern Kentucky's river cities while strengthening enrollment and community impact. The River Cities Scholars Program will provide significant tuition assistance and academic opportunity to eligible students who reside in one of the five river cities and demonstrate financial need, desire to achieve, academic promise, leadership potential, and commitment to personal growth and community service. Selected students will receive coverage for up to two-thirds of their tuition for four years. The River Cities Scholars Program will begin in the 2026-27 academic year and reflects Holy Cross High School's mission to educate the whole person - mind, body and spirit - while investing in the long-term vitality of the region. Those seeking information about eligibility, applications or opportunities to support the River Cities Scholars Program can contact Hannah Knox, Program Director, at hannah.knox@hchscov.com or at 859-431-1335; or Victoria Gerkin, Director of Development, at victoria.gerkin@hchscov.com at 859-815-6027 or attend an Information Night on Friday, January 23 at 6:30 pm at HCHS, 3617 Church Street, Covington, KY 41015. The application form is open and available online at [River Cities Scholars Application](#). The deadline to apply for the River Cities Scholars Program is March 13.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK – We kick off Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, Jan. 25th with Open House from 10AM until 1PM. Feel free to stop in and bring some friends. **Our Book Fair will be in full swing for Open House also.** On today's newsletter is attached a schedule of events for the week. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community."

SUPPORT ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL – In honor of faith, service, and community and in celebration of Catholic Schools Week, St. Anthony PTO invites you to give back to our Catholic school by participating in the PTO 2026 Online Donation Event. **This event will run from Saturday, Jan. 24th through Saturday, Jan. 31st.** Funds raised will support student programs and school improvements. To contribute click the DONATE button or select one of the preset donation amounts at <https://www.32auctions.com/StAnthonyPTO2026>. Another way to access the donation portal is to scan the QR code below.



Thank you for supporting St. Anthony School and Catholic education. You are a blessing to our community.

PLANNING AHEAD

- **MAP TESTING – MONDAY, JAN. 5TH THROUGH WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28TH**
- **NO SCHOOL – MONDAY, JAN. 19TH – MARTIN LUTHER KIND, JR. HOLIDAY**
- **TUESDAY, JAN. 20TH – PTO MEETING @ 7PM IN THE LIBRARY**
- **WEDNESDAY, JAN 21ST 2:30-3:30 – PIZZA PARTY – SERVERS & CHUCH READERS**
- **SUNDAY, JAN. 25TH – OPEN HOUSE FROM 10AM UNTIL 1PM – Scholastic Bookfair**
- **SUNDAY, JAN. 25TH THROUGH FRIDAY, JAN. 30TH – CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' WEEK**
- **FRIDAY, JAN. 30TH FAMILY DAY FOR SCHOOL FAMILIES**

WEEKLY LUNCH MENU

- *Wednesday – Chili spaghetti*
- *Thursday – Chicken Tenders*
- *Friday – Grilled Cheese*
- *Monday – Chicken Patty Sandwich*
- *Tuesday – Tacos*

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **WATER BOTTLES** - *There are no water fountains available in the building. Water refilling stations are available. Each student should bring their own water bottle.*
- **DISMISSAL** – Please be sure to arrive at school to pick up your students ON TIME and in the designated area that you have been instructed to park in. Traffic tends to become a problem if cars arrive once dismissal has occurred. Students line up in the school based on the area they will be dismissed to. The bus should depart BEFORE any cars leave the parking lot. If you have questions, please contact the office.

- Makeup (including nail polish and artificial nails) is NOT to be worn in school. Students are not permitted to wear face or body make-up, but are permitted to wear fingernail polish on out of uniform days. Also, boys' hair may be no longer than to the collar, and in front, hair should not hang in the student's eyes and should be neatly trimmed and groomed. Please ensure that your children are following these handbook guidelines.
- Our diocesan school lunch program does not allow outside fast food to be brought in. Sodas/sugary drinks/sports drinks should not be in water bottles. Soft drinks/sodas should not be packed in a lunch brought from home.