



# AHS PARENT CONNECTION

## KEEPING YOU INFORMED / March 1, 2018



**Mission:** To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition

**Vision:** A community of academic excellence, Catholic in spirit and culture, nurturing integrity and respect.

### Dates to remember:

Mar. 2: No School—Professional Day  
 Mar. 6: Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 Walk in—3:30—5:00  
 Appointments: 5:30—7:30  
[www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)  
 Mar. 7: Shadow Stations St. John's Adams 6:00  
 Mar. 11: German Students arrive  
 Mar. 12: Royal Parents Meeting  
 Mar. 14: Shadow Stations St. Brons 7:00  
 Mar. 22: German Students depart  
 Mar. 23: Shadow Stations at AHS  
 (time to be determined)  
 Mar. 26—April 2nd: Spring Break

### Athletic Events:

Mar. 2: Boys Basketball vs Gresham Community Semi Regional—7:00

Online enrollment/re-enrollment process continues. If you have not already done so, please do. Questions? Contact Kerry Meinel 715-422-0901 or [kmeinel@assumptioncatholicschools.org](mailto:kmeinel@assumptioncatholicschools.org)

Something exciting is happening at ACS.... We are in the process of building a new website for our schools & families. The new website will be user-friendly and will have all the information you look for in easy to find areas. The launch is slated for early March.

***LIVE, LEARN & LEAD IN FAITH***

### FROM THE DESK OF FATHER BECKER: "OOH, HEAVEN IS A PLACE ON EARTH"

Recently I have been on a classic rock kick. Listening on Pandora I heard many of my favorite songs, others I recognized, still others completely unknown to me. One such song I have never heard before was entitled "Heaven is a Place on Earth" by Belinda Carlisle. The tune is kind of catchy, but it was the refrain that caught my attention.

*"Ooh, baby, do you know what that's worth?*

*Ooh, heaven is a place on earth*

*They say in heaven, love comes first*

*We'll make heaven a place on earth*

*Ooh, heaven is a place on earth."*

*Heaven is a place on earth.* This phrase hit me like a ton of bricks. I had to stop my workout when I heard it because it is such a powerful line. Many times God gets my attention through music, "Becker! Wake up and pay attention!" I'm weird. I know. As it is, the song is about two lovers who, when they enter into their intimate embrace, make *heaven a place on earth*. Though the lovers do not in reality make heaven a place on earth, their marital love, in a way, images an event where heaven does indeed become a place on earth, the Mass.

In His letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul speaks about the marriage between two lovers, Christ and His Church (cf. Eph. 5:32). Throughout the New Testament Jesus is referred to as the Bridegroom, and the Church is referenced to as the Bride. John the Baptist makes this connection explicit when he tells his disciples of his relationship to Jesus (Jn. 3:29). Motivated by love, Christ unites Himself to His bride, the Church, on the cross. Some go so far as to say, Jesus Christ consummated His marriage to the Church on the marriage bed of the cross. Two lovers. One intimate embrace.

Represented for us on the altar at Mass is that embrace, the same sacrifice of Christ. Placed before us is the same Christ, (body, blood, soul, divinity), which hung on the cross. The Bridegroom is present. The bride, the Church, is present. And the cross, the instrument of Christ's inestimable love is present. Here at Mass a Heavenly Lover embraces His bride.

Many Fathers of the Church speak of the Mass in this way as well as the Second Vatican Council. The Mass is the wedding feast of the Lamb. Dr. Scott Hahn, a convert to Catholicism, explores further this incredible mystery in his book, "The Lamb's Supper". (I highly recommend this book.) He, like the Fathers of the Church reiterate that the Mass is not a mere commemoration of this supper, but a participation in the Lamb's High Feast in Heaven. At Mass we join the angels and the saints in worshiping God as well as eating and drinking Christ's body and blood.

Heaven is present in this embrace of bride and heavenly bridegroom because God Himself is the bridegroom. Since husband and wife image in a way the marriage between Christ and His Church (cf. Eph. 5:22-32), it only makes sense that the love they share would reflect the love expressed between Christ and His Church. By attending Mass we enter heaven in which, *love comes first*. In the Mass, Love, Jesus Christ, *makes Heaven a place on earth*.

## Student Life at AHS

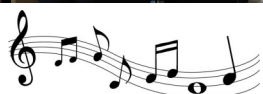


Mrs. Baker and the Business Basic's class went to Renaissance on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> to participate in the 2018 Junior Achievement Business Marketing Challenge, sponsored by Mid-State Technical College. JA is the world's largest organization dedicated to educating students about work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy through experiential, hands-on programs. JA reaches approximately just under 10 million students per year in inner cities, suburbs, and rural areas throughout the world. During the 2016-17 school year, the Portage and Wood counties district office reached 2,992 students. Each group is then paired with a volunteer that come from all walks of life and include business people, college students and retirees. These dedicated individuals are the backbone of the organization. There are currently 89 local community volunteers stepped foot into area classrooms throughout Central Wisconsin. All funding for expense operation, are funded through donations by local businesses, foundations, organizations and individuals. More than 100 funders support JA programs in Central Wisconsin. There are awards and scholarships given away as well with a First Place team with the highest PI, receive a 41,000 scholarship to the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and job shadow at Skyward. Second place team with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest PI, receive a \$500.00 scholarship to Mid-State Technical college and Third place team with the highest PI receive a \$250.00 scholarship to Mid-State Technical College. It was a wonderful experience for our students to get to know other students from other schools and business individuals in our community.



BY GIVING  
SERVICE  
TO OTHERS,  
I GIVE  
SERVICE  
TO GOD.

A group of our high school students went to St. Lawrence Parish for a service project, they cleaned and oiled all the pews and hard-wood floors in the Church. The St. Lawrence custodian was especially pleased with the wood pews and the wood floor beneath the kneelers. Many positive comments including how friendly the students were and what excellent work they performed. The Fish Fry volunteers commented on how nice the dinning room looked. This work was done with smiles on their faces and kindness in their hearts. We are proud of our students!



The musical talent of our students came alive at Solo & Ensemble.  
Congratulations to all who advanced to STATE!

