



# NEWS FROM THE NEST

Guardian Angels Central Catholic School recorded this year's Christmas concert for all to see online. Among the kids involved were Bryn Knobbe, left, and Braxton Kreikemeier.

# Merry Christmas!



# GACC performs 'The ABC's of Christmas'



From left, Ryker Randel, Chesney Prinz, Jansyn Marr and Noah Borgmann.



From left, Chesney Prinz, Fidel Perez, Remy Knobbe, Reagan Hunke, Kinley Tejkl, Drake Dinslage and Jansyn Marr.



Above: The preschool and pre-kindergarten class.  
Left: Will Hutchinson, left, and Carson Gerthes.



*Merry  
Christmas  
to all!*

**Guardian Angels Central Catholic held their Christmas concert on December 2. It was recorded and streamed online since a public performance wasn't possible.**

**Above: In the manger scene are, from left, Weldon Johnson, Charles Reeson, Severine Biteghe and Bryn Knobbe.**

**Left: Julia Jansen, Bodie Gubbels, Elise Lueshen and Ryder Doeshel.**



### *Sing a Song of Christmas*

GACC recorded their intermediate Christmas program earlier this month. The program was called "Sing a Song of Christmas" performed by the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade students. Programs can be view by visiting the GACC School website ([www.gaccbluejays.org](http://www.gaccbluejays.org)).

## *Merry Christmas from Mrs. Peatrowsky*

**By Paula Peatrowsky**  
**GACC Elementary Principal**

Christmas time is here! I'm sure you're all very excited to be spending time with family.

I know you will agree that your children deserve a well-earned study break.

They truly have been superstars this past semester.

A particular highlight of 2020 was our elementary Christmas programs.

If you have not done so already, please feel free to click on the Guardian Angels Central Catholic

website and view the programs. The kids did a wonderful job singing traditional Christmas songs through their masks. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to these special events.

Our Christmas break runs for two full weeks. Students return on Tuesday, January 5 for a full day of school.

If you are traveling, perhaps somewhere warmer, I would like to wish you safe travels during this holiday season.

I will conclude my Christmas message for 2020 by offering the

West Point community my very best wishes for the holiday season. I sincerely hope you all have an opportunity to experience the real meaning of Christmas, the excitement of ringing in the New Year, and quality time with loved ones.

2020 has been a challenging yet special year for the school with much to celebrate. I know we embrace each other a little more these days. I look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of 2021.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## A message from GACC's campus ministry: *'May God bless your Christmas'*

### By Charissa Steffensmeier Campus Ministry

Reflecting on this past semester, I am filled with so much gratitude that our students were able to attend school in person and that our youth ministry activities were still able to flourish, thanks to all of the committed volunteers who continued to show up, think outside the box and take extra precautions to ensure that our students did not miss opportunities to grow closer to Christ.

The generosity of this community never ceases to amaze me, and the Holy Spirit always comes through faithfully to accomplish God's purposes.

GACC continued to offer the Enkindle ministry (which leads students through an hour of guided adoration) to grades 1-6 both quarters and expanded Enkindle to grades 7-12 this year.

Fr. Matt generously offered exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, confession and quiet reflection time to our older students – a welcome break from the many demands of their busy schedules.

Over 65 middle schoolers (grades 6-8) participated in our parish's EDGE middle school ministry this semester, attending monthly EDGE Nights with various themes where they explored their faith, played games, discussed issues with their small groups and heard from speakers who helped them translate the "idea" of faith into concrete actions.

Meanwhile, over 85 high schoolers attended weekly YDisciple small group gatherings, where they discuss issues important to them, dive deeper into their faith and grow as disciples of Christ.

In September, the senior class spent a day on retreat at Camp Fontanelle in Nickerson, NE with the theme, "My Faith, My Future." The retreat invited seniors to take a step back from their busy daily

lives and contemplate where they are in their faith journey and where they want to be when they step out into the world after graduation.

The day was a mix of serious reflection time and fun recreation time on ziplines and in the great outdoors. It has been a privilege to serve GACC in Campus Ministry these last three school years.

Recently, however, I was offered a full-time opportunity in my legal career and, after much prayer and discernment, I have accepted that position. As a result, I will not have the same availability to serve in Campus Ministry going forward.

That said, I am extremely passionate about the mission of GACC and I will continue to support it in whatever ways I can. Over the last several years, I have definitely witnessed the truth of "many hands make light work" and the beauty that comes from everyone being a thread in the fabric of youth ministry.

So, I invite everyone – no matter your age or stage in life - to pause and reflect this Christmas season on where God may be calling you to weave your thread in the fabric of the Church.

If you are baptized, you are called to be an active member of the body of Christ! And I can tell you from experience that God does not call the equipped, He equips the called.

As we count our blessings this Christmas season – amidst a year filled with much disappointment, uncertainty and worry – take heart in reflecting upon the many people in our parish and school (listed in the article) who have been essential in leading our children to Christ.

I thank each one of them for the gift of their time and presence. May God richly bless your Christmas season and, filled with

the hope of the Light of the World, may we all look forward to a brighter 2021

### ENKINDLE VOLUNTEERS

Monica Foster-Korus  
Laurie Gnad  
Mary Kate Guenther  
Julie Hass  
Katie Hugo  
Sue Kreikemeier  
Wendy Ridder  
Sarah Rolf  
Michelle Wooldrik

### EDGE CORE TEAM

Aliza Brunsing  
Wendi Bunn  
Cassie Guenther  
Jeff Guenther  
Julie Hass

Christine Hutchinson  
Todd Kreikemeier  
Laura Schuetze  
Kim Steffen  
Michelle Wooldrik

### YDISCIPLE LEADERS

Wendy Wooldrik  
Mike Guenther  
Robert Schmaderer  
Jeremy Borchers  
Jen Kreikemeier  
Tricia Smith  
Mollie Stokely  
Emma Stokely  
Angela Oligmueller  
Deacon Dave Baumert  
Brenn Kai  
Tyler Baumert  
Rusty Smith  
Tracy Schwer  
Chelsee Hohenthauer  
Matt Jansen  
Mark Wooldrik  
Greg Kreikemeier  
Erica Wimer  
Denise Baumert  
Ashley Minnick  
Jordan Fischer  
Mary Kate Guenther  
Luke Schmid  
Brent Marr  
Steve Schwer  
Breanne Kreikemeier  
Molly Murphy  
Tatum Chick.

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