



# ACADEMY OF THE HOLY FAMILY

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2023

Dear AHF Families,

I would like to welcome all of our new families to our AHF community. Our enrollment is growing and we have been busy preparing for another successful school year this summer. We have several additions to our faculty and staff I would like to share with you. Miss Thompson and Mrs. Cataford have left AHF for new endeavors. Sr. Gabriel has been assigned as the Art teacher at St. John School in Old Saybrook, CT in keeping with the presence of the Sisters there after a vacancy. Please join all of us at AHF in prayerful best wishes to all three of them as they continue on God's journey in their lives.

Mr. Peter Laffin has been hired as a teacher of English, along with Miss Williams. Mr. Laffin has taught English since 2007 and for the past few years has become a nationally known contributing columnist for several Catholic publications, including *The National Catholic Register*. He was previously contracted to work with our juniors last year on writing their college essays, as he also has national expertise and experience in training students for the college entrance essays.

We have two part time Art teachers now, Ms. Sally Johnson, a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, have experience as an Art teacher at St. Thomas School in Providence, RI, and are a self employed business owner. We also have hired Mrs. Grace Zazzaro, an internationally recognized Iconographer, who has a wide variety of experience in various Art techniques, and experience in curriculum development, and is also self-employed in the Art field.

Ms. Suzanne Fowler will be joining us as the Foods teacher and will be a Dorm Mother. She also will be taking over our breakfast preparation, assisting with the lunch program, as well as being present with the students during Physical Education with Mr. Costello and for sports practices with Coach Roberts.

The planning and architectural designs for the renovation of Hanlon Hall have been complete; however, the construction has been delayed due to more construction and renovations of the existing building. We remain very excited about the project and will be moving forward with it as soon as the rest of the building and grounds are in order.

Please be sure to read the following pages regarding important information from Sr. Rafael regarding transportation to our school for the opening of the school year. Her contact information is listed as well in case you have any questions or concerns.

Once again, each student will be issued a school owned Chromebook for consistency in our integration of technology throughout the curricula and for communication and notices.

I look forward to meeting and greeting all of our new students and welcoming back our current students with enthusiasm, and am confident that we will have yet another successful school year. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at [principal@ahfbaltic.org](mailto:principal@ahfbaltic.org). I am here to serve.

May God's blessings be abundant upon you this summer and beyond.

*Henry Fiore, Jr.*  
Principal



## Travel Arrangements and Transportation to AHF

1. The Academy will provide free transportation to and from T. F. Greene Airport, (PVD) Rhode Island; Bradley International Airport, (BDL) Hartford, CT; Framingham Bus Terminal-Logan Express in Framingham, MA, the New London Train Station and the New London Ferry on the first day of school and last day of school before each vacation period, on the day a three day weekend begins, on the day a three day weekend ends, and on the last day of vacation before classes begin. Airport transportation should be made for afternoon flights. We have a limited number of drivers, who also have dorm duties. Please note that the earliest the Sisters can arrive at the airport/train stations is 9am and the latest is 8pm.
2. No staff member will go to pick up or drop off a student between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. If a student makes flight arrangements during these hours, the student is responsible to pay for taxi service. Taxi service to the airport is approximately \$150. Private transportation arrangements such as Uber would be up to the family's discretion.
3. It is extremely important that all travel arrangements must be emailed in advance to Sister M Rafael ([smraf@ahfbaltic.org](mailto:smraf@ahfbaltic.org)) by no later than Saturday August 26.
4. For Orientation Day, we ask that you bring a snack to share with the rest of the school, preferably something unique to your part of the world. It doesn't have to be a lot, just something to give a taste.

The Opening theme this year is "Walking Together." In preparation for Orientation Day, please send Sister M Rafael ([smraf@ahfbaltic.org](mailto:smraf@ahfbaltic.org)) a picture of your feet and separately a head shot. The foot shot can be with bare feet or shoes. We look forward to walking with you this year.

Here is a sample:





***From the Health Office:***

*Dear AHF Families,*

*We just wanted to remind all families that if you haven't already, please send in all physicals and medication authorizations (if medication is needed) as soon as possible before arrival.*

*We want to continue our tradition of being proactive in keeping the health and safety of our students as a priority. We also are working collaboratively with our Athletic Director in assuring that every student who wants to participate in sports get the opportunity to do so. This year, our practices will be starting on the very first day of school, so we want to ensure that all physicals are in place in order for our athletes to maintain the proper conditioning.*

*Please feel free to contact us at [schoolnurse@ahfbaltic.org](mailto:schoolnurse@ahfbaltic.org) if you have any questions or concerns any time now and throughout the school year.*

*God bless you all,*

*Nurse Johnson and Sr. Maria Teresa, SCMC, RN*

# Prayer for Students

**Lord, Our God,**

in your wisdom and love  
you surround us with the mysteries  
of the universe. Send your spirit upon  
these students and fill them with your  
wisdom and blessings. Grant that they  
may devote themselves to their studies  
and draw ever closer to you, the source  
of all knowledge. We ask this  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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