



Catholic Development Office

P.O. Box 654 † Hartington, NE 68739

(402) 254-3912

January 2024

Dear Cedar County Catholic School Parents & Students,

For the past twenty-eight years, the Cedar County Catholic Schools Gala has been essential support for our Catholic schools. In that time, the Gala has netted approximately \$5.87 million, which has truly been a remarkable accomplishment by all of those involved.

The 2023 Gala netted over \$410,000., an average of \$978.52 per Catholic school student in all three schools to save parent educational costs. The Gala provides budget assistance to our Catholic Schools to offset parents having to afford more tuition per student.

The Gala has had this success because of the hard work and generosity of many people. We are truly grateful for all the people that contribute to this effort to allow the tradition of Catholic education to continue.

An important component to the Gala is the Gala Raffle. The raffle was started as a way for our students to contribute to the success of the event to help support their education. In 2023, the Gala Raffle earned over \$42,364. The students did a fantastic job! Thank you in advance for making the 2024 Gala Raffle as successful.

Gala 2024 raffle ticket packets will be out to students next week. There are many rewarding incentives available to students again this year. [Please read the enclosed Gala Raffle Rules for more details outlining the great prizes and incentives students can win.](#) Gala Raffle Alumni letters will be mailed during Catholic Schools Week to add to student ticket goals.

It is very important for every student to sell all the ticket books assigned to them to reach the Gala 2024 raffle goal of \$40,000. Every student selling the 6 books of tickets assigned makes it possible to make the Gala 2024 Raffle successful and earn incentives.

Selling all the tickets assigned can be a lot of responsibility on families especially with several children. But again, the benefit per student the Gala helps families, offsets selling or buying tickets. This is why families, alumni, and grandparents in our parish system, and neighboring areas are not mailed the student raffle letters that regional alumni receive. This gives students the opportunity to sell tickets to those close to them.

It is important to start selling your tickets as soon as you get your ticket packets.

Reminders:

- Make sure your **full name AND grade** are on the back of each ticket sold to be counted toward student rewards. The Catholic Development Office and school secretaries will not be returning tickets to track names on the back of sold tickets. **If there is no student name on the back of sold tickets, the student will not be eligible to win the prize money for selling a winning ticket.**
- **Due to state raffle regulations, all sold and unsold tickets must be returned.** All tickets are tracked by number for which we have to account. **Unsold tickets must be returned or paid for as well as the sold tickets.** Please read the raffle rules for details. We ask for everyone's cooperation with handling tickets.
- The Freshmen and Sophomore classes and parents are needed to help at the Gala (and Blitz.) The students will be table servers and clearers. The parents will be Table Overseers and kitchen helpers. Parent helpers will not be needed for the entire evening pending the time you sign up for, but will also be able to enjoy part of the festivities. Letters with parent/student dinner helper assignments were sent in November to all Freshmen and Sophomore parents. Please refer to that letter for details.

Everyone doing our part shows appreciation to the many donors and buyers of Gala gifts. Thank you.

Dr. Dan Hoelsing
Cedar Catholic Jr.—Sr. High School Principal

Chad Cattau
Cedar Catholic Jr.—Sr. High School Assistant Principal

Sonya Schroeder
East & West Catholic Elementary School Principal

Stacy Uttecht
Holy Trinity Elementary School Principal

Alissa Bartling
Cedar Co. Catholic Schools & Parishes
Development Coordinator

Joani Potts
Cedar Co. Catholic Schools & Parishes
Development Director

2024 GALA RAFFLE RULES

PRIZE ITEMS ON THE RAFFLE

1. 700.00 Certificate for Groceries.
2. \$500.00 Certificate for Gas.
3. Samsung 58 inch UHD 4K SMART TV. Value \$580.
4. \$500.00 Cash

Winners do not have to be present at the Gala to win.

TICKET PRICES

10 Tickets for \$20.00

5 Tickets for \$10.00

3 Tickets for \$6.00

STUDENT SUPPORT REWARDS

Grades 4th- 12th will participate in selling tickets.

4th – 12th GRADERS CAN EARN A DAY OFF FROM SCHOOL.

Grades 4th, 5th, and 6th at East & West Catholic will partner with the corresponding grade from Holy Trinity. The quota of tickets sold per class to earn a day off from school is based on an average of 60 tickets per student, or the number of students in each class times 60 tickets which is 6 books per student to earn the classes day off.

7th – 12th GRADE STUDENTS' goal is to sell an average of 60 tickets or 6 books per student which will reward their class with a day off from school. Students must reach the quota of an average of 60 tickets per class member for their class to get a day off from school.

THE TOP 5 OVERALL TICKET SELLERS in 4th – 12th grades will receive incentives of cash rewards this year. The top overall ticket seller will receive \$150; the second top seller will be rewarded \$125; the third and fourth highest ticket sellers will receive \$100 for his or her efforts. The fifth highest seller will be rewarded \$75. Student Incentives increased last year and are the same for Gala 2024.

THE TOP CLASS TICKET SELLER in each 4th – 6th grade class will win \$25 each for the most tickets sold in their class. In grades 7th – 12th, the top 5 ticket sellers in each class will receive a casual day for a week. The week of casual day will be designated by the school and all winners will use the same week for their casual day.

Tickets purchased through the alumni mailing sent out during Catholic Schools Week will count toward class goals, but **will only count towards monetary awards and casual days in the event of a tie.**

Student Raffle Prizes: Students will have the opportunity to earn additional incentives for selling the winning raffle prize tickets. A student will receive a prize of \$20 per winning ticket sold. Every ticket a student sells increases your chance to win one of the four \$20 prizes for selling a winning ticket.

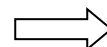


A \$5.00 Subway Gift Card will be awarded to students for every 6 books of tickets sold. These books must be sold by the individual and will not include ticket sales that come in from the alumni mailing.

\$150 will be awarded to each individual who surpasses the school record for number of tickets sold. These tickets must be sold by the individual and will not include ticket sales from the alumni mailing. The school record is 1,590 sold tickets, set in 2023 by Hutch Christensen. The school record raffle tickets sale for Gala 2022 was set by Brooklyn Kuchta who sold 1,532 tickets.

Contest Rules and Reminders to Students, Parents and Faculty

The Gala Raffle student deadline for prizes is 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday March 5 for tickets sales to count toward class and individual prizes. There will be no extensions to this deadline to earn a day off from school, monetary gifts or sandwich certificates. Make sure **ALL** ticket buyer information is filled out on front of the ticket and the **student seller's name and class written on the back side of each ticket that has the buyer's information on it. Remember: Student sellers' full name AND grade should be on back of each ticket** sold to be counted for rewards. The Catholic Development Office will not fill out tickets for students. **Before tickets are turned in, students and parents need to be sure the number of tickets and the money collected balance or match. Tickets and money for tickets need to be turned in together not at separate times.**



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Students MUST return tickets and money in a sealed envelope marked Gala RAFFLE to your school office.

To reach the Gala's Raffle goal of \$40,000, the 262 students participating must sell over 6 books of tickets per student. 7 – 12th Grade students who do not sell at least 10 tickets (1 book of tickets) will receive a \$20.00 penalty for insufficient effort. The insufficient effort rule was originally approved by the Cedar Catholic Student Council.

Be positive when selling tickets and tell them you have some great prizes they can win. Wear something that has your school name on it. (How you dress makes a difference in your impression on people.)

THANK THE BUYER FOR PURCHASING THE TICKETS.

Do **NOT** go to local businesses!!!!!!!!!!!! They are already being asked to give Gala gifts. There are many possible ticket buyers locally. The Alumni Raffle letters are sent to alumni outside of our parish and school system and neighboring communities so that students can sell tickets in this area.

4th – 6th grade tickets and raffle money need to be turned in weekly to your school secretary.

7th – 12th grade tickets and raffle money need to be turned in weekly to the Cedar Catholic Office.

School offices will turn in tickets and money to the Catholic Development Office as soon as possible.

Please do not wait until the last minute to sell or turn in tickets as it makes recording much more difficult.

Sell as many tickets as you can by checking books out as you turn in sold tickets and need more. Please do not give your tickets to another student or sibling should they need more. Check tickets in and out with your respective school secretary. The ticket numbers are assigned to your name so school secretaries need to record the in and out of tickets per student.

Checks should be made out to the CCCS GALA.

Additional tickets can be obtained at your respective school office or at the Catholic Development Office. **Remember due to state raffle regulations, sold and unsold tickets are numbered and will be checked out to students. When sold and unsold tickets are returned, ticket numbers will be tracked. Students will be responsible for all tickets assigned to them.**

All sold and unsold books of tickets and single tickets MUST be returned to the Development Office. All sold and unsold tickets in this contest must be reported and returned as per ticket numbers. Students will be responsible for the cost of \$20 per book for unreturned, unsold tickets.

THE STUDENT CONTEST ENDS AT 4:00 P.M. On Tuesday, March 5, 2024. Sold tickets will be **accepted after that date. but ABSOLUTELY NO TICKETS TURNED IN AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE COUNTED TOWARDS INDIVIDUAL PRIZES, CLASS GOALS, OR ALUMNI MAIL-INS. This is the only deadline date. No exceptions or extensions to this raffle deadline.**

Results and winners will be announced at the **Gala on March 16, 2024**

MAILINGS TO THE ALUMNI

Each student will be given 6-8 alumni names to contact regarding the purchase of raffle tickets. The letters and envelopes will need to be hand addressed. The alumni tickets will count toward your class goal, but alumni purchased tickets will only count towards winning monetary incentives in case of a tie. Our Catholic school administrators and the Catholic Development Office reserve the right to set any other rules and regulations as needed.

Many people work very hard to make the Gala a success. Last year the Gala netted over \$410,000. The Gala Raffle was approximately \$42,364.00 of that. This money is direct assistance to your Catholic school. This raffle gives you an opportunity to participate in a positive way to make the Gala a success for your schools. Over 6 books of tickets per student needs to be sold to have a successful raffle. Again 7 – 12th grade students who sell less than 10 tickets will receive a \$20.00 penalty as approved by the Cedar Catholic Student Council and the School. The Gala Raffle is your part of the Gala as a way to thank the 1,000 gift donors, over 200 gift buyers and over 150 Gala Committee members who work hard for a successful Gala. Have fun receiving your rewards!