

Holy Cross Catholic School

+ Teaching as Jesus did, since 1868 +

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November 30, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I simply cannot fathom that tomorrow begins the month of December and that we are in the first week of Advent! Only a few weeks until Christmas! The next three weeks will fly by – we will all be busy with shopping, writing Christmas cards, wrapping gifts, putting up decorations, attending school and extra-curricular Christmas events, and celebrating at Christmas parties with family and friends. I ask that you please take some time to step back, step away from the “hustle and bustle” of the mundane Christmas “preparations” and quietly reflect and pray on the true meaning of Christmas, the “preparation” for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ!

What is Advent? “The word Advent derives from the Latin word meaning coming. The Lord is coming. We may reflect that every year at this time we celebrate his coming, so that in a sense we can lose the feeling of expectancy and joyful anticipation, because at the end of the season, everything seems to return to pretty much the same routine. If that is the case, then our preparation may have been lacking and we have therefore been robbed of much of the true meaning of this season.

During Advent we recall the history of God's people and reflect on how the prophecies and promises of the Old Testament were fulfilled. This gives us a background for the present. Today we can reflect on the past track record of God and so begin to understand what it means to us now for the sake of what is to come, in our own future and that of our world.”

<http://www.catholic.org/clife/advent/advent.php?id=5>

LITURGY:

This week's Liturgy will take place on Friday, December 2, 2011 at 8:00AM, led by Grade 4 and Mrs. Malone. As always, please join us for our school led masses, if you are able to do so.

Please also be advised that our students in Grades 3 through 8 attended the Advent Penance Service today at 1:00PM. Please keep our 2nd Grade students in prayer as they receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time tonight at 7:00PM.

FIRST TRIMESTER REPORT CARDS:

Please note that report cards were originally scheduled to be sent home today, 11-30-11. Due to our “rookie season” on PowerSchool, **report cards will not be available to send home until next week, Wednesday, December 7, 2011.** I apologize for the one week extension and thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we work with and through the new PowerSchool system.

HCCS CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

Please be reminded of our Christmas Concert that will take place on Tuesday, December 13, 2011. The final rehearsal for K-8 students, band, choir and the 4K



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performance will be at 12:45PM in the Gym. The evening performance (Grades K-8), band and choir will be at 6:30PM in the Gym. Please refer to the requirements for attire and arrival sent home via the google group from our Music teacher, Mrs. Maertz (formerly Miss Kulas). Please join me in congratulating Mrs. Maertz, as she was married this past Saturday, November 26th! Band students also received specific information from Ms. Fonferek, regarding their required attire. If you have any questions regarding the Christmas concert, please contact Mrs. Maertz or Ms. Fonferek. Thank you! I am very much looking forward to this year's concert and its Nativity theme!

6TH ANNUAL HCCS LOCK-IN/PARENT'S NIGHT OUT:

REMINDER: Please refer to the insert sent home in a previous Parent Folder from Mr. Johnson (green) regarding this year's Lock-In! This event will take place on Friday, December 16, 2011, here at HCCS! Please be sure to reserve your child's spot by returning the Permission Form with signature, information and payment! Thank you!

GINGERBREAD HOUSE:

REMINDER: Our FABULOUS FAST FOLKS are busily preparing the GINGERBREAD HOUSE for your student "shoppers"! This year's Gingerbread House will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 5, 6 and 7, 2011! Please refer to the IMPORTANT inserts from last week's Parent Folders (white) regarding the Gingerbread House and what you need to do to allow your child to shop! This is such a special gift for our students! We are SO GRATEFUL to FAST for all of their hard work to prepare and provide this wonderful opportunity for our students!

LIFETOUGH CHRISTMAS PHOTO PACKS:

REMINDER: Please be reminded to return your Christmas photo packs if you do not wish to purchase them! Please do this ASAP, so that we can get them shipped back to Lifetouch and out of Mrs. Lardinois office in a timely manner! Thank you!

YEARBOOK ORDERS:

REMINDER: Please remember to return your Yearbook order forms! These forms are blue and were sent home in your Parent Folders last week!

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER "THANKSGIVING" COLLECTIONS FOR ST. PATRICK'S FOOD PANTRY:

REMINDER: Once again this November and December, a collection basket for non-perishable food items will be placed on the steps to the altar of our church. On school mass days, students are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to St. Pat's food pantry. Father Tom will call forth those who bring food items to place them in the basket during our masses. Please send these items to school with your child on our mass days.

WEEK 12 FOOTBALL MANIA WINNERS!

I am very excited to share our Week 12 winners!!!

#275 Holy Cross Catholic School-\$500;

#46 Connor Bell-sold by Bell family-\$200;

#4792 Captain Stutleen-sold by Beaux Myers-\$25.

CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!!!! Good luck to everyone in "lucky week #13"!!

\$CRIP:

\$crip sales for the week of November 21-27 were \$14,273; Tuition credits of \$411.25; and Parish profit \$348.85. Remember, your **\$crip purchases directly benefit your family by reducing your tuition!** There is *no limit* to the dollar amount of \$crip credit that can be applied to your tuition each year. Thank you for your support of the Holy Cross \$crip program!

MILK CAPS AND BOX TOPS, ETC:

REMINDER: Please continue to save Kemp's, Kwik Trip and Morning Glory Milk Caps, as well as Box Tops for Education, empty printer ink and toner cartridges, and Campbell's Labels for our school! Every LITTLE bit helps our school a LOT! Thank you!

VIRTUS TRAINING:

REMINDER: Do you wish to help out at school this year? Chaperone a field trip or two? Help in your child's classroom? Work on extra-curricular projects and events with our students? If so, you must be VIRTUS trained and must complete an eApps Background Check application. All parents who wish to be trained should visit www.virtus.org to pre-register for the one time training. If you plan to complete the training and the background check, please send me an e-mail and I will send the necessary paperwork and instructions home to you. Thank you!

PARENT FOLDER ENCLOSURES:

The following documents are included in today's Parent Folders: Youth Stewardship Envelopes; December School Calendars (green); 8th Grade Spaghetti Dinner Ticket Purchase Forms (lavender); Boy Scout Troop 1041 flyers (beige); Letters to Parents of 7th and 8th Graders (white); Packer Prayer cards; Nutcracker Ballet Ticket information; UW-Gearing Up for College brochures for Grades 7 and 8 families. Please pay special attention to the items in your Parent Folders! Please address all of these items by reading them carefully and *returning the folders*, all necessary *documents* and *payments* to school. Remember, folders need to be returned each week, to be prepared for the following week! Please note the required due dates on forms and paperwork.

UPCOMING EVENTS (WHEW – HERE WE GO-THE NEXT THREE WEEKS ARE GOING TO GO FAST!!!):

November 30, 2011 – Bookmobile; Advent Penance Service-Grades 3-8-1:00PM; First Reconciliation-Advent Penance Service-7:00PM.
December 2, 2011 – All-School Mass 8:00AM-led by Grade 4; Set Up for Gingerbread House-2:30PM;
December 4, 2011 – Second Sunday of Advent;
December 5, 2011 – Gingerbread House;
December 6, 2011 – Gingerbread House; Feast of St. Nicholas; FAST Meeting 6:30PM;
December 7, 2011 – First Trimester Report Cards Sent Home; Choice Dress Day; Gingerbread House;
December 8, 2011 – All-School Mass 8:00AM-led by Grade 3-Feast of the Immaculate Conception;
December 9, 2011 – Athletics' Cookie Walk-3-6PM; DEAR-1PM;
December 10, 2011 – Athletics' Cookie Walk-8-11AM;
December 11, 2011 – Third Sunday of Advent;
December 13, 2011 – HCCS Christmas Concert-12:45PM Dress Rehearsal (including 4K); Concert 6:30PM (Grades K-8);

December 16, 2011 – All-School Mass 8:00AM-led by Grade 2; Grades 4K and 5 to Nursing Homes; NDA Dance 6:30-9PM; LOCK-IN-2:40PM to 8:00AM Saturday morning, December 17, 2011!
December 18, 2011 – Fourth Sunday of Advent;
December 20, 2011 – Gr. 5 Charlie Brown Christmas Play-1:30PM Dress Rehearsal;
December 21, 2011 - Bookmobile; Gr. 5 Charlie Brown Christmas Play Final Performance 10:00AM; FAST Sponsored Santa Visit (PM);
December 22, 2011 – All-School Mass 8:00AM-led by Grade 1; Christmas Dress-Up Day; **EARLY DISMISSAL!**
December 23, 2011-January 1, 2012 – Christmas Vacation – **NO SCHOOL;**
January 2, 2012 – **CLASSES RESUME!**

SERVICE PROJECTS:

Please continue to save your can tabs for our September (and ongoing) Service Project. **Our November and December Service Project is “Outreach to Local Nursing Homes and Shut-ins”**. Our students will be making Christmas cards for community members and family members. We would welcome names and addresses from our school families of those you would like us to send cards to. Please send these names and addresses to the school office in an envelope entitled “November/December Service Project”.

CATHOLIC VIRTUE AND VALUE PROGRAM (CVVP):

In November and December our CVVP focus is to learn about the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. The Joyful Mysteries can be said on Monday and Saturday and during Advent and the Christmas Season.

4th joyful mystery - The presentation of Jesus to the Temple

“And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. ...When the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, Then he took him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation... A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." And Joseph and his mother marveled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." (Luke 2:22-35)

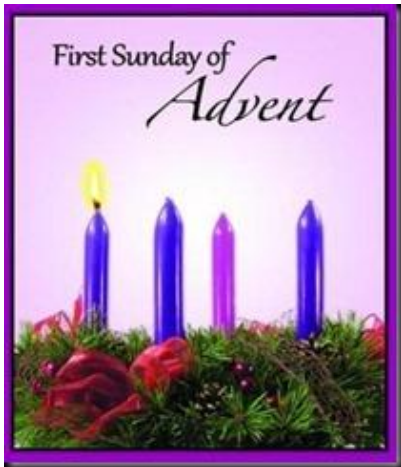
We need to pay attention to the voice of God, to discern His call and accept the mission He gave us. After the Simeon prophecy, Mary takes into Her Heart the wound of sorrow, but in the silence She accepts the will of Her Father.”

Wishing you a blessed Advent Season!

Peace and prayers,

Robin Jo Jensen

Robin Jo Jensen
Principal



“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

Isaiah 7:14