



ST. AGNES
SCHOOL

Wednesday e-Folder

December 4, 2019

The “New (Liturgical) Year” is Coming!

Within the Catholic Church, Advent is a period of preparation which extends over the four Sundays before Christmas: December 1, 8, 15 and 22. The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to," and refers to the coming of Christ. During Advent priests wear purple vestments, and the Gloria ("Glory to God") is omitted during Mass. The only exception is on the Third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday, when priests can wear rose-colored vestments.

Perhaps the best-known of all Advent symbols is the Advent wreath. Consisting of four candles—three purple and one pink arranged in a circle with evergreen boughs with a fifth, white candle often placed in the center—the Advent wreath corresponds to the four Sundays of Advent. The purple or blue candles represent the penitential nature of the season, while the pink candle calls to mind the respite of Gaudete Sunday. The white candle, when used, represents Christmas.

During this first week of Advent, we pray:

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.

Quote of the Week

“The giver of every good and perfect gift has called us to mimic Gods giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves.”

Saint Nicholas



Middle School Social Event at Get Air Trampoline Park

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Things You Need to KNOW:

Advent Calendar

The Catholic tradition of praying around the Advent wreath provides our families a wonderful opportunity to reflect on Scripture and to prepare our heart for coming of our Lord. To assist your family, please download the following [ADVENT CALENDAR](#).

Christmas Concert—12/13

The sounds of the season will once again fill our campus. Please consider joining us on Friday, December 13 at 7:00pm in the Activity Center for our annual Christmas Concert. This special event will feature the musical talents of our Choir, Band, and Cherub Choir groups.

Winter Coat Drive Thank You!

As a result of your collective generosity, St. Agnes was able to donate 110 winter coats to the Happy Helpers for the Homeless. Thank you!

Academic Distinction Ceremony

On Thursday, December 12 immediately following our Community Meeting, we will honor students in grades 6, 7 and 8 who have earned honor roll designation. Parents of students who earn this academic distinction honor will be notified by email if their child will be recognized at the ceremony. As always, parents and other guests are invited to join us for this special event.

Report Cards

As a reminder, report cards will be sent home this Friday, December 6. Please note that our school policy requires that families who have an outstanding tuition balance in FACTS will not receive their child's report card until at which time their account becomes current.

Middle School Play

Just a reminder, auditions for this year's middle school musical production, "*Golly Gee Whiz*", will be this Friday December 6 and December 9 in the cafeteria. The time for each of these auditions will be 3:15pm to 4:30pm. However, students will only need to attend one of these two audition dates.

Leadership Saint of the Week

Saint Nicholas was born during the third century from wealthy Christian parents. After their early death, Nicholas took to heart Jesus' command to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor". Nicholas used his entire inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, the imprisoned and those who were suffering. Having chosen to devote his life to Christ, Nicholas was later appointed to be the Bishop of Myra. The magnanimous kindness of this Bishop evolved into legendary accounts of his generosity. From which became the modern day version of Santa Claus. St. Nicholas serves as the patron saint for children, sailors and ships (among others). His feast day is this Friday, December 4.

Leadership Words of the Day

- **12/2 Peaceful**: calm, free of worry; not needing any outside affirmation, nor will criticism affect them
- **12/3 Persuasive**: effective at convincing to do or believe someone through reason

Feast of Guadalupe Celebration—December 13

As a special way to honor the Feast of Guadalupe, we will commemorate this blessed feast by celebrating our school Mass on Friday, December 13 as a bilingual Eucharistic celebration. Some of the prayers, songs and Scripture readings will be said in Spanish. Please consider joining us for this joyous event.

Things You Are Asked to DO:

H.S.A. Notes

Important Date Change: Our next H.S.A. Open Meeting has been rescheduled and will now coincide with Parent Appreciation Day during Catholic Schools Week. With this being said, please mark your calendars for Monday, January 27. As a reminder, parents who join us for the event will receive one hour of volunteer time for attending. More information will follow as we draw closer to this event.

Santa's Workshop: The H.S.A. will once again serve as host to Santa's Workshop which will be held in the Activity Center Conference Room on December 12 and 13. Students will be invited to purchase Christmas gifts which range from \$1—\$5. Each grade level will be assigned a specific time slot during one of these two dates. Parents and family members are needed to run this event. Please click [HERE](#) to volunteer.

Breakfast With Santa: On Saturday, December 14 from 9:00am-11:00am, the sweet smell of delicious pancakes will once again fill our cafeteria. A tasty plate of flapjacks are \$5 a person with children under 4 are free. Please register your family by clicking [HERE](#). Also, parents and family members are needed to run this event. Please click [HERE](#) to volunteer.

Nominating Committee Volunteers Needed: We are seeking individuals who would be willing to serve on an ad-hoc group in support of called the *Nominating Committee*. This group is appointed with the task of submitting the names of candidates for the H.S.A. Executive Board. Please note that members of the *Nominating Committee* are not eligible to hold an officer position. If you would be willing to serve as a member of this committee, please contact Rob Costante.

Shoebboxes for Seafarers

Please consider donating small items for our annual *Shoebboxes for Seafarers* Christmas gift project. We have asked each class to donate a specific gift item that will be included within each wrapped shoebox. With this being said, the students are asked to **please bring in the following items by Monday, December 9:**

Pre-K: *toothbrushes and toothpaste;*

Kindergarten: *soap bars and deodorant;*

First Grade: *shaving cream and disposable razors;*

Second Grade: *socks;*

Third Grade: *gloves;*

Fourth Grade: *playing cards and travel size games;*

Fifth Grade: *reading material (paperback books);*

Sixth Grade: *writing supplies of pens, pencils and notepads;*

Seventh Grade: *non-perishable food/snacks;*

Eighth Grade: *candy*

Mark Your Calendar

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| December 5 | 5th Grade Service Experience at CEA |
| December 5 & 9 | Middle School Musical Auditions |
| December 9 | 8th Grade Service Experience at MBK |
| December 11 | 6th Grade Service Experience for WMS |
| December 12 & 13 | Santa's Workshop |
| December 13 | Intent to Re-enroll Forms Due |
| December 13 | Christmas Concert |
| December 14 | HAS Breakfast with Santa |
| December 17 | 7th Grade Christmas Caroling at Frederick Villa |
| December 18 | Middle School Cub Club |
| December 20 | 4th Grade Service Experience at Maiden Choice |



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