



# SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

December 1, 2005

**"In the darkness we light a flame. May it dance not only upon our Advent wreath but within each of our hearts as well. May this Advent season bring us a new birth of light, love, faith and hope."** -from a book of Advent prayers

Classroom Advent wreaths will be blessed tomorrow morning at our 8:30AM Prayer Service, which will be led by the students in grade 5A. If you would like to have a family Advent wreath blessed, please place it on the table that will be in front of the stage. Immediately following the Prayer Service, students will report to their Faith Families to exchange names for their Advent Prayer Partner. ***Tomorrow your child will be bringing home a note with the name of his/her Prayer Partner and the directions for making a card and writing a prayer. Please keep this information in a safe place. Please read the directions carefully, noting that it's important for every student to MAKE a special Christmas card with a prayer message for his/ her Prayer Partner. Students will turn their cards and prayers into their homeroom teacher on Monday, Dec. 19. Card stock paper will be given to the students for these special Christmas cards.***

**THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** is Thursday, Dec. 8. Students will gather at 8:45AM to celebrate Mass. Perfect uniforms, including the uniform sweater, vest or sweatshirt are required. Thank you to the first grade classes for planning this Mass. There will also be an evening Mass at Holy Rosary Church on Dec. 8 at 7:00PM. This day is a holy day of obligation.

**FIRST TRIMESTER REPORT CARDS** will be sent home next Friday, December 9. Report cards are withheld if students have any overdue books or fines. This year all students' report cards are electronic. Many thanks to Mrs. Smith for her work on the report cards, as well as for her guidance and help to the teachers.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS.** Please plan ahead for the Holy Rosary School Christmas programs. **Grades K-4 grade and the school band will perform on Tuesday, December 13, and grades 5- 8 will perform on Tuesday, December 20.** Both programs will take place at 7:00PM in the Church. Student participation is required, as performance is an important component of the music curriculum. Thank you for planning ahead and marking your calendars. Ms. Mudge needs parents to help take down the sound system after each show and parents to collect the programs after each show. She also needs one parent to assist with the 5th grade solo singers. Please contact her directly if you can help.

**HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL BAND** will be performing in the December 13<sup>th</sup> Christmas Program. As explained to the band students, Miss McKamey has another school concert commitment the night of the gr. 5-8 program. We appreciate your support and understanding.

**NEW HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL WEBSITE.** Visit our new website at [www.holyrosaryws.org](http://www.holyrosaryws.org) and check out the new design. Get the latest news and information; view, print, or subscribe to the monthly school event calendar, download school forms, and more. The Holy Rosary Web Team, comprised of parents, faculty, and administration began meeting last year to research and design a new website that would include features from past HRS websites, incorporate present needs, and leave room for future growth. We are grateful and appreciative of past webmasters, **Jon Barker and Brad Tenge**, who created and maintained our past websites. We have integrated features from those websites and updated the new website to incorporate present technologies. Our goal is to provide a central location for parents to get up-to-date information and forms. We are proud of our new website and want to hear from you. Thanks to the Holy Rosary Web Team: **Mike Go, Mike Grueter, Dale Degabriele, Becky Smith, Mary Simpson, Sue Harris and Kris Brown** for their time and dedication to this ongoing project.

**FREAKY FLY FILM FESTIVAL FORM.** Students may download the latest Freaky Fly Film Festival form from the Holy Rosary website at <http://www.holyrosaryws.org>. Click on "Forms" under Quick Links on the home page.

**POINSETTIAS ARE HERE.** Poinsettias will be ready for pickup in the school hall this Sunday, after all Masses. If you haven't seen the plants this year, they are simply spectacular, in colors that are truly gourmet. If you didn't get an order in, or you need a few extra plants for your home or office, we have extras! So come on over to the school hall this Sunday! **Special thanks to Sherri Chun and Michele Wallace for all of their work on this sale. Great job!**

**TREE LOT IN FULL SWING** The trees are beautiful, the lights and music are on, and the children's thank you notes are a huge hit! Thank you again and again to all the many volunteers who have given of your time to make this tradition such a success. **This Saturday, Dec. 3, please join us at the tree lot at 2 PM for a very special event!** Father Sarkies will be doing the annual Blessing of the Trees at 2 PM, followed by an honorary presentation to representatives of the three charities the Tree Lot benefits (The West Seattle Food Bank, The West Seattle Helpline, and the Salvation Army Hickman House). Hope to see you there at 2 PM. Thank you for your support! Any Tree Lot questions call Allison or Scott on the Tree Lot Hotline 935-8999. There are still shifts available to volunteer! Sign up now at [www.treelot.holyrosaryws.org](http://www.treelot.holyrosaryws.org)

**HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL AND PARISH. HAVE RAISED ALMOST \$5,000 FOR ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON SCHOOL.** Holy Rosary students donated over \$1,150 on the recent Crazy Hair Spirit Day and raffle. Added to previous fund raisers and to the generous parishioner response to our 2nd collection appeal in October, we have raised almost \$5,000 to help our sister school, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, in Kenner, Louisiana, rebuild. Holy Rosary School will send our donation to Principal Joan Danos at SEAS before Christmas break. Thank you for your generosity and thank you to the first trimester Leadership Elective students for sponsoring this wonderful schoolwide service project.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SECOND TRIMESTER LEADERSHIP ELECTIVE OFFICERS**  
President: **Cassie Padon**, Vice-President: **Tierney Vial**, Secretary: **Molly Murphy**, and Treasurer: **Allison Fina**.

**SAINT NICHOLAS TO VISIT.** On Tuesday, Dec. 6, students and staff will leave a shoe outside their classroom door. Legend has it that St. Nick and elves from the Leadership Elective class will be filling the shoes with sweet treats.

**COOKIES NEEDED FOR ST. MARTEN de PORRES.** Students in grades K-4 are invited to bring in one dozen cookies for men living at St. Marten de Porres. Please bring these cookies in on **Monday, Dec. 5.** Thank you, from Susan Strmich.

**PARENT COMMITMENT HOURS.** The next quarterly report will be sent home in the December 15 FCE. Be sure to turn in any unreported hours so we can update your records. If you have any questions please contact Karen Robel (A – L) or Kelley Porter (M – Z).

**WOMEN'S SHELTER NEEDS HELP.** After many years of service to our Women's Shelter, Kathleen Blankenship has decided to step down from her duties as Shelter Mom! We are looking for someone to start in January and who can spend about 5 hours a week in the shelter, preparing it to house women on the weekends. If you would like more information or are interested, please contact Patrick Barredo in the rectory at 937-1488 ext 212.

**SPECIAL HOLIDAY WEEKLY/FCE SCRIP SALE.** We have inserted an expanded Weekly/FCE SCRIP order form in this week's FCE. This is a one-time only order. All orders MUST be turned into the school office by 9:00am, Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Please note, there will be no backorders – we will include a reimbursement check for any items that we run out of. You may also notice that Safeway/\$100's are not on this list – these can still be purchased thru our Daily Sales until our supply is depleted.

**SCRIP POSTAGE STAMP SALE.** We have included a special order sheet for Santa postage stamps. Your order MUST be turned into the school office by 9:00am, Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. If you are also ordering from the special Holiday Weekly SCRIP form – you only need to write one check – but please, staple/secure both forms together.

**8<sup>th</sup> GRADE PIZZA LUNCH.** The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are sponsoring a pizza lunch on **Wednesday, December 14**. Please fill out one form per child and return with the payment by Friday Dec. 9. We appreciate your support. All proceeds from the pizza lunch help to fund the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation events. Please remember to attach payment with your order. Extra forms are available in the school office. Thank you.

**PAROL MAKING.** At Coffee and Donuts this Sunday and next, you can make your own Christmas star! The stars, called parols in the Philippines, help Catholics to celebrate Advent and Christmas by reminding them of the star that guided the Magi to Jesus. So come to Coffee and Donuts and make your own parol. You can also bring your parol to the Filipino Simbang Gabi Mass on December 17 at 5pm!

**BOYS! BOYS! BOYS! CALLING ALL BOYS FOR CHRISTMAS CHOIR!** There are many professional "men" singing groups, such as BoyzIIMen, Backstreet Boys, B2K, New Kids on the Block, and even the Monkees and the Beatles. Many of these young men learned to sing as boys in church choirs. Even though the Holy Rosary Children's Choir has doubled in size this year to almost 30 singers, almost all are girls. We are fortunate to have so many young ladies learning how to sing with us, but our goal is to have equal representation in the choir. Please consider having your son join us to sing on Christmas Eve. The 5:00 PM vigil mass has become a huge

tradition with the Children's Choir, with extended families filling the church to hear our boys and girls lead the singing on Christmas Eve. Come and be a part of something very special! Contact Paul Dolejsi, Choir Director at 935-8754 (home office).

**SCHOOLPOP.COM** I was recently notified that Schoolpop.com filed for bankruptcy - the "scrip-like" on-line shopping program is no longer available. My thanks to all of the dedicated shoppers who used the Schoolpop.com web site for their on-line purchases. While it wasn't a huge money-maker, we were able to raise several thousand dollars for the HRS technology department. Thank you for your support of this fundraiser. Theresa Helle

**COME CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS AT SEATTLE CENTER.** Kathy's Studio of Dance will be having a Christmas Show at 11:30AM, December 11, in the Center House. The show is free and it is an hour long. Our own Holy Rosary kids- **Kayli Schulz, Megan Ross, Katie Kipp, Kelly Jean Crum and Haley Rose Joyce** will be performing. Afterwards, celebrate Winterfest and go ice skating.

**JOB OPENING.** West Seattle accounting firm has immediate opening for organized individual, duties to include receptionist, administrative and light bookkeeping. Full time January thru April, flexible hours May thru December. Send resume to: PO Box 16286, Seattle, WA 98116

**INCLUDED IN THIS FCE:**

- ∞ Bake Sale for Katherine's Place Flyer (green)
- ∞ Holiday Special Scrip Order Form (lavender)
- ∞ Special One Time Scrip Stamp Sale Flyer- half page (lavender)
- ∞ Kennedy High School Holiday Skills Clinic Flyer for Gr. 3-8 (blue)
- ∞ Happy Holidays from the Merchants at Westwood for Gr. K-2 (multi-colored half sheet)

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- ∞ School Commission Meeting, Thursday, Dec. 1, 6:00PM – Albert Raines' Home
- ∞ Advent Wreath Blessing Prayer Service by 5A - Friday, Dec. 2, 8:30AM – School Hall
- ∞ Second Sunday of Advent – December 4
- ∞ St. Nicholas's Visit to Holy Rosary – Tuesday, Dec. 6
- ∞ Development Committee Meeting, Tuesday, Dec. 6, 6:30PM, Staff Room
- ∞ Grant Committee Meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 6:00PM, Staff Room
- ∞ Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Perfect Uniform Required, Thursday, Dec. 8, Mass at 8:45AM; Parish Mass at 7:00PM
- ∞ Prayer Service by 6B – Friday, Dec. 9, 8:30AM – School Hall
- ∞ Report Cards Go Home, Friday, December 9

Remember to visit Santa Claus at Westwood Village. Santa's House is located in the courtyard, near Bed, Bath & Beyond. Westwood Santa is near and dear to our hearts!