



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

December 4, 2008

A Prayer for Advent

Help me, dear Jesus. Let me feel your loving arms wrap me tightly in the warm embrace of your endless love. Teach me to make choices about my time, to remember what is important this season and to say "No" whenever my "Yes" would take me away from your peace. Fill me with patience, love and a sense of humor. Remind me of your deep love for me and let the fire of that love be something I can share with everyone around me. Help me to rediscover the joy of simplicity, Lord. Help me to remember what I am celebrating. Help me to find it in my heart to call out, "Come, Lord Jesus."

I love the season of Advent. The lights, the music, the beauty, even the shopping... such powerful reminders for what it is we are preparing. Tomorrow morning there will be a special blessing of classroom Advent wreaths planned and led by Ms. Semandiris and the students in 5A. Students are welcome to bring your family Advent wreaths in for the blessing – at 8:30am in the school hall. Right after the blessing of the wreaths, students will go to their Faith Family classrooms to exchange names for Advent Prayer Partners. Students will be bringing home a slip of paper with the name of their Prayer Partner and the directions for making him/her a special Christmas card, due back on Friday, Dec. 19. It might be a good idea to post Advent Prayer Partners on your refrigerator so your children will remember to pray for them each day during Advent. On Monday, December 8, at 8:45am, students will attend Mass honoring Mary on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, one of the Church's holy days of obligation. Our first grade classes will be leading us at Mass on this special day. All students must be in perfect uniforms, which means wearing the proper sweater, sweatshirt, or vest.

Come and catch the Christmas spirit at our Christmas program on Wednesday, December 10, at 7:00pm. The church doors will not be open until 6:00pm. The first several rows of pews are reserved for Kindergarten families. Thank you to Ms. Mudge, Mrs. Whetham, and Ms. McKamey for practicing with and directing our students. Please see the special "Holiday Style Guide" prepared by concerned parents and enclosed in the FCE and also online. We ask that ALL students follow dress code guidelines for our Christmas program. Thank you very much for your cooperation. We look forward to a wonderful evening.

The office is now accepting applications for the 2009-10 kindergarten classes. If you have a child who will be five years old by August 31, 2009, please stop by the office for an application. We have over 50 new families in the parish with children who will be ready for kindergarten next year.

Teachers are busy preparing grades and finishing first trimester report cards. I am proud of our students' achievements and I am grateful for the support that our parents give to the teachers. Research shows that students are most apt to excel when their parents and teachers work in concert! We are indeed fortunate at Holy Rosary to have such involved, interested, and supportive parents - thank you for all you do to encourage your children to do their best in school. And thank you, also, to our dedicated, talented teachers!

SHHH - it's a Surprise. We'd like to present our hard working maintenance crew (Scott, Hao, & Phuc) with a Christmas bonus to show them how much we all appreciate everything that they do for everyone. If you'd like to contribute, please send in \$1.00 per family. Put in an envelope and mark on the outside "M. Crew". A presentation will be made at the conclusion of the Dec. 19 morning prayer service.

Congratulations to the students in second grade who will be making their First Penance either on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 10:00 or on Saturday, Dec. 13, at 10:00am. Please say some special prayers for our second graders on this most special occasion.

Lunches of Love continue to come in each day. Thank you so much!! May God bless you abundantly for the many ways that you express your faith! Happy Advent!

AUCTION NEWS. BE SURE TO PROCURE! Confused about what to donate? Getting auction items is as easy as ABC. Check out our list of ideas that will make it that much easier for you. <http://heart.holyrosaryws.org/downloads/EasyasABC.pdf> As always, remember to check the Heart Auction website for all the latest news and updates. **FUNDRAISER GAME NIGHT CANCELLED.** Unfortunately, the Auction Procurement Game Night that was going to be held in the school hall on Friday, December 5th, had to be cancelled. We do apologize for the last minute notice, and hope you don't mind getting your Friday night back!

BAND NEWS. Catch the Holy Rosary School Band at the Christmas Program on Wednesday, Dec. 10th @ 7pm/Church. Band members in grades 6-8 are asked to arrive at 6:30pm. This is a graded performance/attendance is required! Thank you. We look forward to sharing the sounds of this special season with you.

LOST AND FOUND AREA. Please come by and check the lost and found to locate items. There has been an overflow lately of many uniform sweatshirts and jackets. The items are going to be labeled with a colored paper and will remain for 2 weeks. Any item that is there more than 2 weeks will either be donated to the used uniform sale or to the clothesline. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Kaiti Grassley @206-935-8533.

GREEN TIP DEC. 4, 2008. December is Conscientious Christmas month! As we journey through Advent in preparation for Christmas, we can be thoughtful and deliberate in our preparations for the holiday. There are many ways to have a greener Christmas and to be conscientious in our gift giving. Homemade gifts are from the heart (baked goods, jams, crafts). Another great idea is to

give experiences, instead of things, as gifts. Check out Wastefreeholidays.com, where you can get ideas and purchase experience gifts at a discount of 15 to 50%! Ideas include restaurant cards, theater tickets, museum tickets, massages, music, sporting events, etc. Some other wonderful ideas include donating money to a charity in someone's name, giving labor or time (babysitting, yard work, chores), or volunteering in someone's name. For a little inspiration, check out Adventconspiracy.org and the video there.

B.A.S.E. Two updates from B.A.S.E. 1. All first and second grade students who attend B.A.S.E. will now keep their backpack on their classroom hooks. Thank you! 2. Due to security reasons we will be closing the front school hall door at 4pm. After 4pm please park cars in the teacher parking lot and come in and sign your child out. Please be very careful of children present at all times. All CYO parents please stay on the lower parking lot to pick up your CYO student. Please remember B.A.S.E. children are outside until dark.

NOEL HOUSE ALTERNATIVE GIFT CARDS. This weekend after all the masses during coffee and donuts Anna Fellin and Miranda Whitters will be selling Noel House Alternative Gift Cards for \$10 each. The Noel House Alternative Gift Cards provide a simple and beautiful way to support women who are experiencing homelessness. By giving Noel House alternative gift cards to people on your gift or card list (teachers, aunts, special friends) you will be giving the gift of secure shelter to those who need it most. The beautiful card inscription reads: "A donation to Noel House Programs has been made in your honor. This gift will help provide warmth, food and shelter to a woman experiencing homelessness in Seattle." The cards will also be for sale after 5pm mass at the back of church. To learn more about Noel House programs you can visit their website here: https://secure2.convio.net/ccsww/site/Ecommerce/1487834531?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=1083&store_id=1401

LIGHT UP THE JUNCTION. The Junction is hosting its annual tree lighting event this Saturday, Dec. 6, 5-6pm in the Farmers Market parking lot (44th and Alaska). Please see the attached information and feel free to pass along to all who might be interested. Musical cheer, live performances, and holiday treats. Community sing-a-long and raffle giveaway. Annual community tree lighting Fun for the whole family! Visit www.wsjunction.org/holidays for more info.

COLLECTING CLEAN, EMPTY EGG CARTONS. Help make a little one smile over the holidays! We are collecting clean, empty egg cartons to make a Christmas craft for the children living in DNDA's (Delridge Neighborhood Development Association) affordable housing communities. We need 100 cartons by Dec. 16th and there will be a drop-off tub in the office. Thanks so much for taking the time to help us with this project. Call Suzanne Nevan at 206-525-9480 with any questions.

IN-YOUR-HOME MESSAGE. Achieving a happy stress-free lifestyle is made easier when you receive a massage in your own home. Price incentives to introduce my services. Call or e-mail now to schedule an appointment. Malinda Newstrom 206-718-0105 malindasueimp@yahoo.com. See the flyer in today's FCE.

HOLIDAY SOCCER CAMP. Registration forms are available in the school office if you are interested in an absolute soccer experience during the Christmas break. This camp takes place at Starfire Sports Dec. 28 to Dec. 31 is available to students in grade 1 through 8.

SEATTLE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL. invites you their open house on Thursday, January 15, from 6:30-8pm. Seattle Lutheran High School is a leader in holistic education where high

academic standards and competitive sports programs are balanced with character education and spiritual growth. For more information call Rachel Bigliardi at (206) 937-7722X 18.

ST. CHRISTOPHER ACADEMY invites you to their open house in conjunction with Seattle Lutheran High School on Thursday, January 15, from 6:30-8pm beginning in the gymnasium. Many families concerned about their student with learning differences such as ADD/ADHD, Dyslexia and students who may be academically at risk have found this academy meets their needs.

CORRECTION. The CYO Volleyball Registration Form that is enclosed in this FCE should read Grades FIVE (not FOUR) through eight.

INCLUDED IN THIS FCE:

- Holiday Style Guide (gray)
- Hot Lunch Menu and Order Form
- After School Study Hall Form
- Auction Set Sail for the Tropics Flyer (lime)
- CYO Volleyball Registration Form
- Holiday Stockings 7th Gr. Service Project Flyer
- Piano Lesson Flyer
- In Your Home Massage Flyer
- Wyatt's Jewelers Coupon (green)
- The Junction Hometown Holiday Information Card

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES:

- School Commission Meeting, Thursday, December 4, 6pm – Scanlan Home
- Prayer Service by 5A, Advent Wreath Blessing, Friday, December 5, 8:30am – School Hall; Faith Family Advent Prayer Partner Exchange
- Gr. 2A First Reconciliation, Saturday, December 6, 10am – Holy Rosary Church
- Youth and Family Mass, Sunday, December 7, 5:30pm – Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Immaculate Conception Mass by 1st Grade, PERFECT UNIFORMS, Monday, December 8, 8:45am – HR Church
- Christmas Program, Grades K-8 and Band, Wednesday, December 10, 7pm – HR Church; Please follow the “Holiday Style Guide”
- Prayer Service by 6B, Friday, December 12, 8:30am followed by “A Green Skit” – School Hall
- First Trimester Report Cards Go Home, Friday, December 12
- Gr. 2B First Reconciliation, Saturday, December 13, 10am – Holy Rosary Church
- Youth and Family Mass, Sunday, December 13, 5:30pm – Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Gr. 3-5 Penance Service, Monday, December 15, 10am – Holy Rosary Church
- Gr. 6-8 Penance Service, Wednesday, December 17, 10am – Holy Rosary Church
- Gr. 6 Field Trip to Blanchet's Christmas Carol, Thursday, December 18, 10am – Moore Theater
- 8th Grade Pizza Lunch, Thursday, December 18
- 4A Magazine Sale Reward Bowling, Thursday, 12:30pm – West Seattle Bowl

- Parish Penance Service, Thursday, December 18, 7pm – Holy Rosary Church
- Homemade Christmas Cards for Advent Prayer Partners – Friday, Dec. 19
- All School Christmas Sing-A-Long, 11:25-11:50 – Friday, Dec. 19
- NOON DISMISSAL for Christmas Vacation, Friday, 12noon