

# The PULSE

## Sacred Heart Parish School

Volume 5, Issue 5

December 17 2010

### Mission Statement

Sacred Heart Parish School, a Catholic Elementary School within San Benito County serves students preschool through eighth grade.

We are committed to teaching the gospel message of Christ, building community based on Jesus' command to love one another, and serving through prayer, worship, and social action. We provide an environment within which students receive training in our Catholic tradition.

We strive to develop competent and compassionate graduates through spiritual, academic and extracurricular programs. Students are empowered with leadership skills, values, and character traits to enrich personal living and develop as responsible, mature, faith-filled citizens.

Looking for **volunteers** to help with repairing the music books at St. Benedicts. I would like to have 6th, 7th, and 8th students and they will be able to count this for **service hours**. The date were looking at is Jan. 5th. It will be at St. Benedicts starting at 12:30 (early dismissal day) to 3:00. Sign up sheet will be in the office.

Any questions you may contact Jeanette

Martin at 831-840-3364 or Jacki Leung at 831-801-8501.



*The month of December is always busy, preparing for Christmas Day, hosting and/or attending get-togethers, participating in community events. During the hustle, bustle of everyday life we hope your family is inspired and supported by the preparation of students during the advent season. Beginning each Monday morning Advent candle lighting in the gym that signals the beginning of Advent to **wait and prepare** for the birth of Jesus. Followed by the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, reminding us of Mary's special place in our lives, and her courage later in life to say "yes" with unwavering **faith** in God. Students and families gave **hope** to many through donations of food and clothing for those of us less fortunate. All who participated in the eWaste event provided relief for our environment from unwanted items ending up in landfill and contributed necessary funds to our Technology initiatives. Our final week of school found many classrooms finalizing projects symbolizing the Advent time of preparation. Many, many thanks to everyone who made our Christmas programs a success - the program committee, decorators, decorations, actors/actresses, singers and set-up/clean-up volunteers - all contributed to a genuinely enjoyable experience, reminding of us of the reason for the season! Wishing you and your family all the best this Christmas season and in the coming the New Year. I share with you this Christmas prayer by **R.L. Stevenson From 2000 Years of Classic Christian Prayers, pg. 216***

**O God, our loving Father, help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men. May Christmas morning make us happy to be your children and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

Merry Christmas,

*Mrs. Jurevich*

### Save the Dates

February 5th  
**Grandparent's Day**

February 6th  
*An Evening in Tuscany*

April 16th  
**Alice in Wonderland**

## Did you Know?

If you have children in Grades K - 5, you may have heard them discussing their weekly visit to the library. During this thirty-minute period, students are read an age-appropriate story and presented with a variety of reading materials to peruse and enjoy. Students in second through fifth grades are also assisted with the 'check-out' process. Each month various books and / authors (both fiction and non-fiction) are displayed on tables and racks, with a view to encouraging students to expand their literary horizons. If they opt to check out one of the recommended books, they receive one point. Five points earn a prize and 61 students have garnered prizes during the first four months of school. **'Library time'** is both a fun way to hone reading skills and a challenge to develop life-long reading patterns.

**Speech Tournament** begins this month with classroom competitions and concludes on January 26<sup>th</sup> with the Finals competition. Selection guidelines and criteria were sent home in backpacks on Friday. We are seeking classroom, semi-finals and finals judges if you have any recommendations or nominations for judges, please contact Mrs. Jurevich.

**Penny Challenge begins January 10<sup>th</sup> through January 14<sup>th</sup>** The Penny Challenge is a Student Council fundraiser. Money is raised for a local charity; this year's selection is the **Blue Star Moms**. The Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. is a non-partisan, non-political organization. They do not support any political candidate, nor do they endorse any religious organization. The military represents all aspects of America as does our organization. They are mothers who now have, or have had, children honorably serving in the military. It is a non-profit (501[c]3) Veterans service organization supporting their military children while promoting patriotism.

**The rules....**Preschool, Pre-K, Kinder and 1<sup>st</sup> grades collect pennies within their classrooms and are exempt from all other rules. The classroom with the most money at the end of the week wins a free dress day. Grades 2 through 8 collect their own pennies. Students may bring silver coins and bills to put in other classrooms; containers to "sabotage" their count. Pennies will be totaled, Silver and green totals will be subtracted from the penny total. Highest final penny total **and** highest final money total will win a free dress day in grades 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>.

On Friday, the Diocesan office received a **Christmas card** addressed to the "Students of Diocese of Monterey" from **SSG Pelfrey in Afghanistan**. In the card, SSG Pelfrey thanks the students for their drawings and tells them that **"We all here at TF Red Knight wish all of you a Merry Christmas."**

Thanks again to all the students who participated in the Christmas Card Contest.

## Important Dates to Remember

<b>January</b>	3	Mon.	Back to school
	5	Wed	<b>Min. Day</b> /Faculty Meeting
	7	Fri	Epiphany
	10-14	Mon-Fri	Penny Challenge
	10	Mon	PASS Board meeting @ 4:15pm
	12	Wed	4th grade field trip
	13	Thur	9:00am Mass Faith Partners
			MANDATORY February fundraiser mtg @ 7:00pm
	17	Mon	Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday- <b>No School</b>
	19	Wed	<b>Min. Day</b> /Faculty Meeting
	20	Thur	9:00am Mass grades 3-5
	21	Fri	6th grade Rosicrucian field trip 7/8th grade Tech Museum field trip 3rd grade free dress (canned food)
	25	Tues	Speech Semi-Finals
	26	Wed	Speech Finals
	27	Thur	9:00am Mass Faith Partners
	30	Sun	Catholic Schools Week begins



## Upcoming PASS Meeting January 10th

All parents/guardians and staff are invited to attend the monthly PASS Board Meetings. The meetings are normally held the first Monday of every month, in the school library. This month's PASS meeting will be held on **Monday, January 10th at 4:15pm in the school library.** Please join us to find how you can support us in any of our activities! See you then!

### LIGHTS FOR LIFE HELPING KIDS WITH CANCER

String Light Donation Site

Lights for Life  
recycles **old and broken**  
string lights for the benefit  
of families that have a child  
with cancer.

Donate your string lights  
at any participating Ace  
Hardware Store.

[www.LightsforLifeInc.com](http://www.LightsforLifeInc.com)



**Why Do Catholics Do That?** Why do we honor St. Nicholas during Advent? A powerful observance of Advent is performing charitable works as demonstrated by St. Nicholas. A fourth-century bishop of Myra, in what is now Turkey, Nicholas was the son of wealthy parents who died while he was a child. Legend has it that he gave freely of his inherited fortune to people in need. Through the centuries, this legendary generosity has been linked to the generous gift-giving, embodied by the figure of Santa Claus. St. Nicholas' feast day is December 6th.

Prayer:  
We call upon your mercy, O Lord. Through the intercession of Saint Nicholas, keep us safe amid dangers so that we may go forward without hindrance on the road of salvation.  
Amen



## Prayer Corner

For those who are ill or injured especially, **John Westphal, Alec & Dominic Garcia's, grandma, Maryann Flores, and for families suffering health concerns.**

For all those who are suffering from cancer especially, **Mary Jane Vierra.**

For those who passed away especially, **Teresa Mazzuca and Mrs. Maiwald's grandfather.**

For the needs of our parish and school community and all our friends and benefactors.

Pope Benedict's general prayer intention for December 2010 is "That our personal experience of suffering may be an occasion for better understanding the situation of unease and pain which is the lot of many people who are alone, sick or aged, and stir us all to give them generous help.". Christians have always believed that all truth is God's truth. We should not fear those who search for the truth but welcome them, because we know that, if they are sincere, their search for the truth will lead them to Christ.



## Feasts & Celebrations

**Dec. 26-The Holy Family (1st century).** On the feast of the Holy Family we celebrate the family life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph-three people who lived for God. By their love and support of one another the Holy Family is a model for all Christian families.

## Learn from the Magi

On the January 2nd feast of the Epiphany, we celebrate the visit of the magi, or wise men, to the newborn Savior. There are two lessons families can learn from this visit:

**Look for a sign.** Through study and investigation, the magi figured out that something big was going to happen and waited for a sign to tell them which direction to take. God often gives us signs to point us to the right path. Help youngsters weigh options and pray for direction when facing big decisions.

**Travel in faith.** Once the magi started their journey, they asked for help when they got stumped and believed it would come. *"Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage" (Matthew 2:1-2).* Teach your child to follow his "star" and rely on God for help. The key is to be like the magi and have faith that something marvelous will happen.



The Christmas season ends with the Feast of the Epiphany. On this day we celebrate the threefold "discovery" and manifestation of the divinity of Jesus Christ. Christ was discovered by the shepherds and three Magi who came to worship Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem. Then He was revealed to the world during His baptism in the river Jordan by His cousin John, when the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descended from Heaven and a voice proclaimed Him as the Son of God. Finally, He declared Himself and His ministry with His first miracle -changing water into wine during the wedding feast at Cana. Epiphany is a fitting conclusion to the most joyous season of the year. (CCC 438, 528, 535, 1668)

## Call to Service

Serving from the heart is at the core of the Sacred Heart Parish School Volunteer Program. While Sacred Heart is a community of believers, it is also a high commitment school. It is our hope when we serve the school, whether it's cleaning up from lunch or chairing a major fundraiser, we give it our all and serve "heartily as unto the Lord".

Paint circles in playground area

Anchor pots at front entrance of school. We would like to place two large planter pots at the entrance of the school.

Install metal runners *under stage* for folding chair caddy.

Install enclosing doors in Gym for Athletic equipment in Gym hallway.

A large wooden/metal cross on the exterior front entrance of the main school building.

Curtains for some door windows.

Install decorative film on upper windows in classroom.



## Looking ahead....

As you find yourself organizing, de-cluttering please keep a couple of things in mind that the students/school will be requesting/collecting in the coming months....

### January

Penny Challenge  
Can Food Drive

### April

Aluminum Can Drive  
Shoe Drive



Congratulations **Kaitlyn Iler** and **Ashley Raich**, their 9U comp soccer team, the Hollister Lightings went undefeated and took **first place** at the District Cup. "**Great Job**", we are so proud of you.



One very fun memory was when Mikayla, Sarah, and I stayed at Extended Care until the Christmas Program. We ate food, talked, and did each other's hair and makeup. I also remember when Mikayla, who played the piano, and I, who played the violin, tried out for the talent show. We were both very nervous, but we made it, and had an awesome time. –**Marianna Barragan-Burns**



I want to say a special THANK YOU to Andrew Donati, SHPS alum, Jonathan Jurevich, 7th grader, and the two dad helpers - Scott Clement and Luis Martin for volunteering last Saturday at the eWaste drive. The volunteers spent hours unloading donations from cars and pickups and then loading items into the Western Recycling eWaste truck. Also I want to thank those of you who brought various items to recycle at the eWaste drive. The drive was a huge success thanks to everyone involved.



## Santa's Workshop



Thank you!! **Mari Morin** and boy scout pack 444 den 3, 12, 6 for all the Candy Grams. A Huge success! A special thanks to the **Held Family** for the Gingerbread house. **Tracy Nino** who donated all Christmas trees and decorations. **Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs** and **Mr. Ferry** as "Buddy the Elf". We are grateful for all the volunteers who helped set-up and clean up.



From Fishes & Loaves  
Our Christmas Program donations, 334 items at least 334 lbs of food was added to their pantry for needy families. Thank you for your generosity

## 8th Grade Corner

**8th Grade placemats** are ready for pickup in the office along with samples to see. Parents are encouraged to begin pulling photos and working on these special photo collages that are presented to the students at graduation.

Next 8th grade meeting: January

*Evening in Tuscany  
Feb. 5, 2011  
reverse draw  
tickets*



*Don't forget to purchase your reverse draw ticket for \$75.00. The Grand prize is a \$1500 gift certificate for the Hotel Valencia in Santana Row. Come in the office and purchase a ticket or call Carla Thorning at 245-6709 to buy or sell additional tickets.*