

The PULSE

Sacred Heart Parish School

Volume 7, Issue 1

Dec. 2, 2011

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.

SHPS will 'adopt' impoverished families. Each grade will be given the name of a child in one of the families, grades with Faith Partners will share the selected child. Each grade will make a card and buy gifts for the family. We are hoping to be able to purchase a toy and an articles of clothing for each child. We are asking that each student **bring in one dollar, preferably one they have earned themselves by helping out around the house or yard.** This will underscore the importance of sharing one's talent and time as well as one's treasure. This project is one which lends itself to family discussion, both about how blessed we are and how important it is to reach out to those in need.



We have a busy couple of weeks ahead of us. First and foremost is our Christmas program preparation, students received their songs before Thanksgiving break, please continue to help them practice. The program for 1-8 will take place on Wednesday 12/14 at 6:00pm with a dress rehearsal scheduled for 1:00pm on Tuesday 12/13. **Students need only bring their accessories to school in the morning.** We invite anyone, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. to join us for the dress rehearsal on Tuesday afternoon. Our Preschool, PreK and Kindergarten program will be held on Tuesday, December 13th at 10:30am with a light reception following. **It will be a minimum day for our Kindergarten classes.** We will make arrangements for early extended care based on need. **Please contact the office or your child's teacher if your child will not be leaving after the program.** We will be collecting food for Fishes and Loaves pantry at all three programs. **Please bring a non-perishable food item for donation.**

I share with your family the following prayer as we celebrate week two of Advent: **Oh, Lord, be with us now as we gather around this wreath. As we light these candles, may this time together open our eyes to see your love in our lives and in the love we share for each other. Help us to be grateful for all of the ways you shine a light in the darkness of our hearts. Let us feel that love from you and be grateful for it. Open our hearts to those who have so much less than we do; those whose lives are so full of pain that they cannot see the light of your love. Show us how to carry that light to other people. Amen.**

Peace and Blessings during this season of Advent,

Mrs. Jurevich

Save the Date: February 4, 2012

An Evening in Tuscany

Sacred Heart Parish School annual fundraiser currently providing funds to the operating budget. We will need everyone's help to continue our successful fundraising efforts to support our school. Please contact John Brigantino (801-0154) or Rob Nino (801-2854) to donate time, talent or treasure.

Volunteer opportunities: An Evening in Tuscany, positions to "shadow" this year and move into role next year ('12-13).

Contracts: initiate security contracts, liquor license, food permit for event and cashier evening of event.

Finance: Manage money intake and deposits for event.

Sacred Heart Parish School students are on FIRE and show it by:

Faith

- Actively participating in Mass, religious studies and Catholic traditions
- Using different types of prayer to show reverence for God's creation, self, family, and others
- Having a basic knowledge of the teachings, doctrine, and practices of the Catholic Church

Intelligence

- Showing grade level proficiency in core subjects
- Using technology responsibly as a tool for learning
- Using study skills wisely

Responsible citizenship

- Reaching out to serve others
- Demonstrating self control and responsible behavior
- Realizing that individual choices impact the world socially and environmentally

Effective communicators

- Effectively presenting ideas with confidence and poise in a variety of situations
- Expressing written thoughts clearly, using correct grammar and mechanics in diverse forms and for different purposes
- Utilizing technology effectively to communicate with a variety of audiences

We want to expand our Substitute Teacher pool. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact Mrs. Soza for an application and employment requirements.



Eighth Grade Memories

Some of my favorite memories are: meeting all of my friends that I have today, bringing in my cat for show and tell, fracturing my heel and not doing P.E. for a month, in the 2nd grade watching my sister graduating and wanting to be there, and having Mr. Strnad as a teacher. - Jarod Solis



Parent Helpers Needed: Grades 7th and 8th is in need of a February Fundraiser Coordinator. If you are interested in helping, please contact Danielle Nino @ dnino@razzolink.com or Jackie Taylor @ taylorjaqueline1282@gmail.com.

Yearbooks are available until Jan. 20th for \$35.00, order forms went home this week. The \$5 option for your students picture to be on front cover is still available. Please make note of it on the envelope. The total cost would be \$40. You will also be able to make your yearbook purchase on Tuesday's in the library during SCRIP.



Important Dates to Remember

Dec.	5	Mon	Advent Wreath Lighting 8:00am Poinsettia pick-up @ 3:00pm 6th Gr. Girls BB vs. Aromas @ Aromas @ 4:00pm
	6	Tues	Boys Soccer vs. San Juan @ Vets Park @ 4:00pm
	7	Wed	6th Gr. Girls BB vs. Ladd Lane @ SH @ 4:00pm 7th Gr. Girls BB vs. Southside @ SH @ 5:00pm
	8	Thur	Feast of Immaculate Conception 10:15am Boys Soccer vs. Oakwood @ Oakwood @ 4:00pm 6th Gr. Girls BB vs. San Juan @ SH @ 4:30pm 7th Gr. Girls BB vs. San Juan @ SH @ 5:30pm
	9	Fri	Honor Awards after School Assembly (5th-8th grade)
	11	Sun	Children's Liturgy (4th grade)
	12	Mon	Advent Wreath Lighting 8:00am
	13	Tues	ECE Christmas Program (PS-K) @ 10:30am "dress rehearsal" at 1:00pm
	14	Wed	Min day Christmas program (1-8) @ 6:00pm
	15	Thur	9:00am Mass - 5th grade 2nd grade Field Trip
	16	Fri	Min day/ NO EXTENDED CARE

New Hot Lunch menu on Wednesday's beginning December.....

- 7-Dec sloppy Joe's & tater tots
- 11-Jan corn dog & oven fries
- 25-Jan chili & cornbread
- 1-Feb spaghetti & garlic bread
- 8-Feb Mac & cheese with chicken strips
- Feb-29 oven fried chicken & mashed potatoes
- 14-Mar lasagna & garlic bread
- 28-Mar hamburger/cheeseburger & fries
- 4-Apr chicken teriyaki rice bowl
- 25-Apr soup and grilled cheese
- 2-May chicken pasta Alfred & bread
- 23-May pulled pork & tater tots
- 6-Jun hot dogs & chips

Lunch options are in Ren-Web. Cost is \$4.00 and will include milk, fruit or vegetable side. There will no longer be lunch available on minimum day Wednesday's.

We will continue to offer the baked potato and salad bar on Thursday's.

A lived faith

Enrolling children in Catholic school or sending them to parish religious education is an important first step toward raising them in the Catholic faith. But it is only the beginning. The most important part is showing children how to live their faith each and every day. That kind of education can only come from a Catholic parent.



Why do Catholics Do That? Why did the Magi give gifts to Jesus?

The Magi knew that they were traveling to greet a new king and brought gifts that were appropriate at the time for a king. Over the years, the Church has reinterpreted the gifts in terms of Jesus' life. They gave him gold to recognize his royalty. The expensive gift of Frankincense, often burned to carry prayers to Heaven, was a symbol of Jesus' priesthood. His last gift, Myrrh, was used in burial preparations, a sign that Jesus would suffer and die for us.



Parent TALK

Growing up, my family didn't practice many Catholic devotions. I mean, we went to church, but that's about it. So I was at a loss when Kevin came home from Catholic school and asked if we could light an Advent wreath. I had seen them in church, but we didn't own one. I went online and read that an Advent wreath is a symbol of the four-week season before Christmas when we await the coming of the of the Savior. We could make our own using a Styrofoam ring, three purple candles, a pink one, and some greenery. So I got the supplies and we made a family Advent wreath. During the busy season it was nice to take a few quiet moments to turn off the lights, light our Advent candles and say our Advent prayers. Something else that has meant a lot to me is knowing that we joined millions of families all over the world in this beloved ancient tradition.



Prayer corner

For those who are ill especially, **Mrs. Picha, Mrs. San Miguel, Mrs. Olivas, Mr. Miller, Troy Mitchel, Gabriel Preciado, Jacqueline Jurevich, Kenneth Klauer, Sr. Margaret Ann and Mr. Mifsud.**

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

Pope Benedict's general prayer intention for December 2011 is **"That all peoples may grow in harmony and peace through mutual understanding and respect."** 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.



What are the rules regarding fasting and abstinence during Advent?

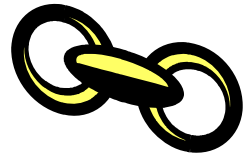
There are no longer any "official" days of fast or abstinence during Advent, but Catholics are encouraged to prepare themselves spiritually during Advent with voluntary acts of prayer, fasting, penance and almsgiving.

Traditions: Posadas

Posadas, a word that means "shelter" or "lodging," is an Advent custom in Mexico. It re-enacts Mary and Joseph's search for lodging as they traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem. The Posadas takes place over nine days, Dec. 16-24, which symbolizes the nine months of Mary's pregnancy. People go from house to house seeking lodging, but the "innkeepers" refuse to let them stay. On Christmas Eve, the travelers are finally welcomed at the last house where they celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Traditions: The Advent Chain

An Advent Chain is a way to mark the days through Advent. Cut one strip of purple construction paper for each day of Advent. Use a pink strip for the third Sunday of Advent and a white strip for Christmas. Some families like to write something special on each strip such as: "Call Grandma today." "Do something nice for someone." "Say a Hail Mary for someone who is sick." "Read a book about a saint." Let everyone in the family brainstorm other things to write. Then paste or staple the strips to create loops that interlock to form a chain. Each morning detach one loop and read the message as you prepare for Christmas.



Traditions: Advent Wreath

The circular wreath with four candles reminds us of God's eternal nature and the light Christ brings into our lives. You can say a prayer and light the candles before dinner each night or at some other consistent time.

Welcome St. Nicholas

The true story of Santa Claus begins when Nicholas' wealthy parents died in an epidemic while he was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you have and give to [the] poor" (Mt 19:21), Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was appointed bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need.

On the evening of Dec. 5, have children fill their shoes with pieces of a carrot or bits of hay for St. Nicholas' white horse or donkey. Place shoes outside bedroom doors or on the hearth. See that a candy treat appears by morning on Dec. 6.



What is Advent?

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin *Adventus*, which means "coming." It is a time for quiet reflection, prayer and conversion in anticipation of the coming of Christ from two different perspectives. The readings and the liturgies during Advent prepare us for the birth of Jesus, but they also prepare us for the Second Coming of Jesus at the end of the world. The season offers us the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert as we await his Second Coming. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas. It ends at sundown on Christmas Eve. Since Christmas falls on different days of the week, Advent can range in duration from 22 days when Christmas falls on a Monday to 28 days when Christmas falls on a Sunday. Advent marks the beginning of the Church year. Unlike the secular year, which marks the passage of time, the liturgical year celebrates the sacred mysteries of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The year begins during Advent in anticipation of the coming of Jesus with reflections on the Hebrew prophecies and the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah.

SHPS Men's Club Ipad 2 RAFFLE

Ticket Prices:

1 for \$5.00

or

3 for \$10.00

Do not need to be present to win



**Winner announced
at the Christmas
Program**

Tickets available in the office

Support the sports at SHPS