



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Your child's class may be having a Christmas party on December 18th. Check with each teacher. When sending snacks **NO "crumbly" food will be permitted** such as cupcakes or cookies with confetti frosting.

First Reconciliation is December 6 Tuesday at Mary Mother of Hope @ 7PM. The second grade class from St. Joseph the Worker will join in this celebration. Please bring your child's baptismal candle. If you can not locate the baptismal candle please bring any candle with a holder for the learning stations.

8th grade Confirmation students and parents there are two important upcoming dates.

December 4 Sunday the 8th grade students **will not have CCD in the morning. They will attend the teaching mass with the youth group. The start time is 5:15 at ST. Vincent DePaul.** The evening will end at 8:30.

December 11 Sunday There will be a Confirmation parent meeting at St. Joseph the Worker school gym at 2PM. One parent or guardian must attend the meeting. (candidates do not need to attend) Each student receiving Confirmation must be represented.

Teachable Moments

The Advent wreath is part of our long-standing Catholic tradition. However, the actual origins are uncertain. The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. Even these evergreens have a traditional meaning which can be adapted to our faith: The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering; pine, holly, and yew, immortality; and cedar, strength and healing. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead. Information from the Catholic Education Resource Center

St. Nicholas day December 6 – Show love on St. Nicholas day by making at least one generous act today.

Take advantage of the sacrament of penance this month

Have a very blessed Christmas

CLASSES RESUME SUNDAY JANUARY 8, 2012

Ms Lauren DeFelice
CCD Director