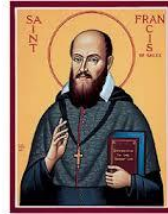




DECEMBER NEWSLETTER
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE
HAPPY ADVENT

A Salesian Reflection
on Advent



“Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.” Saint Francis de Sales

While I am not sure if St. Francis de Sales wrote this specifically for Advent, I think it is a wonderful quote to reflect upon during this season. While many of us are trying to focus on the big ticket items, this reflection focuses on the virtue of patience. Advent for the Catholic Church is the joyful anticipation of the coming of the Christ into our lives. For the secular world it is trying to survive the parking lot at the mall, finding out that the gift we had hoped to receive would be delayed in shipping, or that more guests were coming than originally invited. As challenges arise, St. Francis counsels that patience and peace will keep us focused and calm. I know that I need to pray this prayer often and especially at this time of the year when things seem so topsy-turvy. Keeping in mind St. Francis’ words, may this Advent season provide you with time to hope for serenity each day, to love the little moments, to find joy in the stillness and to have peace in all our encounters.



ABSENCES

Please continue to report your child(ren) when they are absent. The catechists will provide the missed work for you to complete at home. Keeping us informed helps the catechists and staff to know that your child is safe and that they will be back. We do miss them when they are not here. Thank you for your attention to this continued request.

Please be reminded that no progress reports will be issued this December. If there is a concern about your child’s behavior, the catechist will share that with you directly. I hear many good things about the children. Please remind your child that their utmost diligence to work hard is necessary to make the time valued and valuable for all.

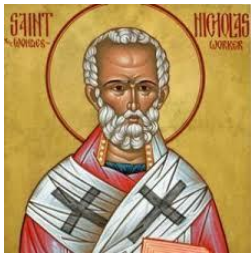




CALENDAR NOTES

November 29- Reconciliation Service for grades 3-5. Please have the children in these grades come directly to church for the service. Parents are most welcome to stay and receive the sacrament. Regular drop off for all other grades. Dismissal will remain the same for all classes.

December 6- Reconciliation Service for grades 6-8. Please have the children in these grades come directly to church for the service. Parents are most welcome to stay and receive the sacrament. Regular drop off for all other grades. Dismissal will remain the same for all classes.



Feast of Saint Nicholas- December 6- Please read about the life of St. Nicholas and watch a video about him via this link:

http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=371

On this day, please pray that Saint Nicholas brings a joy and love for each other that transcends gifts and possessions. Saint Nicholas celebrated the good in all. Let us follow his example to stay faithful and true to all we encounter this Advent season.

Christmas Prayer and Play

December 20- Please join us for a special evening of events. Families of all our programs are cordially invited to be in Church by 6:30pm. Our first graders will perform a Christmas Story to start the evening. After this wonderful reenactment, we will have a prayer service with music, readings and the opportunity to spend time in joyful reflection and anticipation of the Christmas season to come. Dismissal will be at the conclusion of the prayer service. **There will be no classes in the school this evening.**



There are no classes on the following days:

December 25- Merry Christmas

December 27

January 1- Happy New Years

January 3

Snow Watch is ready to go. If there is a weather related closure, please check WSTW. The closure will also be sent via Flocknote and posted on our webpage.

May this season of Advent bring your family hope, love, joy and peace. We look forward to a wonderful Advent season and a happy Christmas. As always, if you have any questions, please contact the office via 302-994-7757 or by email. God's blessings be with you always.