

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School

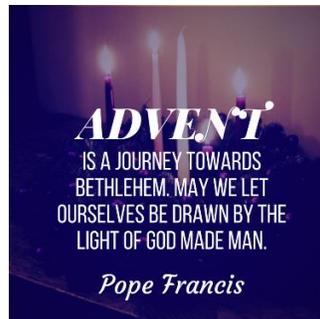


November 28, 2022

THE NOTE!

Welcome Back. I pray that everyone enjoyed some quality family time during the Thanksgiving break. The K-2 program kicked it all off last week and they were amazing. It was wonderful to have all of the families gathered together. Thank you teachers for preparing them and thanks to our kids for a great performance!

We started our **Advent** season of waiting and spoke about all of the symbolism this morning. Most importantly we talked about how the most important thing we are waiting for is Jesus. We aren't JUST waiting to celebrate his birthday on Christmas Day, but we are waiting for his return. The kids were very excited to share all they've been doing at home to prepare for Christmas. They all said how hard it is to wait sometimes. We talked about what we can do while we're waiting – more prayer, helping others, etc.



We also spoke about what we can learn from the different parts of our **Nativity**. Currently we have Mary, Joseph, and the Donkey under our crèche. What wonderful examples of dedication, humility, and faith!



I am so proud of all of our classes. In one week of a **Penny War**, our school raised over \$1800 to give to the Ministerial Association's Food Basket project. WAY TO GO! Our 7th grade class was victorious for the 2nd year in a row, the only class with positive points once again!



Last week, our 7th grade girls' basketball team became **Regional Champs!** They defeated T-Town at T-Town to move on to the Sectional this Wednesday night at Paris Mayo vs. Paris Mayo at 6:30. Let's go Lady Eagles! Our own Alani Bergbower, Madilyn Brummer, and Lauren Gier are playing for the JCJH Lady Eagles!



SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: 1st week of Advent (HOPE)

Tuesday: BB H Cumberland 6:00, 8th grade GBB @ Robinson Regional vs. Robinson
7:15

Wednesday: **6-8 Class Mass (6)**, 7th grade GBB @ Paris Mayo Sectional vs. Paris
Mayo 6:30

Thursday: BB H Oblong 6:00

Friday: **All-School Mass (2)**, No Pre-K Classes, BINGO

Saturday: Mass @ St. Thomas 4:30

Sunday: Masses @ St. Thomas 7:00/10:00, Mass @ St. Mary's 8:30

ATTACHED/IN PACKET: Stang Arts registration (due Friday), Fair Share updates, Breakfast with Santa flyer, December menu/calendar, Trivia Night donation information

- **Fair Share updates** are in your packets. If you have any questions, you can email Lori. Please be polite as she only puts in what she receives.
 - Notice that the **Stang Arts registration** is due this Friday.
- The **live wreaths, crosses, and swags** will be here Wednesday. We need everyone to pick up, because we have a ballgame Thursday evening. They will be

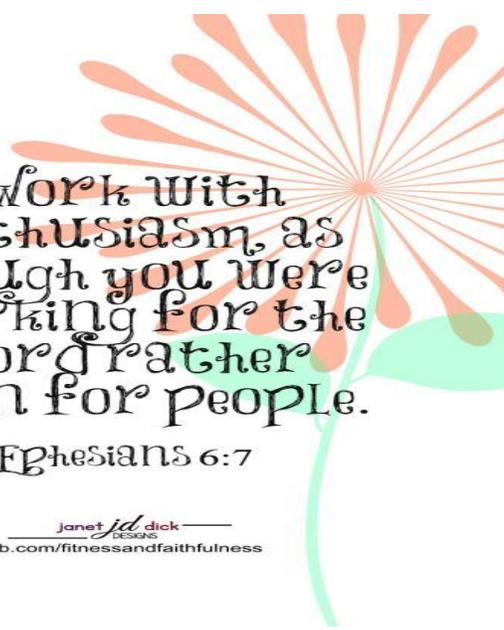
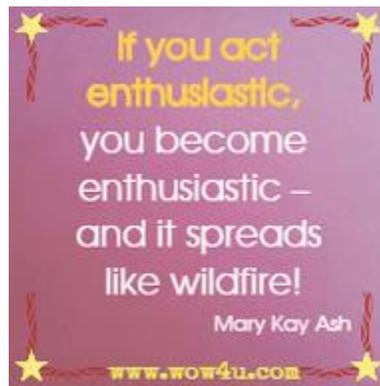
available in the meeting room of the parish center after school (parent pick up time) until 5:30 p.m. PLEASE pick them up! Thanks to Lindsey Hermann for all her hard work in organizing the orders, picking up the loot, and organizing them for pick up.

- I am looking for someone to help Lisa in the **kitchen** on Tuesday, Dec. 6th. Let me know if you are available from 9-1 for fair share hours.
- Congratulations to our **Elks Hoop Shoot** representatives. Last week we had our shoot off and the following will be representing St. Thomas on Dec. 10th: Will Mette, Carlee Finn, Emma Schumacher, Drayden Ochs, Maison Buerster, and Beau Bennett. Way to go Saints!
- We have **home basketball games** Tuesday and Thursday of this week – please check to see if you are signed up to work the door or concessions.
- I need **Bingo** workers for this Friday. There is not a home high school basketball game, so I'm hoping to be able to find workers! Let me know if you can cashier, call, or work. Thanks!
- We **congratulate Mrs. Stone** on becoming a grandma (twice) over the holiday. She has two beautiful grandsons!
 - There is **no Pre-K** on Friday due to a teacher training.
 - **Thanks to all of our families** for your generosity in helping with Toys for Kids, Shoeboxes, Trivia Night, etc. I know we ask for a lot of “extras”, but I truly believe that our kids learn a lot from seeing their parents be generous people. If it is ever too much of a burden, please let us know.
- As we switch over to December this week, it reminds me to tell you that IF Jasper County Schools are out due to **weather**, we are as well. Mr. Sornberger will make the call and you should receive a call as well.
- If you own your own business or would be willing to pass along the information to the company you work for, there is an explanation about opportunities for businesses to help by **advertising/sponsoring/donating** to our Trivia Night. Let me know if you have any questions and thanks for helping!
- Our new virtue for December and January is **Enthusiasm**. Sometimes it is hard to show this virtue when we are tired or don't feel the best. One thing I would love to see us all do is encourage our kids to CHOOSE to act with enthusiasm, joy, or at least put a smile on their face. Let's try not to let our kids act fussy! They have so much to be happy and thankful for! If there truly is something bothering them, they should find what or who they need to help them, but when around others, SMILE!
 - Father Dean put in the bulletin this week possible plans to combine the soup supper and the picnic. This would take our school and church down to **two major fundraisers**, one in the fall and one in late winter or early spring. If you have input you'd like to share, please contact a pastoral council member, school board member, or booster club officer.
- Just a reminder that we order **SCRIP** cards on Mondays and there are many left before Christmas. This weekend SCRIP will also be available after each mass.

Thanks to Jenny Bierman for organizing the workers and to all who are helping out after church.

- Olney Central College is hosting an event this Wednesday evening, Nov. 30th at their **OCC Blue Knights Basketball** games. It will honor all those who come from Jasper County. Free admission for the women's game at 5:00 p.m. and/or the men's game at 7:00 p.m. If you attend be sure to thank them for including us! Their Student Senate and Athletic department is hosting the event.

Have a great week! Let me know if you need anything!
Jill



Work with
enthusiasm, as
though you were
working for the
Lord rather
than for people.

Ephesians 6:7

janet *jd* dick
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