



ADVENT 2018

Religious Education December Newsletter

As we begin this time of preparation, I wish to share my prayers for this holy season of preparation.



First, I hope in all good things, especially in the goodness of people. It seems in all the negativity that I have experienced in my life, hope can be lost. Jesus is the reason that I can hope because in Jesus I have the perfect embodiment of how hope can change the world and me.



Next, I pray for the love that mirrors how children love. They come to all experiences with hearts brimming with love. This love is so evident each time I see our children learning and praying. Though the times we live in challenge us to find love, let us remember to love as children do; unconditionally. That love is a love I strive to emulate in all that I do.



Thirdly, I pray for greater joy in all that I am and for all those people in my life. I am blessed beyond measure. There is joy in each encounter I have with all of you. May that joy help me to find the light and avoid the darkness. May I return the joy I receive each day.

WHEN WE PUT
OUR PROBLEMS IN
GOD'S HANDS,
HE PUTS HIS PEACE IN
OUR HEARTS.

Lastly, I pray for the peace that allows me to let go of all that holds me back from God's will. If I am always running, then I am not as aware of God's peace. This peace asks me to be in communion with God's will. I pray to be an instrument of God's peace.

Thank you for always being a community of hope, love, joy, and peace.



REMINDERS

- Please remember to mark your calendars for the following special dates:
- Dec. 2- 9:30am-10:30am- Advent Play rehearsal for all students involved with the pageant
 - Dec. 2- Afternoon Cocoa and treats with Santa- more information on the next page
 - Dec. 9- 9:30-10:30am- Reconciliation Prep class for all summer students preparing for the sacrament
 - Dec. 11- Parish Penance Service starting at 6:30pm in the Church- please be careful in the parking lot with the additional traffic
 - Dec. 16- Youth group members will travel to Brookdale nursing home at 2pm to sing carols for the residents and share cookies and juice with them
 - Dec. 18- Advent Nativity celebration- all families from all of our programs are invited to join us starting at 6:30pm in the Church.



INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

In case of inclement weather, please note that we will alert you via Flocknote and through our Facebook page as soon as a decision is made. Typically, if St. John the Beloved school is closed then our program is closed.



HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

There are no classes on the following dates:

Tuesday- Dec. 25 and Jan. 1

Sunday- Dec. 23 and Dec. 30

Classes resume as follows:

For Sunday Morning students: Jan. 6

For Tuesday evening students: Jan. 8



Please be careful in our parking lot. The speed limit is 10 miles/hour. Especially with the dark nights, we ask you to exercise all caution as you travel on the Church grounds. Thank you!

May the Holidays be a time of family, friends, fellowship and fun.

May the New Year brings us greater love and peace.

May every day be an encounter with God's greatest gift, Jesus.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years from the

Religious Education Office.



COCOA AND TREATS WITH SANTA

The Religious Education Office is excited to invite your family to an afternoon celebration with Santa on 12-2 beginning at 1:30pm and concluding by 3pm. We will have a wonderful community gathering with time for the children/families to visit Santa. We will have a special Basket of Family Cheer as our Raffle. It will be filled with goodies for the entire family! Raffle tickets will be sold the afternoon of the lunch. Raffle tickets will be \$1/chance or 6 chances for \$5. A 50/50 will also be offered. All proceeds benefit the RE program.

Our dessert table will be filled with delicious treats for the family including cocoa and an assortment of juices.

The fee is \$5/person. Crafts and goodies for the children are included in this price as well.



The link to register is: [Dessert with Santa Registration](#)

We are in need of helpers for this event. Please visit the signup link for more information. The link is: [Volunteer Sign up page](#)

Please note that the School's Breakfast with Santa is still being celebrated starting at 10:30am.

We look forward to welcoming your family to our celebration!