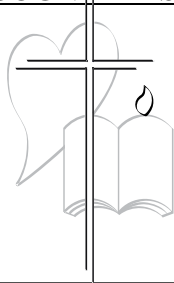


ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

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‘HOME OF THE JAGUARS’ DECEMBER 10, 2007



Feast Day/Dec. 12th: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mystical Rose, make intercession for holy Church. You are the very Virgin Mary and Mother of the true God, obtain for us from your most Holy Son the grace of keeping our faith. Amen.

A TIME OF GIFTS ADVENT 2007 THEME: A GIFT OF PRESENCE

Gifts...everyone loves them and they are so special.
Gifts ask for nothing in return. They are free expressions of love.
They are made out of love.
They express a kind of love that gives everything.
When we offer gifts we say to the other person: “See, this gift is part of me.”
Advent is a time of wonderment at the gift of God. It is a time
When Jesus teaches us daily lessons to help us become more
And more a gift to others.

A GIFT OF PRESENCE... WE WILL TRY TO BE GIFTS TO OTHERS

Advent Activities: St. Gregory the Great School will be celebrating the season of Advent in a very special way this year. As you enter the school, you will notice our Advent wreath in the main hall.

Each week we will have a special theme and activities which reflect that theme. During the first week our theme is kindness. The second week has the theme of service and peace. Prayer each day will reflect the attitudes of the Beatitudes we are practicing. During the last week of Advent we will use the theme of patience and celebration.

Hopefully Advent will be a very special time of preparation for Christmas for all our staff and students. Please feel free to join us in our weekly liturgies on Friday morning, especially during the season of Advent.



Thank You



A sincere **thank you** from the Women’s Guild to everyone who so generously helped to make our annual Giving Tree event so successful! The number of gifts for needy children that were given by our parishioners was overwhelming! May God bless all of you for your kindness.

Congratulations to Mrs. Marilyn Freas and all who helped to plan and prepare the wonderful Christmas concert last Thursday. You truly made our students shine!

A Note from the Music Department: A “round of applause” to the 2nd and 4th grade classes, Junior High Chime Choir, and the Recorder Club for a wonderful performance of “*The Life and Times of Santa Claus*” on Thursday, December 6th. Special thanks to Mrs. Linda Hart, Miss Maria Pozzuto, Mrs. Stacie Webster, and Miss Rosetta Vercellino for all the time and energy spent in the classroom and during rehearsals to prepare the students for the concert. Another special thanks to our musicians Mrs. Mary Guzan, Mr. Jake Novak, and Mr. Marc Taube for sharing their musical talents. Also, a thank you to our Junior High students for their help and support during the performances.

Blessing of the Bambinelli



December 16th is the Third Sunday of Advent, also called Gaudete Sunday. On this day in Rome, the Pope invites all of the children to bring statues of the baby Jesus (*the Bambinelli*) from their nativity scenes to St. Peter's Square to be blessed. The children then take the blessed statues home to be placed in the scenes on Christmas Day.

Father Ireland and Father Jakubowski extend an invitation to all the children of the parish to bring their baby Jesus statues to Mass on that weekend. During the Mass, Father will ask the children to come forward with their statues for the *Blessing of the Bambinelli*. The statues may then be placed in the family nativity scenes at home on Christmas.

It is our hope that this will help the children to appreciate the true meaning of Christmas, the greatest gift of all, the gift of Our Blessed Lord Himself.

SAFETY REMINDER: Children are not to be in the Parish Family Center without adult supervision. If you are scheduled to supervise a practice or an activity, please arrive on time so that children are not waiting outside. If you are dropping off children for a scheduled activity, please be certain that the supervising adults are inside to let the children enter the building.

12/15 & 12/16 Altar Serving Schedule	Wunsch, J	Gardner, M	Roulan, K	Rieck, A
	McCluskey, J	DiPaolo, A	Smith, R	Rieck, M
	McCluskey, P	Bryd, Shannon	Charbel, M	Ciernak, A
	Cappotto, K	Helton, J	Piasek, D	Gielink, G

St. Greg's Athletic Club Presents
A Night at the Races
Saturday, January 26, 2008
6:30-Midnight
Save the Date! 

Lake Catholic High School Music Department invites you to our Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 16th at 7PM. This free concert features our Choirs, LC Singers and Concert Band. Come and enjoy the sound of the Christmas holiday. For more information please visit www.lakecatholic.org or call (440) 951-0077 ext. 219.

ADVENT REFLECTION: "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!" Uttered by the heavenly messenger, Gabriel, to a Jewish maiden (Lk 1:28), these words, of course, make up the first phrase of the Hail Mary. The second phrase of that great prayer come from an earthly creature, Elizabeth, the cousin of Mary, who exclaims: "Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb" (Lk 1:42). St. Bede remarks that this is fitting since the two remarks show that Mary "should be honored by angels and by men and why she should indeed be revered above all other women."