



K-3rd Grades
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ASSUMPTION Catholic School

December 4, 2020

Dear families:



The staff and students are enjoying Father Emmanuel's homilies as he quizzes the students and enlightens them about Advent and the significance of the Seasons signs and symbols. Advent wreaths are a favorite way to celebrate the month of December leading up to Christmas Day. There are many the rich meanings and symbolism embedded in the tradition. **SHAPE:** The circular shape of the wreath, without beginning or end, symbolizes God's complete and unending love for us. **NUMBER:** Four candles which are lit, one at a time, on each of the four Sundays of the Advent season. **COLOR:** Violet is a liturgical color that is used to signify a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice.

WEEKS: *We pray that these four weeks leading to Christmas will bring you Hope, Faith, Joy and Peace.*

1. The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Hope** with the "Prophet's Candle," reminding us that Jesus is coming.
2. The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Faith** with the "Bethlehem Candle," reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.
3. The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Joy** and is called the "Shepherd's Candle"; it is rose colored because rose is a liturgical color for joy.
4. The 4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Peace** and is called the "Angel's Candle". When we light the final purple candle, it reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

As we embark on the Advent season, there are many opportunities to embrace and strengthen our faith. Please join in any or all of the Advent opportunities below to prepare for the birth of our Lord.



- Chris Stefanick – *Unshakeable Joy*: Sign up for a FREE 26-day Advent retreat with Chris Stefanick and Cardinal Cantalamessa. With 26 days of joy-filled videos and daily reflections, made specifically to fit your busy schedule, we know that YOU can unlock the secret to Unshakeable Joy TODAY. Go to: <https://coaching.reallifecatholic.com/unshakeable-joy> to register for FREE.
- Bishop Robert Barron – *Daily Gospel Reflections* Sign up for free daily reflections by Bishop Barron by clicking here: www.adventreflections.com/
- Matthew Kelley – Dynamic Catholic with *Daily Gospel Reflections* Sign up for free video meditations on the Gospel Reading for each day of Advent. Go to: <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>

BOOK FAIR:



Tuesday begins our week long Book Fair. Many families are signing up for e-wallet, which is a pre-pay system so students do not have to carry cash, however students may also use cash as they have in the past. If choosing to send cash, please enclose it in an envelope with their name, grade and the enclosed amount on it, as it helps our teachers. Thank you. **Lima students will be visiting the Book fair on Tuesday afternoon December 8th, and will END their DAY at the DURAND campus.**

Covid protocol has changed the logistics of this event – parents are allowed to shop online or come after school.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE NEWS:

As you may have already surmised, there will not be a Brains & Brawn competition in La Crosse this year.... I am working with some committee members to come up with some type of event to replace it.... some good ideas are being presented, stay tune as we navigate a new opportunity for our students.

Enclosed are the Boys Basketball photos!

Sporting event and protocol for next week:

- Fans need to hand in their ticket at the door to maintain attendance to be compliant to occupancy limits.
- **Face masks will have to be worn by all fans, players, coaches and refs.**
- **Monday Dec 7th** Home vs. Regis - No live stream
 - 5th grade boys - 5:00. Doors will open at 4:30 and locked at 5:15 (4 tickets per player)
 - 6th grade boys - 6:00. Doors will not open until we clear out gym from first game and sanitize – Approx. 5:50. Doors will lock 6:15 (4 tickets per player)
- **Tuesday Dec 8th** Home vs. Eleva - No live stream
 - 7th grade boys. 5:00. Doors will open at 4:30 and lock at 5:15 (4 tickets per player)
- **Thursday Dec 10th** @ IC
 - 7th grade boys – 5:00. Doors will open at 4:30. **NO FANS**
 - 5th grade boys – 6:00. Doors will open after gym cleared and cleaned approx. 5:50 **NO FANS**
- **Friday Dec 11th** @ Alma
 - 6th grade boys – 5:00 game. Doors **open at 4:45**. Enter via doors by the main office
 - 7th grade boys – 6:00 game. Doors **open 5:45**. Enter via doors by the main office



Reminder: For all 4th-8th girls who are not in quarantine, or self-quarantining, please join us at the b-ball drills & skills camp Saturday Dec 5th & 19th at the Durand Campus. Bring basketball shoes, face mask & water bottle.

CHRISTMAS SEASON – PLANNING

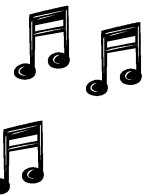


It has been **VERY** important to us to have our Christmas programs/concerts this year, as many schools have canceled them. With that being said, as with everything this year, Covid protocol **has changed the logistics of events. For the Lima program**, since we are limited in occupancy numbers, the program this year will include only K-3 grade students; the 4K will have their own program. Enclosed in the **K-3 family envelopes** you will find **four tickets/allotted per household**. Attendees need to hand in their ticket at the door to maintain occupancy/attendance records; facemasks are required. There are no ticket requirements for the 4K program. Sadly, our dress rehearsals will be closed to the public this year.

We will be moving the Durand concert outside this year which will include a live Nativity! The 8th grade students are helping to organize and “round up animals”. Next week we will lay out more details.

For now, save the dates!! **Christmas Concert dates:**

- NEW** → **4K – Pancakes, Parents and Presents Wednesday, December 16th – 8:30am**
- K-3rd grade program – Lima Campus - **Sunday, December 13th at 1:00pm**
 - 4-8 grade concert – Durand Campus - **Thursday, December 17th at 7:00pm**



VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:



The virtue of the month is Temperance – with a focus on Self-Control. *Temperance* enables us to use all things in moderation. This past week in silent prayer, we asked the Lord to help us during this Advent Season to grow in self-control. I invite you to reflect as we did: Where do you need to use more willpower? Do you spend too much time watching TV, playing video games, texting or eating snacks?

Do you need to control your words? Do you need help controlling your anger? Ask the Lord to help you control things in your life that are taking you away from time with God.

SERVICE PROJECT FOR DECEMBER: MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY:



Reminder: We will be paying it forward with a "Make a Difference Day" in December. We ask your child(ren) to bring in funds to help buy SCRIP cards to pay for random drive through orders at McDonalds. The recipient will receive a note stating "You may not know me, but my classmates and I at Assumption Catholic School chipped in to help make a difference in your day. I hope this small gesture will help bring some peace and joy to your Christmas Season. There are no gimmicks! We just know the world is a bit crazy and this season can be busy and add stress. We hope this has brightened your day." If your child would like to contribute to this charity, please bring in a dollar or more by **Thursday, December 10th**. Who knows? Maybe your family will be one of the recipients!

PARTNERS IN FAITH:

See the enclosed newsletter from *Partners in Faith* for wonderful ways to celebrate Advent, and to look at how to celebrate an unusual Christmas with joy.

SCRIP: Buying Gift cards for Christmas gifts? SCRIP is your one stop shop.

TUITION STATEMENTS:

Are enclosed. We received a generous grant for tuition assistance and want to make Catholic Education a viable option for all. To learn more, please call the school office.


CALENDAR REMINDERS AND UPDATES:

Sunday	12/06	<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	
Monday	12/07	Mid quarter (reports go home Tuesday)	
		4/5 BBB Home vs Regis	5:00
		6 BBB Home vs Regis	6:00
Tuesday	12/08	Immaculate Conception Mass @ <i>Holy Rosary</i>	8:30
		<i>St. Mary's</i>	NOON
		<i>Sacred Heart</i>	6:30
		BOOKFAIR – Lima visits	1:00 – 3:15
		- Open hours	3:30-4:00
		Living Rosary-St. Mary's	2:40
		7 BBB @ Home vs Eleva	5:00
Wednesday	12/09	BOOKFAIR - Open hours	3:30- 4:00
		Closed Dress Rehearsal K-3 Christmas Program- LIMA	1:30
		Athletic Committee meeting – Durand campus	6:00
Thursday	12/10	School Mass at Holy Rosary	8:30
		BOOKFAIR - Open hours	3:30 – 4:00
		7 th BBB @ IC (no fans)	5:00
		5 th BBB @ IC (no fans)	6:00
Friday	12/11	BOOKFAIR - Open hours	3:30 – 4:00
		Non dress code for Service (make a difference day)	
		6 BBB @ Alma	5:00
		7 BBB @ Alma	6:00
Sunday	12/13	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	
		K-3 rd Grade Christmas Program @ Lima Campus	1:00
Monday	12/14	Last day for BOOKFAIR - Open hours	3:30 – 4:00

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Father Emmanuel as he celebrates his 10-year anniversary of ordination to the Priesthood! May the Holy Spirit continue to work through him.
- Our Assumption families, that they remain healthy spiritually, emotionally and physically.
- Our students, that their words and actions reflect love and respect for all.
- Those all who are sick or undergoing surgery that they may find comfort in the Lord's healing hand.

With Blessings of Peace and Joy,



Mrs. Mary Lansing
Principal