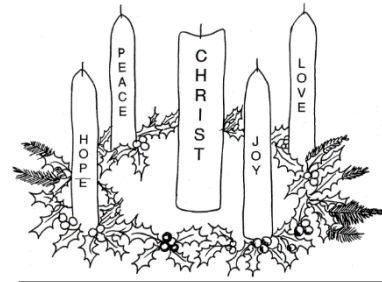


Apple Bytes

November 29, 2017

St. Mary School Newsletter



1st Sunday of Advent – Dec. 3



Fifth Grade students meeting the challenge to make the tallest tower out of gumdrops and toothpicks in STEM class with Mrs. Conry.

Dear St. Mary School Families,

Advent begins December 3. During Advent we tell students to prepare their hearts for Christmas by doing good for others. We also light the Advent Wreath candles for each week at school. I encourage families to obtain a wreath for home to prepare for Christmas.

BLESSING OF AN ADVENT WREATH FROM USCCB

The use of the [Advent Wreath](#) is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent.

When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response (R/.) Who made heaven and earth.

Then the Scripture, [Isaiah 9:](#) (lines 1-2 and 5-6) or [Isaiah 63](#) (lines 16-17 & 19) or [Isaiah 64](#) (lines 2-7) is read:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.

May he come quickly and not delay.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

The blessing may conclude with an Advent song —From [Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers](#)

PSO –Mark your calendar – **Santa Shop will be held tomorrow, Friday, December 1st.** Forms & labels were sent home Monday or Tuesday with the students this week. Please have them filled out & return along with cash or check (made out to St. Mary PSO) and return them in an envelope on Friday. **Please limit purchases to 10 per student.**

It's not too late to volunteer! Set up at 2:30 tonight, Thursday, and Santa Shop is Friday, from 8:30 until 3:00 pm (approximately) including take down. Please contact Jean Butler (440-787-4818), even an hour will help. Virtus training needed. Lunch will be provided. Thank you!

STORYTELLING – next storytelling will be held on **Thursday, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7 from 3:15-4:15/4:30 in the Library.**
Please send in a note if your child is attending.

ACADEMIC CHALLENGE - will be held on **Thursday, November 30th**. Please send in a note if your child is attending.

PRESCHOOL – NO PRESCHOOL on **Thursday, December 7th** for the **3 year old Preschool children**. We will be having conferences.

PSO will have a fundraiser on Sunday, **December 17, 2017** at **Quaker Steak and Lube** from **4-10:00**.

NO SCHOOL – for Christmas break from Monday, **December 18th** through and including **Monday, January 1st**. School resumes Tuesday, January 2nd.