

St. Cecilia School

December 5, 2011

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December Virtue of the Month: Prayer

Discipline with Purpose Skill: Sharing Time, Space, People, Things

Come, Emmanuel

It is hard to believe that we are beginning the second week of Advent. Although our school is a buzz of activity during these December days, we pause daily to light our Advent wreath, to reflect on God's message to us in the readings from scripture, and to pray that we may be the Light of Christ in our world today. May this season of grace hold many special blessings for you and your family!

Congratulations

On Saturday, December 3rd, ninety-six children from our parish received the Sacrament of Penance for the first time. We congratulate our students and their families! It was a joy for us to share this special celebration with them! We extend a very special thank you to our parents and to our teachers—Mrs. Lorraine Sonneborn, Sister Hannah Miller, Mrs. Theresa Stokes, and Sister Mary Praskac—for preparing our students so well to receive this sacrament. May this be the beginning of a very special relationship with our Lord in this special gift of His love and forgiveness.

Santa's Secret Shop

Santa and his elves transformed our auditorium into a wonderful place this past week where the thoughts of our students centered on others as they purchased their Christmas surprises. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting this event and to thank, in particular, Mrs. Eileen Litka, Mrs. Christine Zones, our Home and School Board Members, and all our parents who volunteered their services to make Santa's Secret Shop a successful venture.

Our Student Council, under the direction of Mr. Marzullo, did a great job providing gift wrapping for our students. Thank you one and all!



Discipline with Purpose

This month our students will be working on sharing time, space, people and things as part of our Discipline with Purpose program. Skills that we hope our students will acquire are the following:

- Wait their turn.
- Allow others to speak during conversations.
- Keep things orderly and clean.
- Return shared items in good condition.
- Befriend others and not get jealous if their friend/teachers are shared.
- Ask to use items that belong to others.
- Respect the privacy of others.

We invite you to join us at home by reinforcing these skills with your children. Perhaps the Advent season will provide ample opportunities for doing so.

Important Reminders

- **Thursday, December 8th, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** There will be **NO SCHOOL** for students on this day. It is a holyday of obligation. **Masses will be celebrated on Wednesday evening at 5:30 and 7:00 PM and on Thursday at 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 AM and 5:30 PM.**
 - **CYO Lunch With Santa** will take place in the school auditorium on **Sunday, December 11, from 1:30 until 3:30 PM**
 - There will be **NO SCHOOL** for students on **Wednesday, December 14.** This is a Professional Development Day for the faculty.
 - **Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Friday, December 16th.** There will be **NO SCHOOL** for students on this day.
 - **Dr. Patricia Sisca Pace** is offering a program for students preparing to take the **Neumann Scholarship Exam on Saturday, December 17,** from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM at Saint Cecilia School. For more information, please contact Dr. Pace at 215-725-6568.
 - **Dismissal for the Christmas holidays will be at 12:30 PM on Friday, December 23.**
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