

December 5, 2013

Dear Parents,

With the beginning of the Advent season, the children are experiencing various Catholic customs - the Advent wreath, the Jesse tree, and the lighting of our Christmas tree in the school foyer. Their teachers and I have explained to them that this is a season to await the coming of Jesus. They are learning that there are actually 3 comings of Jesus that we celebrate on Christmas Day...

- the commemoration of the birth of the historical Jesus when he came as a poor baby into the world,
- the coming of Jesus to us each day through the celebration of the Eucharist and through other people's love,
- and our belief in the second coming of Jesus to earth at the end of time in all of His glory.

It is a beautiful season and one of excitement and joy as young children also await Santa Claus and Christmas vacation.

Our Christmas Bazaar will be held this Sunday beginning at 11:00AM. The HSA board members have been very busy planning the event and we ask that all parents and friends support this important fundraiser.

We will be placing our Jesse Tree ornaments on the Jesse tree next Wed. Dec. 11th during the morning prayer service. All parents are invited to attend.

The children are very busy preparing for our annual Christmas program to be held Wednesday, Dec. 18th at 7:00PM. Doors will open at 6:45PM.

Please remember that our school will be closing on **Friday Dec. 20th at noon and will re-open on Monday, January 6th**. A reminder, also, if you wish to donate to Fr. Ken's Christmas gift which will be presented to him on that Friday, you may do so by sending your donation to school in an envelope with your child's name addressed "Fr. Ken's Christmas gift."

We are happy to report that we have purchased 7 new computers for the lab which have been received and programmed. Thank you to Mrs. Florczak and her husband who have spent much time doing so. All students are now able to work on individual computers.

Finally, it has been suggested that parents be able to attend morning prayer when it is their children's birthday. This is a nice custom and we can certainly allow this. Please feel free to join us at that time.

May God continue to hold you and your family in the palm of His hands.

Mrs. Patricia Graham