



Monday Morning Advent Prayer Gathering

During this special Season of Advent our school community will gather on Monday mornings in our gymnasium to begin our week in prayer. This is a beautiful tradition that was started years ago by Ms. Scipioni, our former Principal. Each grade level processes to the gym with their class Advent wreath, and upon entering goes to a designated area and forms a circle around their wreath. The darkness of the gym is overcome by the light from the Advent wreath. Each week the light increases as we anticipate and prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ into our lives and the world.

Our prayer service continues at 8:30 AM,
Monday, December 10, 2018.

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families



Each family has been given a small weekly guide titled, *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families*, which provides a brief reflection on the Gospel for each Sunday and Holyday for this year.

Books were sent home to families on Thursday,
November 29, 2018.

We hope that you will make a concerted effort to use this guide during this season of Advent. Also, to receive or exchange ideas, be encouraged with friendly reminders, or get tips for family faith-sharing, please follow this link to register at www.saint-andrew.net/celebrate.

Spirit Wear Day Friday, December 7

Our next Spirit Wear Day will be held tomorrow, Friday, December 7, 2018. Students and staff are invited and encouraged to wear their Saint Andrew Catholic School Spirit Wear.

Spirit Wear Subcommittee Update

Do you recall the solicitation for volunteers who would be interested in helping serve on a sub-committee tied to our Marketing Committee that would help us review and select items for Spirit Wear Days? If you don't, it isn't too surprising since that occurred on September 14, 2018.

We were blessed to have two wonderful parents step forward and volunteer to be on this subcommittee. Since September, both Mrs. Laura Weitnauer and Mrs. Jenny Plombon have been working tirelessly to review and select items for Spirit Wear Days. Indeed, they have attended several meetings with school and parish staff to ensure that we will be selecting fabrics and styles that will be kid and family friendly – and very reasonably priced.

It was an unexpected challenge to find a vendor who could satisfactorily embroider our recently updated Church and School logo on specialty items.

We are excited to announce that we will have a new set of Spirit Wear items available for purchase after the New Year, 2019. We have coordinated this roll out in conjunction with our celebration of Catholic Schools Week.



Advent Project: Unwrapped Toys for Children

For Advent this year, we will be collecting unwrapped toys for children in need within the Elk River community. The unwrapped toys are placed in a manger, which we have placed in the foyer of the main entrance of our school.

We collect the gifts daily in the morning during the Advent season. You are welcome to bring your donation of an unwrapped toy to school until Thursday, December 12, 2018. We are grateful for your generosity.

If you would like ideas for what to donate, you can pick up a paper angel from the tree in the gathering area at church.

Christmas Program December 18, 2018

The annual Christmas Program for Saint Andrew Catholic School is being held on Tuesday, December 18.

A musical prelude will be held prior to each program showcasing the individual musical talents of our student volunteers, and will provide beautiful background music as you enter the Church.

Afternoon Prelude: 12:00 PM
Afternoon Concert: 12:30 PM

Evening Prelude: 6:00 PM
Evening Concert: 6:30 PM

This beautiful and entertaining program will be presented by our students in Preschool through Grade Five.

Family Adoration Specifically, for Families with Young Children

Have you ever felt stressed out bringing your children to Mass? Parents know that sitting still is hard for children and being quiet is equally challenging. We want parents to feel comfortable at Mass. We know that many parents are feeling hypersensitive about how their children are acting. Sadly, there are some families who choose not to attend Mass because they think their family is distracting others at Mass.



We know parents feel more comfortable being at "family focused" occasions where kids are invited and welcome. Saint Andrew is offering a new opportunity for families. You are invited to Family Adoration from 5:00 – 7:00 PM on Sunday evening, December 9 and December 16.

Family Adoration is held in the main church and is for people of all ages from babies to adults. You are not required or expected to stay for the whole time, instead, you are invited to visit for as long as you would like. Adoration will not be as quiet as it is in the chapel, but the warmth and companionship of other families will enhance this time before the Real Presence of Jesus.

Tackle Box Closed during Christmas Break

Tackle Box will be open on December 21, 2018 for all day care. Regrettably, we did not have enough interest for the other days (only 2-4 kids signed up). Therefore, we have had to make the decision to be **CLOSED** December 26-31.