



Faces of Faith in Christ

Greetings St. Greg's Parents and Families,

It is my hope that an enjoyable Thanksgiving break was had by all. The holiday season is now upon us, and we are down to 17 school days before Christmas break. There are quite a few events to look forward to in the next month, most importantly, the beginning of Advent.

Advent Activities

This Sunday we will begin the season of Advent. It is such an exciting time as we anticipate the celebration of Jesus' birth on Christmas Day. We will gather to light our Advent wreath as a school community each Monday morning throughout Advent. In addition, as we prepare our hearts and homes for this joyous occasion, we encourage our students and families to participate in two very special challenges this year. The first one is the *St. Gregory the Great Parish Nativity Challenge*. Please see the flyer included to learn how to participate along with our parish members by setting up and reflecting upon the different figurines of the nativity scene. Our school students will also participate in various nativity activities with their buddy classes in the weeks ahead. The second challenge is the *St. Gregory the Great Brighten our World with Kindness Challenge*. For this challenge, a packet will be sent home on Monday, Dec. 4 with a calendar for doing random acts of kindness. Two paper light bulbs will be sent home for students to record their acts of kindness and send them back to school. We want to fill our halls and world with Jesus' light through random acts of kindness. Please watch for the packet to come home on Monday for more details.

Christmas Concerts

Mark your calendars and read the flyer for our music concerts coming up on December 13th. All are welcome to attend the K4-K5 Kindergarten concert at 9:30am, the 1:30pm rehearsal performance for grades 1-4, and/or the 6:30pm Christmas concert performance. The students and Mrs. Collins are working so hard to prepare a wonderful performance for all to enjoy.

All School Field Trip

Please watch for permission slips to come home on December 4th for our all-school fieldtrip to Southgate Cinemas to see the movie *The Star*. A new children's film, *The Star* tells the Christmas *nativity* story through the eyes of the animals involved. The students will be able to enjoy the viewing of *The Star* at one of two showings on December 11. It will be a creative way to incorporate our Nativity Challenge into the curriculum! There will be no cost for our students to attend this fieldtrip, but if anyone would like to make a monetary donation towards the trip, we would graciously accept.

Secret Santa Shop

Hopefully you have heard that our Secret Santa Shop will be open for student purchases on December 15. More information to come from our Home and School Association.

Conferences

Thank you to those who attended the parent teacher conferences before the Thanksgiving break. If you were unable to attend, please contact your child's teacher to reschedule. Please

know that the 1st quarter conference is mandatory as the day is counted as a school day. Any student who did not attend the conference on either of the scheduled days will be marked absent for one day.

Kind Regards,
Amy Schlegel

Christmas Concert 2017

K4 and K5 Program

As in the past, the children in K4 and K5 are busy preparing for their special Christmas presentation. The program schedule will be as follows:

December 13, 2017

at

9:30 A.M.

in

Tenpenny Hall

We ask that K4 wear Christmas Best; this means dresses, skirts, ties but please, no jeans or shorts or shirts with writing. School uniforms are always appropriate.

K5 attire will be different. If your child is a "star" or "angel", they are encouraged to wear Christmas Best; all others will be in costume.

Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4 Program

These classes have also been working very hard to prepare for their program. This part of the program will be as follows:

December 13, 2017

at

6:30 P.M.

in

Tenpenny Hall

Children in the program are to be in their classrooms no later than **6:10**. As in the past, Christmas Best is the appropriate attire. Please choose shoes that will be safe as we will be on risers. There will be a 1:00 rehearsal which you are invited to attend if the evening time doesn't fit your schedule.

We look forward to seeing you on December 13, 2017. Any questions may be directed to the school office or Joanne Collins at jcollins@stgregsmil.org.

Nativity Challenge



We invite you to accept our NATIVITY CHALLENGE!
This Advent we are challenging every parishioner to share their Catholic faith with the world
through our NATIVITY CHALLENGE!

Here are the details:

- Proudly set up a Nativity (or two or three!). They can be big or little, fancy or simple, indoors and/or outdoors.
- Take a picture of your nativity and email it to mzakula@stgregsmil.org or message it to us on Facebook. We can even copy your photo if you bring the hard copy of it to the parish office (for those without internet).
- Each week we will feature the photos we receive on our Facebook page and/or on a display board.
- On the THIRD weekend of Advent, bring your baby Jesus figurine to Mass with you. This Sunday is known as Bambinelli Sunday in Italy and it involves blessing the baby Jesus figurines so that they are ready to be added to the Nativity on Christmas eve.
- Each week we will feature a Reflection related to the Nativity figurines in the bulletin.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact Michelle Zakula in the parish office! It's going to be an exciting and prayerful Advent as we keep Christ at the center of our preparations in our parish and in our homes!

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

There is an all school Mass on Friday, December 8th at 8:30am for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The 6th graders will be assisting. The school office will be closed during Mass. There is also an evening Mass at 6pm.

Santa's Secret Gift Shop

It is that time of year again for the annual Secret Santa Gift Shop. The Shop offers a selection of quality items for our children to experience the joy of choosing their own special holiday gifts for their family, freinds, and pets. After they have selected their gifts, free gift wrapping is provided. The gifts are moderately priced, with most under \$5 and only a few items slightly over that amount. Secret Santa's shop offers a worry-free event with gifts that the children will be proud to give to their family and friends. More information about the shop is being sent home in your child's backpack today.

Volunteer's Needed

Need volunteer help with the Santa's Secret Shop on Friday, December 15th 2017. This year, the gift shop will be offered by "Holiday Treasures" again, who will be providing a selection of quality items for our children to choose gifts for their family and friends. The gift shop will be held from 8:30am until approximately 3:30pm. After the shop is complete we will need help cleaning up. We will need your help to set up, to assist children with buying, wrap items, and to pack unsold merchandise. Please indicate below if you have a preference where you would like to help, and the time in which you are available.

Return to school Attention: Kelly Kleist or email Kmkstgregs1@gmail.com. Again, thank you for considering volunteering to help make this a memorable and fun event for our children. We look forward to seeing you on December 15th.

See attached [volunteer form](#)

(Kelly Kleist)

Jackson Park Community Association Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Jackson Park Community Association and North Shore Bank will be sponsoring the 29th annual Jackson Park Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, December 1st, at 6:30 p.m. on the triangle of the South 43rd Street, West Forest Home Avenue, and West Oklahoma Avenue.

Please join your neighbors, the Audubon School Band, Our Lady of Lourdes church choir, and local dignitaries for caroling, followed by a reception across the street at the newly opened North Shore Bank. Refreshments will be served. Meet your neighbors on this festive night as we welcome the holiday season with the singing of carols around the tree.

(John Thiele, Jackson Park Community Association)

November Synod Newsletter

Thanksgiving is also a wonderful time to start new traditions that reflect our gratitude to God for the bounty he has entrusted to us. We can make this time of year a springboard for living the heart of stewardship by making this day even more special. As we approach Thanksgiving, take some time to think about what Thanksgiving tradition is meaningful to you and your family.

[Newsletter from Archbishop ListECKi](#)

Boy Scout Christmas Tree Lot

The Boy Scout Christmas Tree Lot is now open!
 Lot Times* Weekdays: 4pm-8pm ~ Weekends: 8am-8pm
 Come out and get your Christmas tree and wreath and always thanks for your support!

(Mary Wejrowski)

Middle School Activities

Pius XI Catholic High School has a number of upcoming events that may be of interest to middle school students. Please see the attached flyers for our middle school choir (grades 5-8), Les Miserables auditions (grades 4-8) and an invitation to winter basketball games (grades 6-8).

[Visual Arts Scholarship and Open Gallery Nights](#)

More information available in the school office.

(Angela Mullooly, Pius XI High School)

Upcoming Events:

December 13: *K4 & K5 Christmas Concert 9:30am*
Grades 1-4 Christmas Concert 6:30pm
 December 15: *Spirit Wear Day; Secret Santa Gift Shop*

Christmas Break
December 23 - January 2

Attachments & Flyers: (more information is available in school office)

[December Calendar](#)
[Milwaukee Wave Faith & Family Night](#)
[Bucks Youth Basketball Clinic](#)
[Bucks Little Dribblers Program](#)
[2017 Air Quality Letter](#)



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