

December 1, 2021 Newsletter



St Gregory the Great Parish School

Positive people, learning, living, and
growing in Christ through faith and service

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Faith In Action

December 1, 2021

Dear St. Greg's Parents and Families,

It seems as though we blinked and autumn escaped. Scarecrows turned into snowmen and we are beginning to see colorful Christmas lights popping up in many windows. The season of joy is upon us. We wait with joyful hearts... O Come, Emanuel.

Advent

This week we lit the first candle on our advent wreathes. We said a special prayer and brought shepherds, sheep, and stable animals to our nativity scene. We are reminded how a shepherd watches over his flock and knows each one by name. Jesus is our good Shepherd who watches over us all. We are called to watch over others as Jesus watches over us. Follow us on Facebook to see how our nativity and anticipation grow each week through advent.

First Trimester Report Cards

The 1st trimester ended yesterday and report cards will be distributed next week. Please know that these reports are a look into how well each student is meeting grade level standards at this time. Students learn at different rates and the proficiency rating tells us where the student is in the learning process towards mastery. For a review of standards based grading, please see the attached parent guide. Information regarding standards based grading can also be found in our parent handbook.

Christmas Concert Event

Tuesday at 6pm in Tenpenny Hall is the place to be! Grades 4K through 4th grade will be participating in our choral presentation and Christmas event. We ask that you limit your attendees to immediate family only. Masks are required for all who enter the building. Students are to dress in holiday/dressed-up attire. No jeans or shorts, please. All dresses and skirts should be to the knees and shoulders should be covered. Be sure students can walk safely in their shoes. Students will come directly to the hall and sit with their classes on the designated benches. Hot chocolate and crafts will be available after the concert. One of the crafts is to make a baby Jesus to be blessed at the December 16 school mass.

Secret Santa's Workshop

One of our great holiday traditions is returning to St Gregory the Great. During the school day on December 17, 2021, each child have an opportunity to shop at Santa's Workshop and purchase inexpensive gifts for their families, friends, and their loved ones. The children will then be able to bring the gifts that they purchased back home to put under the

tree or in stockings. Most items are between \$1.00 and \$5.00. Families can determine how much money they wish to send with their child. Please send cash in an envelope with the child's name and grade labeled. Volunteers and older students are available to help younger ones with their purchases. More information will be coming soon.

From Home and School Association

Dear St. Greg's Families,

Christmas is a time to reflect on the birth of our Lord, the blessings that have been bestowed upon us, the giving of gifts, and the sharing of our faith, hope and love. The Home & School Association offers you an opportunity to share in the gift-giving tradition at our school by giving to the St. Gregory the Great teacher and faculty gift fund.

This season of giving brings to mind the dedication and caring that teachers and faculty provide each day to our children. The generosity and support of this fund in past years has made it possible to present the teachers, faculty and support staff with a wonderful Christmas gift. Best of all, this gift fits everyone perfectly!

The gift fund seems to be the ideal gift-giving solution for many families. For others, it supplements the loving gifts that are given by the children. Whichever option you choose, your gifts are truly appreciated by all.

Families can choose to contribute any amount to this fund. While the gift amount will be confidential, the family name will appear in a card along with a scrip certificate that will be presented just in time for Christmas vacation.

Please list your family name on your contribution. The contribution should be returned to school with attention to: The Home & School Assoc: Gift Fund. Checks should be made payable to: St. Gregory the Great.

Thank you for your help and support throughout the year. We wish you a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Catholic Social Responsibility Guidebook For Catholic Schools

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee Office of Schools has developed a Catholic Social Responsibility Guidebook for all Catholic schools in our 10-county Archdiocese in southeastern Wisconsin.

The concept of Catholic Social Responsibility is not new. In fact, rooted in Scripture, and the teachings of the Church, it has always been an important focus of our Catholic school curriculum and programming. What's new about this approach is that our school leaders

have organized a framework to ensure that Catholic Social Teachings are integrated into every aspect of school life.

Your principals, teachers and staff have received the guidebook and are actively making it part of everything students experience in the classroom, the school environment and even extracurricular activities. This Catholic Social Responsibility framework helps students navigate issues they may encounter academically, socially, and spiritually as they grow into adults who are mature in their faith and productive citizens in society.

The guidebook provides direction for students in responding to such societal issues as:

- Culture
- Economics
- Racism and
- Civic Participation for the Common Good

It is very important, especially now, to reinforce the most fundamental aspect of Catholic Social Teaching — the dignity of the human person. Because every individual is made in the image and likeness of God, we follow the two great commandments — love God and love your neighbor.

This approach also presents an invitation for you to study alongside your children and learn about the Catholic response to the various problems in our society. You can be engaged, along with your children, in the process of growing and learning how to respond, from a Catholic perspective, to the needs and challenges of society today.

Thank you for entrusting your child to the care and the responsibility of our Catholic schools. We're grateful to partner with you in the important process of forming your children into Christians who will make a difference in our world, manifesting the love of God in every aspect of their lives.

Please see attachment for guidebook

Kind Regards,

Amy Schlegel

Principal

Text

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT'S

Christmas Event

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 6:15-8PM
GRADES 4K-4TH GRADE CHORAL
PRESENTATION
CRAFTS AND HOT CHOCOLATE

Doors open at 6pm.

Come spread the Christmas cheer!

Students may make or take a craft kit
to create a baby Jesus.
We will bless the baby Jesuses at our
Dec. 16 school mass!



**First Reconciliation
this Saturday**

Please keep our St. Greg School & Lighthouse students in prayer as they participate in the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, December 4 at 9:30 am

For those participating, please arrive no later than 9:20am. Use door #9 to enter the church.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Stores

The St. Vincent de Paul society operates two Thrift Stores in the Milwaukee area, located at 2320 West Lincoln Ave and 4476 S 108a St. (Next to Walmart). Shoppers at the stores can purchase merchandise at low prices, which in turn helps to fund the two neighborhood meal programs run by the Society in the Milwaukee area. If you love a good bargain, come check out the store. We've even provided coupons to get you started! With the holidays just around the corner, the stores will soon be offering gently used holiday dress up items, decorations and toys.

Cleaning closets this fall? Stores take donations of gently used items in good condition such as furniture, household items, winter coats and clothing.

If you are in need of help with purchasing items from the [The St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store](#), our Society at St. Greg's can write a voucher (gift certificate) for any school family in need. Did you know that in addition to gently used items, the stores also sell new mattresses, box springs and bed frames?

If you would like to talk with someone about a voucher for store purchases, please call the parish office at 414-543-8292, and ask to speak with someone from St. Vincent de Paul, or, email us at svdp@stgregsmil.org. All requests for assistance are confidential. We are here to help.



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