

Blessed Sacrament

A Community of Faith, Knowledge, and Service



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2016

CELEBRATE CHRIST'S COMING



This Advent brings a period of time for Christians to set things right. At Christmas we rejoice in the birth of Jesus to make all things new. We can turn to Christ with grateful hearts. We praise God for the generosity that has been shown to us in our lives. We celebrate the fact that we are a "eucharistic people"- a people of praise and thanksgiving. It is time for us to acknowledge our need for forgiveness and to experience a change of heart.

In order to make this season more meaningful and prayerful for everyone, the following activities have been planned. Each morning all students, teachers, and staff members will gather together to pray, sing, and light the candles of our advent wreath. Parents are invited to join us in the gym, **Monday through Friday at 8:10 a.m.** for this special time of prayer and reflection beginning November 28th through December 22nd.

During the Advent season, we would also like to help children by providing them books, new socks, mittens, hats and underwear. These items will be donated to children at our Parish Outreach Ministry. If you wish to help, please send these items to school with your child by **Monday, December 19th.** As children bring in these items, we will decorate the tree in the front hallway. Thus Advent Angels will transform our Christmas tree into a "Giving Tree". Because we are unusually blessed with many riches, reminding our children to think about others is extremely important. Encouraging children to buy an item for the Giving Tree from his or her allowance can be a great experience to build compassion within families. Help your children keep Christ in their hearts, as they share with others and show kindness to all. It is our fervent wish that you and your family will be especially blessed and filled with the Holy Spirit, and may the activities you share in the holiday season ahead bring you closer to each other and to our Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



Our annual Christmas Holiday Concert will be presented **Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** in the gym. All students in grades 2nd through 6th will participate in this joyous event. Our Tiny Eagles, Pre-K, Kindergarten, and First grade students will have a special holiday concert on **Friday, December 23, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.** in the gym. Mrs. Mary Lynn Giacobbe, our music teacher, has been working extremely hard with students to prepare them in sharing the magic of Christmas with their families and friends through this musical program. Each year we look forward to these special presentations.

All students are asked to dress up for the concert. Please, no sneakers or jeans. Students in grades 2 through 6 will need to come to the school cafeteria at 6:45 P.M. for the performance on December 21st.

SCHOOL BOOK FAIR COMING



Beginning on Sunday morning, **December 4th** and running through Wednesday, **December 7th,** you and your family, and friends are invited to attend the Blessed Sacrament Book Fair. This year's Book Fair will feature a wide selection of wonderful, reasonably priced books for children available through Scholastic School Book Fairs. The response was so overwhelming last year that the school received many new books for the children's use, as well as enough money to buy new materials and books for the library. Why not take the time to browse and see if you would like to purchase some new books for your home library. Books always make great gifts, and you would be helping to add more books to our current library collection.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



The annual Parent Teacher Association Breakfast with Santa will take place on **Sunday, December 4th from 8:00am until Noon** in the school cafeteria. The PTA successfully organizes this event each year and donates all of the proceeds to the Parish Outreach Ministry. **\$6 for Adults, \$4 ages 4-12, 3 & under Free.** Fluffy, light, and delicious pancakes, prepared by expert chefs, will be served along with eggs and sausage. Bring your cameras to take a picture of Santa with your child.

ROCK-A-THON ASSEMBLY

This year we raised **\$9576** due to everyone's support. Remy Cleland was the grand prize winner raising **\$1125**. Prizes and tag day passes were distributed at a special assembly to celebrate the success of this event.

DISNEY TRIP/CASH RAFFLE WINNER



On Saturday, November 19th at the PTA Holiday Auction, the winning ticket belonging to Mr. John Ferguson of Minoa was pulled from the gold drum. Thank you so very much to all of the families and friends of Blessed Sacrament School who supported this fundraiser.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS



That time of year is again upon us when inclement weather and related problems cause schools to either open late or to be closed for the day. **Blessed Sacrament School will not be mentioned by name, but rather will be identified, as Syracuse Parochial Schools in the announcements when delayed openings or closing are to be in effect. If the Syracuse City School District is announced closed or delayed, we are also closed or delayed.**

HOLIDAY AUCTION



A Special **thank you** to all parents, friends, faculty, staff, and parishioners for all your support in making this year's Holiday Auction a "smashing" success by raising **over \$29,000!!** Thank you all!

BITS AND PIECES

- **Grade 1A & 1B** made over 100 pumpkin pies for the Rescue Mission.
- Mrs. Stanczyk's & Mrs. Pelose's second graders will sing at the Christmas Mass at James Square Nursing Home on **Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** Permission slips and more information regarding this annual field trip will be sent home.
- Mrs. Holly Wait was the lucky winner of the \$500 tuition voucher at the November 10th PTA Meeting. Congratulations to the Wait family!!
- Senior students from Bishop Grimes High School will be volunteering their time every other week to teach 5th and 6th graders Spanish.
- Support Christ the King Retreat House by attending the December 11th performance of Mary Poppins at Syracuse Stage. Tickets \$50 for Adults and \$35. Reception begins at 12:30pm with the production beginning at 2:00pm.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE



We are coming into the cold and flu season; please remember proper hand washing is the best way to prevent spreading the flu and germs. If your child is running a temperature of 100 or more please keep him/her home to ensure a speedy recovery.

If you have not sent in a copy of your child's private physical, please remember to send it in. Any health questions please feel free to call. It is a pleasure taking care of your children.