

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

Dear St. Bridget Parish School Families:



Catholic Values...  
21st Century Learning



I hope you were able to enjoy time with your family during our Thanksgiving break!

**Middle School Information Night – Nov. 30:** Families with students in grades 3, 4, and 5 are especially encouraged to attend our Middle School Information Night this Thursday, Nov. 30. The evening is open to anyone interested in learning about what our middle school offers.

The main presentation will happen in the school gym from 6:30 – 7:00 pm, with an opportunity to visit classrooms before (5:30 – 6:30) and after (7:00 – 8:00). In addition to our teachers, graduates and parents will be on hand to give their perspective on why St. Bridget's is an **excellent choice** for Grades 6, 7, and 8. Child care will be provided. Please enter through the gym doors.

**Holiday Happenings – Dec. 2:** The Holiday Happenings Fundraiser is fast approaching. This year, it is on Saturday, December 2. Each year, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade works at concessions to earn the money need for their class trip, class retreat, and graduation expenses.

**To help defray costs, we have always relied on the school community to help with donations (pies, food items, or money to buy these items). Below are the links for donations we are asking for to help ensure a successful fundraiser. Each year we help out as a school community, just as we will help when your children reach 8<sup>th</sup> grade.**

**Please help with these food/pie donations. As I write this just 16 out of our 110 families have signed up to donate something. Perhaps our request got lost in the Thanksgiving rush – but please these things are needed for Saturday's event! Thank you!**

Link for:  
[HH Food Items Needed](#)

Link for:  
[HH Pies](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Leary ([mleary@stbparish.com](mailto:mleary@stbparish.com)). Thank you.

**Advent Begins Dec. 3:** Our Church's liturgical calendar begins anew each year with the season of Advent. This four week period is observed in anticipation of Christmas. Many Advent traditions and feasts are celebrated during this time, including the Advent Wreath, the Jesse Tree, the Nativity scene, blessing of the tree, Advent Calendar, St. Nicholas Feast Day – Dec. 6, Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Dec. 8, Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day – Dec. 12, and St. Lucy Feast Day – Dec. 13. What are your family traditions for this season? If you'd like to begin one, or add to what your family already does, there are many online resources available!

As a school, we have a tradition of gathering as a school in the gym to light an Advent Wreath each Monday, as well as lighting the Advent Wreath in church during our Wednesday School Mass.

**First Reconciliation Retreat – Dec. 3:** Many of our second grade students have been preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation since September! These students will participate in a final preparation session and prayer service Sun., Dec. 3 from 1-2 pm in the church, and receive the sacrament for the first time Sat., Dec. 9 at 9 am! Please keep the following students in your prayers as they take another step in their faith journey:

Aiden Adams	Dalton Leier	Evelyn Sykora
Jack Hayes	Abigail Morgan	Emme Torgerson
Avianna Hedlund	Piper Murphy	Frankie Torgerson
Kayla Hoeft	Emily Nagel	Bennett Tryba
Zoe Johnston	Cadence Novak	Charles VanNurden

**Poinsettia Delivery – Dec. 4:** We are anticipating the delivery of our poinsettias on Mon., Dec. 4. Families who have placed an order will receive an e-mail indicating that orders are ready for pick up as soon as we have sorted the product. Thanks to everyone who was able to support this fundraiser for our school!

**Home & School Association Meeting – Dec. 4:** Our next Home & School Association meeting will be held Mon., Dec. 4 at 6:30 pm in the Before/After Care room.

Please see the attached minutes of our October meeting, and the agenda for this December meeting.

Also, attached is a flyer reminder of our Bake Sale scheduled at the church following the Dec. 16-17 weekend Masses. We need a variety of parent help with this Bake Sale. Sign up at this link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f49ada92ba4ff2-christmas1>

**Girls Basketball Home Game – Dec. 5:** Our girls' basketball teams each have a **HOME GAME** next Tues., Dec. 5! These students and coaches have been working hard after school getting ready for the basketball season! Come, cheer them on to victory!

5:15 pm	Grades 4/5 Girls vs St. Ambrose
6:30 pm	Grades 6-8 Girls vs Holy Spirit

**Feast of St. Nicholas – Dec. 6:** We celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, on Dec. 6. St. Nicholas is the classroom saint for our PreK classrooms. Our PreK has a tradition of making a paper stocking for everyone in our school for this special day. Hopefully St. Nicholas will provide a sweet treat or two for our delightful boys and girls!

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Dec. 8:** On Fri., Dec. 8 we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This day is a celebration of our belief that Mary, the Mother of Jesus, from the first moment of her existence, was “full of grace”, without the stain/effects of original sin. This is a holy day in our church and fittingly, we will attend Mass as a school on Friday instead of our usual Wednesday.

**Christmas Program – Dec. 14:** Hopefully you already have this date circled on your calendar! Our Christmas Program will be presented in the gym Thurs., Dec. 14 at 6:30 pm. **Students are asked to “dress up” for the evening performance, keeping in mind basic modesty and good taste! Color choices are up to you.**

We will also have a dress rehearsal Thurs., Dec. 14 at 2 pm. This is open to anyone who would like attend, but especially to those who would find it difficult to come in the evening. Your presence at a dress rehearsal really helps the students put the finishing touches on their program, as there some aspects of a performance that we are unable to simulate without an audience! Come, if you are able! **Students do not need to wear uniforms on this day, but are encouraged to dress in black and white (khaki), or close to that, if possible for the dress rehearsal.** No need to purchase something new to accommodate this request. We think they would be an impressive group dressed in similar colors!

**Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest – Grades K-8:** Our St. Bridget Parish Knights of Columbus Council #4902 is sponsoring their annual "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. There are 3 age divisions: Age 5-7 (Grades K-2) Age 8-10 (Grades 3-5) and Age 11-14 (Grades 6-8)

**This year, one winner will be selected from each grade, K-8. From the nine winning selections, 3 finalists will be chosen, one for each age division, to go on to compete at the diocesan level. We will announce the winners at the end of our Christmas Program on Thurs., Dec. 14.**

Contest rules and judging rubrics have been distributed to classroom teachers. Posters will be completed at school and must be turned in to the classroom teacher no later than Mon., Dec. 11.

**December Lunch Menu/School Cook:** Our December lunch menu will be sent home in the BEE Books later this week. Please watch for it.

We continue our search for a school cook. I've offered the position to numerous candidates but generally the lack of year-round employment is the hindrance to someone accepting it. I am pleased to report that our wages are competitive.

I am deeply grateful to the parents and grandparents who have continued to help us. Would you consider helping one day? The need is great! We're getting by, but it certainly is not ideal. The time spent in the kitchen instead of the office or visiting classrooms is taking away from other equally important things that need attention during the school day. Let us continue to pray.

**Christmas Gift Ideas – Imaging World Uniform & Spirit Wear or Lands End:** Have you started your Christmas shopping? Looking for gift ideas for your children? How about something from Imaging World Uniform & Spirit Wear or Lands End School Uniforms? Shop online at these links:

Imaging World:  
<https://stbuniformsspiritwear2016.itemorder.com>

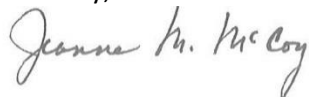
Lands End:  
[www.landsend.com/SchoolUniforms](http://www.landsend.com/SchoolUniforms)  
This summer we added a fleece jacket in navy or forest to the Lands End choices. **School #900147778**  
Just noticed: 50% off until midnight tonight!

**River Falls Swim Club:** The River Falls Swim Club would like to invite interested swimmers, ages 6-18, to join them for their upcoming swim session. Join them to explore a fun new sport, make some new friends and have a great time at the pool.

Registration is Thurs., Dec. 7 from 6 - 7 pm at the River Falls High School Pool. More details on the club website: RiverFallsSwimClub.org. See attached flyer for more information.

Thank you for the many ways you support our school!

Sincerely,



Jeanne McCoy, Principal

Bee Book Enclosures Today – 11/28

None today –  
but December lunch menu will come later this week!

Permission Slips Sent Today – 11/28 -- NONE!

E-Buzz Attachments Today – 11/28

- 1) Home & School Agenda for Dec. 4 Meeting
- 2) Home & School Minutes of Oct. 2 Meeting
- 3) Home & School Bake Sale Flyer – Dec. 16-17
- 4) RF Swim Club – Reg. Dec. 7, 6-7 pm RFHS Pool