



Bear Blast

December 4 - 8, 2023



Our Mission - *United by our core values of Faith, Family, Knowledge and Service, St. Anthony Catholic School is committed to providing a learning environment that promotes academic excellence, spiritual growth, and moral development. Preparing students to be good stewards of God's gifts.*



Message from the Principal

Dear St. Anthony Families,

The magic of Christmas is all around us! We celebrated the First Sunday of Advent with our students hosting Mass and the Brass Ensemble playing! The students did a beautiful job! After Mass we joined together sharing a delicious breakfast cooked by the Men's Club and Santa was there! Our PTO opened Santa's Workshop and students went shopping! Thank you everyone who helped make this happen!

We are now beginning the season of Advent. A time of waiting, watching, listening. A time of remembering, anticipating. A time of renewal and wonder. The beginning of a new year - watching and waiting for the Savior of the world, expectant and hopeful. Our students begin their day with the charge to perform an Advent Good Deed. Please ask them to share the deed with you. Each classroom has an Advent wreath to remind us that God's love never ends. Each week has a theme, Hope, Love, Joy, Peace. By lighting the advent candles and reading the Bible scriptures, we are reminded about the meaning of Christ's coming in the past, in the future, and in our time. Our theme this week is Hope. Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

The Saint Houses have been tasked with filling a crèche with Acts of service or compassion that follow a virtue. They will be earning straw with every good deed to make a soft place for baby Jesus to lay in when he is born!

Come to the manger of my heart, Lord! We celebrate the coming of the Prince of Peace, together, all day, every day! I pray your week is full of hope as we begin this Advent season.

Blessings,
Mrs. Salemmo

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 30- Dec. 14 - Toys for Tots

December 4 - Advent Morning Prayer; 2:00 Dismissal; Faculty Meeting

December 5 - Band and Chorus Concert 6:30 p.m.

December 6 - STEAM Bus for 4th grade.

December 8 - 8:15 School Mass; Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

December 11 - Advent Morning Prayer

December 11 - 12 - 8th Grade Midterms

December 13 - December Birthday NUT Card Day

December 14 - Movie and Pajama Day; Class Christmas Parties; Schoolwide Christmas Concert 6:30 p.m.

December 15 - End Second Quarter; Noon Dismissal for Everyone

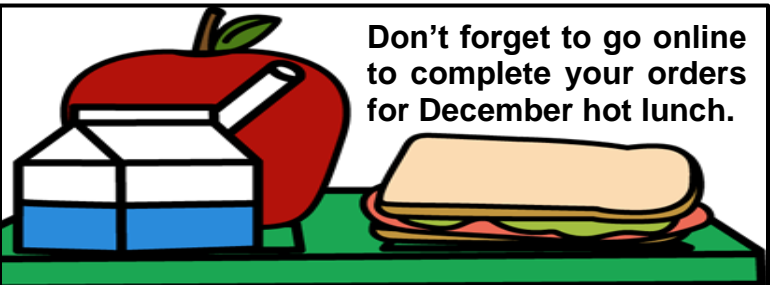
Dec. 18 - Jan. 2 - No School; Christmas Break

January 2 - Teacher Workday

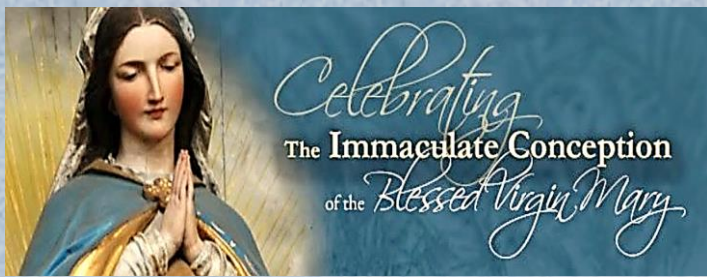
January 3 - School resumes for students

2:00

Monday is a 2:00 Dismissal. If this presents a challenge for your schedule, After Care will be provided free of charge until 3:30. After 3:30, normal fees will apply.



Don't forget to go online to complete your orders for December hot lunch.



December 8th marks the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It celebrates an important Catholic dogma, and it is a Holy Day of Obligation. Since the date is on Friday, students will meet their obligation at our regular 8:15 a.m. School Mass.

For us as members of the Catholic faith, the Immaculate Conception is not just significant, it is essential. Because of the grace of God, Mary was preserved from sin. Because Mary was preserved from sin, she was prepared to become the sinless Mother of Jesus, who by his life, death and resurrection, has ransomed us from sin. Because of Mary's Immaculate Conception, because of her "yes" to God, we have been redeemed, and given the promise of eternal life through the merits of Mary's Son, Jesus.

AN ADVENT PRAYER

*God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.*



*God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.*

God of hope, the rock we stand upon, be the center, the focus of our lives always, and particularly this Advent time. Amen.

Band and Chorus Concert

December 5 at 6:30 p.m.
St. Anthony Family Center

Please join us for an evening of Christmas music.

Chorus members should report to the Music Room by 5:45 p.m. Band Members report to the Family Center by 6:00 p.m.

Soft Enough for a King

Our students are performing acts of service and compassion to earn bags of hay, so that their House manger will be soft enough for Jesus. Each of our mangers have some hay, but they are far from being full. Please encourage your child to participate and help fill the manger.

**School-wide Christmas Program
December 14 at 6:30 p.m.**

Students in 3k – 3rd Grade will sing holiday songs. Followed by 4th – 8th Graders presenting the Christmas narrative "Light of the World."



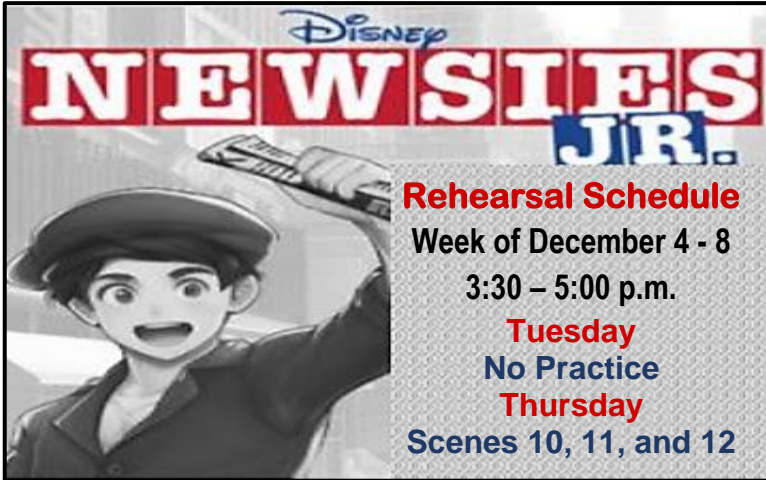
House Competition

We are collecting new unopened toys to be donated to Toys for Tots. Students will earn points for their House by bringing a toy to donate. The points will be awarded based on the percentage of families in the House who participated. The participation points will be multiplied by 3. We are asking each family to contribute a minimum of 1 toy. However, we will gladly accept more. Students will earn 1 point for each additional toy donated.



#iGIVECATHOLIC

Thank you to all those who supported the iGiveCatholic campaign. By supporting this important giving event, you have directly impacted our mission and every student on our campus. **Your donations helped us raise over \$45,000!** Thank you for making St. Anthony Catholic School a priority in your philanthropy.



Disney NEWSIES JR.

Rehearsal Schedule
 Week of December 4 - 8
 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday
 No Practice
Thursday
 Scenes 10, 11, and 12

BASKETBALL

Schedule for the Week of December 4 - 8

4th – 6th Team

Wednesday	3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Practice
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Middle School Team

Wednesday	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Practice
Friday	3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Practice

December Virtue: Generosity

Generosity – giving without counting the cost

“It means giving not only because we have extra or leftovers, but giving when there is a true cost to us - and expecting nothing in return. It means giving not only where we have a duty to give, but giving to the undeserving: to those we don’t like, or to those we do not know at all.” (*Virtues in Practice*)




IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

SCRIP GIFT CARD SEASON

Do all your holiday shopping in one impactful place. Whether you buy gift cards as presents or use them to buy gifts, your order immediately raises funds for our school. You now have the option to get gift cards sent directly where you want when ordering through the app.

Shopping at St. Anthony makes your life easier because you can get all your gift cards in one location. Come to the office to shop from the large inventory of gift cards we have in stock or order what you need for delivery based upon the schedule below. We accept cash or check for payment. For more information, contact Teri Kooper at tkooper@bellsouth.net.

Scrip Holiday Order Schedule

Wednesday, December 6 – order
 Monday, December 11 – approximate delivery date

Monday, December 11 – LAST ORDER
 Friday, December 15 – NOON DISMISSAL; Christmas Break begins

Lynch Creek Farm Fundraiser

Lynch Creek Farm is a family-owned business in Shelton, WA. They create beautiful fresh greenery wreaths, trees, centerpieces, and garland that are perfect to use to decorate your home for the holidays or for stress free gift giving. Items may be shipped directly to the recipient. You pick your approximate delivery date when you order. St. Anthony School will receive 15% of your purchase price, but the credit for giving an impressive gift that everyone will love goes to YOU!

Support our school. **Order by December 10.**

1. Visit [Lynch Creek Fundraiser – St. Anthony School](#)
2. Click on a product category or Shop Online.
3. Click Shop Now to give back 15% of your purchase.

Prefer to order by phone? Call 1-888-426-0781 and reference Campaign 301120

Questions, contact Teri Kooper at tkooper@bellsouth.net.

