



# PRAIRIE CATHOLIC WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

December 13, 2018

## From the Principal

Dear families,

During Advent - a time of joyful preparations for the birth of Christ celebrated at Christmas - the Catholic Church encourages people to strengthen their faith and fine tune their consciences through the sacrament of reconciliation.

Father Jim will listen to the confessions of students in grades 3-8 after weekly mass during Advent.

Parents please encourage your children to participate during our Christmas Eve Children's Mass at St. Gabriel's at 5:30. Traditionally we have students participating with the liturgy, and choir, and manger scene (Pre-K-5th). Karen Fisher has volunteered to help with the Christmas Eve Mass. As of right now we have only 5 students signed up. WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

We also need Mass servers at both churches for Christmas Eve at St. John's, St. Gabriel's, Midnight Mass at St. John's and Christmas Day mass at St. Gabriel's.



*Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.*

With peace~  
Mary Henry, Principal

**This is the Second Week of Advent** In this holy season of Advent, let us turn our hearts to God, who showers blessings on all those who hope and wait for him to come again in glory. For thousands of years, people had been waiting for a Great Light to dawn. God promised that one day that Light would be ours. Soon, we will celebrate Christmas, that wonderful day when the Great Light was born in Bethlehem and shed his peaceful joy on all humanity. God keeps his promises.

**STAR TRIP - YOUR FAITH AWAKENS** - A special thank you to Mrs. Stiemke for the wonderful program last night. It was enjoyed by all that attended.

**Library - Book Fair** - The PCS Library will again be hosting an Usborne Book Fair during Catholic Schools Week in January 2019. However, you can order NOW to have books for your Christmas giving AND the library will receive credit for your order. Shop online now through our eFair!

- Shop online at [PrairieUsborne.com](http://PrairieUsborne.com)
- Select "Prairie Catholic School" as your event
- If you choose FREE SHIPPING to Organization your books will be delivered after the Book Fair closes in January OR
- Choose Direct Shipping to receive your books before Christmas (order by December 14th). If you select direct shipping you will be charged a small shipping fee.



**Calendar Sweepstakes - On sale now:** Prairie Catholic Sweepstakes Calendars. We are off to a great start! The first drawing will be held Sunday, February 3, 2018. This fundraiser could raise as much as \$16,000.00 for the support of Prairie Catholic Schools. We need everyone's help for this fundraiser to be successful. **More calendars are available in the school office. Please turn in sold slips and money to office. Good luck & keep selling!**

**Food & Personal Items Drive** – Reminder, Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup> is the final day for the food drive. The class that brings in the most food items will win an ice cream surprise! The items can be brought in to your child's homeroom teacher. Please remember to think of others during this holiday season. Thank you!

**Change Challenge** - Tomorrow will be the last day for the change challenge. Bring in your change in any amount! All funds raised will go to Sarah.

**PCS Concession Stand** - We are currently looking for a volunteer to oversee our gym concession stand for basketball games/tournaments etc. this season. All time worked can go towards volunteer credit hours. Please contact the school if you are interested in helping.

**Children's Christmas Eve Mass** – We are still in need for volunteers to participate in the following activities at this mass: 3 Ushers, 1 Server and 2 Readers. Please contact the school office by Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup> if your child(ren) are able to participate. An email will be sent to all families who will be participating on Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup> regarding further instructions on parts and practice times.

**Illness** - We ask that your child remain at home if he/she has diarrhea, a sore throat, earache, a skin rash, an eye infection, vomiting, or an elevated temperature. Often a day at home and bed rest will prevent more serious illness, encourage more rapid recovery and diminish the opportunity of the disease spreading among your child's classmates.

## Coming Home Today

Below is the information coming home this week. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

- Newsletter
- Weekly Church Bulletin
- STEM Flyer – UW Platteville – Middle School
- Summer Football Flyer
- Hunter Education Information Flyer
- December Box Tops
- Little Saints Learning Center Newsletter
- Beary Christmas Library Event

## Upcoming Events

**December 13th** - Academic Eligibility

**December 14th** - Middle School Retreat @ Richland Center

**December 17th** - End of Food & Personal Item Drive

**December 17th** - Grades 3, 4, 7, & 8 Nursing Home Caroling

**December 20th** - Grades 3 & 4 – Phil Burgess Residence - Rock Specimens

**December 21st** - Ugly Sweater Contest

**December 24th – January 1st** - Christmas Break

**January 2nd** - First day back!

