



Fourteen Holy Helpers School News

December 22, 2011

Merry Christmas!

Volume 16

CHRISTMAS CONCERT TONIGHT! DECEMBER 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the PARISH HALL

Our Fourteen Holy Helpers **Christmas Concert** is coming together beautifully and will feature **all** the students from PreK through 8th grade! Our band will also be performing seasonal selections to bring everyone into the full spirit of the season! Our PreK , Kindergarten and 1st Grade students will meet their parents after their performances . Except for those students to whom costumes have been provided, all students should dress for Christmas! See you tonight!

A CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM FATHER DAVID

Dear Friends in Christ,

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you and all those you love. Christmas is the great celebration of God's marvelous love for each of us. He gave us His Son so we will live forever. Jesus still comes to us physically in the Eucharist and invites us to join Him in praising God our Father.

I am excited to announce that 2012 will be the Year of the Eucharist. I am asking everyone to make this our primary focus as a parish. We all need to grow in a deeper appreciation of the many facets of this great diamond we call the Eucharist. We miss some of its beauty because of our expectations. Some expect to feel good, a sense of peace, or energized. Some expect their prayers to be answered, or an instant cure, and the list goes on. I know that after celebrating Mass, sometimes four in one day, I feel drained and no sense of peace. It is only when I reflect on my life that I see how the Eucharist has nourished and strengthened me to survive difficult times and even formed the way I pray. Whenever we come into contact with Jesus, we are more alive. We encounter Jesus at Mass, in the congregation, Scriptures, His Body and Blood, and in the priest. We also encounter Jesus outside of the Mass. Jesus had private prayer time and public prayer time in the synagogues. Like Jesus, we need both private and public prayer time.

Two good books on the Eucharist are With Burning Hearts by Henry Nouwen, and Our One Great Act of Fidelity – Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist by Ronald Rolheiser. How will your family celebrate the Year of the Eucharist?

I pray that this Christmas Season will be a time for you and your family to be renewed in God's love and the promise for a better tomorrow. May the Holy Family guide and protect you and your family with their precious love.

In Christmas Joy,

LA POSADA

In keeping with our cultural celebrations of the Christmas season, (St. Nicholas Day and St. Lucy's Day) the children celebrated the Spanish *La Posada* this week. The word "posada" means "lodging" or "accommodation" – and the children process with Mary(*Megan Vogel*) and Joseph (*Nick Samson*) through the school asking for lodging in each homeroom. When there is "no room" the homeroom joins the procession until the entire school processes to the "stable" in our cafeteria where Mary and Joseph find respite. We conclude with songs of joy and praise, and milk and cookie treats for each child. Many thanks to Mrs. Hilary Ungaro and Mrs. Bev Blazak for making the celebration so special!

CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

We want to remind all our 14HH families of the Penance Service and Mass Celebrations taking place during the Christmas Season, and encourage you to participate in these beautiful services:

- December 24th – 4:30 p.m. Traditional Mass in Church; Family Mass in Ebner Hall*;
10:00 p.m.: Mass in Church with our Choir
- December 25th – Masses at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Noon
- January 1st – Feast of Mary the Mother of God: 7:30 a.m., 9:00, 10:30 and Noon Masses
- January 8th – Feast of the Epiphany: Masses at 7:30 a.m., 9:00, 10:30 and Noon

***FAMILY CHRISTMAS MASS IN EBNER HALL**

At the Mass in Ebner Hall on Saturday, December 24th at 4:30 p.m., children are welcomed to participate as Lectors or in the Nativity Gospel Procession. Rehearsal will be on Friday, December 23, 2011 at 6:00PM in Ebner Hall. To participate or if you have questions please call Michelle Urbanczyk at 677-0305 or Dina Bycina at 675-3399.

BINGO UPDATES

There is no BINGO tonight – the night of our Christmas Concert.

Our Next BINGOs will take place on 12/29 and 1/5. Please be sure to remember your Bingo commitments so that our sessions may run smoothly. Team 1 is scheduled on 12/29. Temporary workers are the Cartenuto, Foster, Langowski, and Severn families. Team 2 is scheduled on 1/5. Temporary workers are the Bojarski, Gibson, Keenan, Nowicki and Vallone families. If you have had to cancel working a bingo, please call Carol Winiarski at 668-3528 to reschedule. Those families who have not picked their 4 bingos as of yet should also give Carol a call.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Our Christmas holiday begins tomorrow, Friday, December 23rd, with dismissal for our PreK students at 12:00 noon, and dismissal for grades K-8 at 12:15 p.m. **There will be no EDP.**

School resumes on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2012!!!! ☺

***HAVE A BLESSED AND JOYOUS CHRISTMAS
AND
A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR!***