



St. Hilary of Poitiers School TUESDAY NEWSLETTER

December 15, 2009

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

- Christmas Show
- NO SCHOOL – 12/23/09
- Market Day Pick Up
- SHS Going Paperless!!!

ENVELOPE CONTENTS:

- Notes from Mrs. Fagan
- H&S Thank You
- St. Vincent Thank You

IMPORTANT:

**CHRISTMAS GIFT
FROM
FATHER MURRAY:**

There will be **NO SCHOOL**
on **WEDNESDAY, 12/23.**
Our Christmas holiday will
begin at the close of school
on Tuesday,
December 22, 2009.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Dec. 14 Report Cards Issued
- Dec. 17 Christmas Show – 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 18 Market Day Pick Up
- Dec. 22 **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BEGINS!!!!
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!**
- Dec. 26 Happy Birthday Mrs. Rossi (Kindergarten)!
- Jan. 4 Classes Resume
- Jan. 6 Happy Birthday Mrs. Fagan!!!!!!
- Jan. 7 H&S Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- Jan. 8 First Friday Mass – Noon Dismissal
- Jan. 14 St. Hilary of Poitier Feast Day
- Jan. 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – NO SCHOOL
- Jan. 22 MLK Young Audience Performance at SHS
Father Daughter Dance
- Jan. 27 First Reconciliation Parent Mtg. -7:00 p.m.
- Jan. 31 SHS Open House
Catholic School’s Week Begins!!!

WELLNESS WEDNESDAY WALKERS

Wed. 12/16:

Barcza

Burke

If you're interested in becoming a Wednesday Walker,
contact Cathy Congdon at cac1207@comcast.net.

Next Week’s Lunch/Yard Duty Schedule

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	21 – DEC	22 – DEC	23 – DEC	24 – DEC	25 – DEC
YARD	Lee	Lee			
YARD	Lutz	Galliani			
BOX	Chhor	Ciolko	OFF	OFF	OFF
KITCHEN	Drumm	Greenberg			
KITCHEN	Schenk	Rossiter			

PLEASE VISIT OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE (www.sainthilaryschool.com) FOR MORE UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.



NOTES & NEWS



CHRISTMAS SHOW

Attn: Parents and Guardians

Please note that the St. Hilary School Christmas Show will take place on Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. All students are involved and must arrive to school in their school winter uniform by 6:30 p.m. Thank you!!!!

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CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM FATHER MURRAY

THANK YOU VERY MUCH to Father Murray for our early Christmas Gift!!!! There will be NO SCHOOL on **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23rd**. Our Christmas Holiday will begin at the close of school on Tuesday, December 22, 2009.

* * *

MARKET DAY REMINDER: Orders for December will be ready for pick up this Friday, December 18th at 3:15 p.m.

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The Tuesday Envelope Is Going PAPERLESS in just a few weeks!!!!

If you are not currently receiving the Tuesday Envelope by email, please send your email address to: sthilaryhomeandschool@gmail.com.

In an attempt to save paper and reduce cost, the St. Hilary School Tuesday Envelope will be going paperless effective Tuesday, January 5, 2010. Each Tuesday, every family will receive an email with the digital copy of the Tuesday Envelope and/or a link to the Tuesday Envelope page of the school's website. Those families without internet access will continue to receive the paper version. The white envelope AND the Newsletter will continue to be sent home to each family weekly.

PLEASE NOTE: To have a document or flyer included in the Tuesday Envelope, please send it to sthilaryhomeandschool@gmail.com or to the school office **NO LATER THAN MONDAY 9 A.M.** All contents are subject to Mrs. Fagan's approval.

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SIMPLE WAYS TO HELP:

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION
Send to Nora Czerwonka,
c/o Mary, Grade 3



CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS
Send to School Office or
Contact: Jane Kelly
267-879-8661



THE PAPER RETRIEVER
Located in School
Parking Lot
(no cardboard please)





Notes from Mrs. Fagan

December

December 14, 2009

"Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope." Pope Benedict XVI

"As our children reach out to serve others, we encourage them to remember the source of their divine strength to serve others is found in the reception of the Eucharist at Mass and prayer. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is shared each Saturday from 4:00 PM to 4:45 PM at St. Hilary Church.

- During this Holy Season of Advent our children will share the lighting of the Advent Wreath each week as part of our morning prayer. We are blessed to participate in this prayer experience as a school during Adoration on Mondays where we are quietly afforded the opportunity to experience the REAL presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. During Advent, we wait for Jesus to be born in our hearts, school and our families. As we lit our third candle this week, we asked Jesus to open the door of JOY in our hearts. This door reminds us to bring the JOY of Jesus to all we meet this week.
- We extend our gratitude to Father Murray, Deacon John, the Children's Choir and all of the children in the parish and their families who participated in the Vigil Mass for the Immaculate Conception. Our candle light procession to the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Shrine was a true witness of our commitment to say YES to Our Lord in our lives. We also appreciate the opportunity to spend time with Our Lord as we shared His Word and Song during our Parish Carol Night.
- The Spirit of Christmas was truly experienced at St. Vincent's Soup Kitchen this past weekend when over 23 of our 7th and 8th grade students, three of our younger students, parents, and alumni joined us at St. Vincent's Soup Kitchen in Germantown for the Children's Christmas Party. We are grateful for the many donations of toys and soap from our families. Thank you for your continued generosity to those less fortunate than ourselves.
- Thank you to the children who created cards for the Shut Ins of our Parish and also to the parents and children who delivered the flowers this past weekend. Also, thank you to the families who supported the Jingle Bell Run for Arthritis. Our students are the HOPE, LOVE, and JOY of Jesus to others.
- Thank you to the many parents who transformed our school on the weekend of December 5th into a Christmas Wonderland. The Christmas Tree Festival and Pizza with Santa was a tremendous success!
- Report Cards were distributed on Monday, December 14th.
- Our Christmas Program will take place on Thursday, December 17th at 7:00 PM.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- Emma Brown (8th), her family and the St. Hilary Faculty on being awarded an Academic Scholarship to Merion Mercy Academy for \$20,000 over four years and to Mount St. Joseph Academy for \$12,000 over four years. Emma, we are very proud of your many accomplishments!
- We are proud to announce the following students are winners of the Write and Illustrate Your Own Book Contest sponsored by the Huntingdon Valley Library during National Children's Book Week: **First Prize:** Eddie Devlin (7th) and Julian Lutz (7th); **Second Place:** James Vandegrift (7th), Reilly McGrogan (7th) Carly Calabrese (7th) Maura Dimes (6th), Kristina Somershoe (5th). Congratulations to all our students who participated. The representatives from the Library commented on the quality of writers from St. Hilary School.

Congratulations to all our Published Authors!!!

Thank you to Father Murray for our early Christmas Gift! Our Christmas Holiday will begin at the close of school on Tuesday, December 22nd. There will be no school on Wednesday, December 23rd.

"God is approaching: make ready the road of the Lord"

As we prepare to make ready our hearts for Jesus, you are invited as a family to the Parish Penance Service on Monday, December 21st at 7:00 PM. There will be extra priests available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on this evening.

Working together as school and parish, we have a wonderful community that supports our school and models unconditional stewardship, allowing our children to grow in their faith.

December 12, 2009

Dear Parents and Students,

Our BIG Day began cold and cloudy!!! The elves arrived in the persons of: 7th and 8th graders, their parents, two 3rd Graders, a 2nd grader and even three graduates! It was so-o-o-o cold!!!

The elves packed all of the sleighs...oh no, they were cars!!! Your gifts, along with cookies, hot chocolate, games, crayons, Christmas coloring pages, string for bracelet making and lots of nail polish were ready for our trip to Germantown!!! It was so-o-o-o cold!!!

The caravan began! We arrived at the Soup kitchen and the elves began unpacking the sleighs...oh no...the cars!!! It was not as cold!

The elves began decorating the room with the gifts and the hall with games ...Bean bags, Bingo, Uno, the bracelet station was set as was the nail polish and the crayons and coloring table. The cookies and hot chocolate was ready to serve!!! It did not seem as cold!

The children started to arrive for the party! The elves welcomed them and escorted each child to an activity and the celebration began!!! It was getting warm!!!!

The morning reveled in Christmas songs and happy laughter!!! It was getting even warmer!!!

It was now time for Santa's Workshop to open with all of your gifts displayed!!! Our elves took groups of children into the shop to choose two gifts!!! It was so-o-o-o WARM!!!!

The children were all gone!!! Our elves were cleaning up, preparing for the next phase of our visit: to feed the hungry and distribute your soap!!! Germantown was now very, very WARM!!!!

The warmth of LOVE was felt throughout the town...did you feel it in RYDAL?!! The SON was shining brightly on both communities!!!

This THANK YOU is simply stated but DEEPLY felt!!! YOU all made CHRISTMAS happen on Saturday!!!! YOU all made the SON SHINE....may He continue to shine in you and through you, forever!!!!

God Bless us everyone!!!

In LOVE and PEACE,

Ms. Sue Semple



THANK YOU



Many, many thanks to all of the families and volunteers who helped to make this year's *Pizza with Santa* and *Christmas Festival* such a huge success. None of this would be possible without the dedication and generous sacrifice of SO MANY of our amazing volunteers.

More than 150 children who attended *Pizza with Santa* experienced a wonderful evening filled with fun, magic, fish, and a very festive spirit! Again this year, the Secret Santa Shop was fabulous!!! Santa's helpers did a remarkable job creating an incredible shopping experience for our children.

The festivities continued Saturday at our annual *Christmas Festival*. Our small school was BIG with community spirit hosting over 32 vendors, a bake sale, Secret Santa Shop, basket of cheer and 50/50 raffle, fish game, arts & crafts, Santa pictures, tree and wreath sales, and many tasty delights!

Thank you to all of those families who made donations, volunteered their time and attended the festivities. A special thank you also goes out to the businesses who donated generously to this event including: *Sysco Foods of Philadelphia, Liberty Wines & Spirit, The Danish Bakery, Philadelphia Pretzel Factory (Grant Avenue), and Fill A Bagel.*

Events like these take much planning and even more help. Much appreciation and gratitude goes out to the committee, their families and the St. Hilary students and Student Council members, as well as High School CYO members who dedicated their time and efforts throughout the weekend.

AS ALWAYS, NONE OF THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOU!!! THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR SCHOOL!!!!