



November 30, 2017

Dear Parents,

Last week we celebrated Special Persons' Day and Thanksgiving. I hope your child and his/her special person enjoyed the morning. We had a "full house" with all of the students and their guests. Special thanks to the faculty committee that organized the day and everyone who helped to make our guests feel welcomed and comfortable in our school. Special Persons Day ended with Mass and a musical performance by the students.

Today and tomorrow is Santa's Cottage. This is a special time for your child/children to shop and purchase Christmas gifts for family and friends. The eighth grade students and parents assist the shoppers and wrap the treasured gifts. It is hard to believe that in a few short weeks Santa will be dropping off gifts as tomorrow is already December!

The Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success! Many thanks to Mrs. Uhl for organizing and running the Book Fair and to her crew of volunteers who assisted students with their purchases!

The state of Illinois recently passed the Invest in Kids Act to help provide families funding to attend the school of their choice. The Tax Credit Scholarship Program begins in January 2018 and will automatically expire in January 2023 unless it is changed by the legislature. Scholarships will be awarded on a first come basis and income criteria (beginning with household annual income less than 185% of Federal Poverty level, 185%-250% and 251%-300% of Federal Poverty level). Please see the attached program description for additional information. Applications will be accepted beginning January 2, 2018 (even though additional information still needs to be disbursed to us from the state about the process). There will be a short, informational meeting for interested parents on Wednesday, December 13 at 6:00 at Holy Childhood.

It has been a custom at Holy Childhood School that any parent/family who wishes to do so donates money that is given to our Pastor and Associate Pastor for birthday and Christmas gifts. If you would like to donate money to this gift, would you please send it to school with your child in an envelope marked "Priests' gifts"? I know both Father Paul and Father Jerry do not expect anything, but are grateful for the gifts they receive.

Please mark your calendars for the Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 in the gym. Also, the date for the Variety Show has been set – it is Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Blessings,

Claudia J. Dougherty, M.A., Ed.S.  
Principal

## **Calendar:**

Thursday, Nov. 30 & Friday, Dec. 1	Santa's Cottage (sponsored by 8 <sup>th</sup> grade)
Friday, Dec 1 –Sunday Dec. 3	Quest
Wednesday, Dec. 6	HOPE Christmas Party 6:30 in the Cafeteria. Babysitting Available
Thursday, Dec. 7	Reconciliation for students in grades 3-8
Wednesday, Dec. 13	Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship informational meeting 6:00 in Parish Center
Thursday, Dec. 14	Out of uniform – for \$1.00 donation your child may dress out of uniform. The theme is Christmas sweater or shirt
Wednesday, Dec. 20	End of second quarter Christmas vacation begins at 3:00
Wednesday, Jan 3	Classes resume at 8:00

## **HOPE**

Please join us for dinner, friends, and fun at our annual H.O.P.E. Christmas party/December meeting. We will provide the main course, rolls, and drinks. Please bring a dessert, salad, or side to share. We will have a very short meeting followed by a gift exchange. Please bring a wrapped ornament valued at \$10 or less if you would like to participate.

Babysitting provided, and we will have pizza for the kids.

Please RSVP by text by December 3rd so that we can plan accordingly.  
Shelby Brennan 618-581-7598

\*\*Please note the change in date from the 7th as stated on the school calendar.\*\*

## **SCRIPS**

Gift cards may be purchased in the school office Monday thru Friday. Cards will also be sold in the Gathering Space after all weekend Masses. Purchasing gift cards is a great way to support Holy Childhood School! Thank you!

## **Amazon Smile**

As you begin your Christmas shopping, please remember to log into Amazon Smile when purchasing through Amazon. By choosing Holy Childhood Church, a percentage of your purchase is returned to the school. Help HCS as you shop!

## **Golf Tournament**

It is not too early to think "Spring" and "Golf"! Mark your calendars so you don't miss the Holy Childhood Golf Tournament scheduled for **Friday, April 20, 2018**. We will be doing a 12:00pm Shotgun start.