

*Now is Advent,
Advent is here.
When Advent is over,
Christmas is here!*



Dear Kindergarten Families,

We hope everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends! Sunday, December 3rd marks the beginning of Advent in our Catholic church. Here at school, we will work hard to remind the students of what Christmas is all about—the birth of Jesus! We will learn how Advent is a time of preparation, a time to get ready for Jesus! Each child will make an Advent wreath to use in class. On Mondays during Advent, we will “light” a new candle on our Advent wreaths. As a new candle is lit each week it will remind us that Christmas is near! Do you have an advent wreath in your home? Please consider displaying one as a reminder of what these weeks are all about. Make time each day to light the appropriate candle(s) and say a special prayer together as a family. Attached is a paper advent wreath that you can display at home and it includes weekly Advent prayers on the back. Perhaps each member of your family can take turns being the “prayer leader” like we do here at school!

During Advent, we will work on getting our hearts ready for Jesus' birthday by doing “kind deeds” at home. During Advent, I need your help to encourage these acts of kindness at home. Each day, we will gather in a circle and each child will share his/her kind deed and then place a piece of “straw” in our classroom crib. With each kind deed and new piece of straw, we are getting ready for Jesus! Our kind deeds are our presents for baby Jesus! In class, we generated a list of things we can do at home. Some ideas included: watering the Christmas tree, setting the table, making a card for someone, holding the door, sharing a hug, carrying the groceries, getting the mail, etc. Help your child see how important small acts of kindness are in your home!

In addition to our kind deed project, the children will be learning new poems and songs. **Following the 9:30am Mass on Friday December 22nd, the kindergarteners will present these songs to you. Mark your calendars and plan on attending this Mass!** Students should dress up for this special Mass. Come celebrate the season with the children in song and prayer! You can plan on being with us until about 11:00.

This is a special holy time to discuss all God has done for us, especially sending His son, Jesus. During this busy season, please help your child find ways to help others, remembering that those small acts of kindness are our presents for baby Jesus on His birthday. Jesus is the reason for the season!

God Bless,
Mrs. Mahr and Mrs. Zontos

