



November 25, 2009

Dear Parents,

There is **no school** on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 for Thanksgiving. Enjoy this time with your family.

Last week's Thanksgiving liturgy was well attended. Congratulations again to Miss Baldus and the jr. high choir and Ms. Quinlan and the Varsity Band for leading us in music and song so beautifully. Thank you for your generous donations to **last week's food drive**. The Franciscan Brothers of Peace, St. Paul, were very grateful for our collection. (It took three trucks to make the delivery!!)

The **K-3 Christmas Concert** will be held on Monday, December 7 at 7:00 pm in the church. A separate letter with full details and a DVD order form have been sent home to K-3 parents. Our annual senior citizen's party, hosted by the K-3rd grades, is set for Friday, December 4th at 1:30 pm. We are asking for families to donate cookies for this party. Please drop off your cookies in the school office on Friday, Dec. 4 before 11:00 am.

The **Band and Choir Christmas Concert** is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 pm. The students will be able to watch the performance at 2:00 pm.

Please make a change on our **school calendar** - 8th grade graduation will be Wednesday, June 2 instead of Thursday, June 3 because of a conflict with St. Thomas Academy.

Information regarding the **Swim Team registration** will be coming out after Thanksgiving.

It is easy to ignore thinking about winter with this beautiful weather. However, it is just around the corner. Please remember that school closings are announced on WCCO and KARE-11. We are always listed with our school district. **If District #197 schools are closed, we are closed.**

There are still openings for **JAG Quest group events**. It is a great way to participate in this fundraiser if you were not able to attend. A list of group events was sent home last Friday on a green flyer.

Our teachers and students have really been enjoying working with the three Promethean boards which were installed earlier this fall. I recently received a **\$1,000 gift towards the purchase of another "smart" board**. Please consider making a tax deductible gift towards this purchase.

Report cards for 1st trimester will be going home Wednesday, December 2. A reminder that all tuition accounts/fees must be current through November before report cards may be issued. Contact Mike Snyder, Parish Administrator, at 651-457-2781 if you have financial questions or concerns.

The **jr. high faculty** prepared and served breakfast to our jr. high students this morning. Thanks to those parents who assisted.

Advent begins November 29. We will have a daily **Advent prayer** / reflection reading each morning. My thanks to students in grades 6-8 who have volunteered to be prayer leaders during Advent.

Students in grades 4 through 8 are invited to be a part of the parish's **Children's Choir** at the Christmas Eve Mass. Practices will be held on Wednesdays: December 2, 9 and 16 from 3:45 to 5:00 pm and on Saturday, December 19 from 10:00 am to 12:00 Noon. Any questions, please call Denis Allaire at 651-457-2781.

Please join us for our next school **mass** on Friday, December 4, at 9:00 am in the church.

Our St. Joseph's School community has much to be **thankful** for - strong support from our parish and Pastor, an excellent faculty and staff, dedicated and generous parents, students who are respectful and come ready to learn and a school building that is warm, clean and safe! Thank you for all the ways you help make this school special. **Enjoy your Thanksgiving** and safe travels for those of you who are on-the-road over the long weekend.

Jane E. Nordin, Principal