



“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.”

Isaiah 61:1

Dear Parents and Guardians,

December 12, 2020

Rejoice! We are entering the third week of Advent! All four weeks prepare us for Jesus’s birth, but this this third week is filled with even greater joy as we are reminded that the day is even closer! The pink candle is different than the other three purple ones as a visual reminder to be aware and be alert! As 1 Thessalonians 5:16 tells us, “Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks!” As the days of Advent quickly pass us, know you and your family are in my prayers.

*Casey Trees...* On Monday, we partnered with our wonderful neighbors, Casey Trees and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. Five trees were planted on our campus—a Southern Magnolia, a Blackgum, an American Elm, a Sweetbay Magnolia, and a Shingle Oak. They are absolutely beautiful trees. Please take a look the next time you’re at St. Anthony. The Southern Magnolia will be dedicated in honor of Wilton Cardinal Gregory. Once we finalize details we will share them with you! We are extremely grateful to Casey Trees and the Sisters for their longtime friendship and support.

*Giving Tuesday...* Thank you to everyone who made a Giving Tuesday gift to our school. Together we exceeded our \$5,000 goal. Your generosity is appreciated. All proceeds will go toward preparation and installation of new technology and other upgrades to enhance our academic program.

*Be the Light...* All donations given in the month of December, including Giving Tuesday, are recognized with a candle in our school window. Many individuals made gifts “In honor of” or “In Memory of” loved ones, family, and friends. If you would like to “light” a candle please visit our website to make an online donation. Again, thank you to everyone who supported our school this month.

*Winter Coats...* All 600 winter coats have been distributed to school families, parishioners, and Ward 5 residents. A huge thank you goes out to St. Anthony Knights of Columbus 417 for their amazing generosity and to all who made the give-away such a success!

*Plus Portal...* Parents of students in grades 4-8 should check Plus Portal regularly to monitor their children’s progress. Here, you will see grades and missing assignments. Contact your child’s teacher if you need assistance logging in.

*Cold Cash...* Our “Cold Cash” fund raiser needs your help! Sales have been slow. On the positive side, this increases your chances of winning. Please consider buying a card online today! Each card is \$20 and gives you 31 chances to win cash prizes. Contact the office if you have any questions about the fund raiser or would like to purchase tickets. All proceeds will go toward improving our gym space.

*Principal Chats...* Join me on Zoom every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 AM and 12:00-12:30 PM. The same link is used each week. All are welcome.

*Friday Exchange...* There will be a Friday Exchange in the cafeteria on December 18. The hours are 8:00-10:00 AM and 2:00-4:00 PM. Contact your child’s teacher with any questions.

*’Tis the Season...* Let’s have some fun! Some teachers have already designated specific days for certain dress-down themes. If this is the case, please follow his/ her directions. Otherwise, all students are encouraged to dress festively next week—Christmas hat, red and green clothes, Christmas Sweater, etc!

*Pictures/ blurbs Requested...* Once again your support is requested to help us stay connected during the Christmas Season. Sharing photos is a fun and simple way for us to celebrate together. Please email Christmas-themed photos of your student and/ or your entire family. Here are some suggested themes:

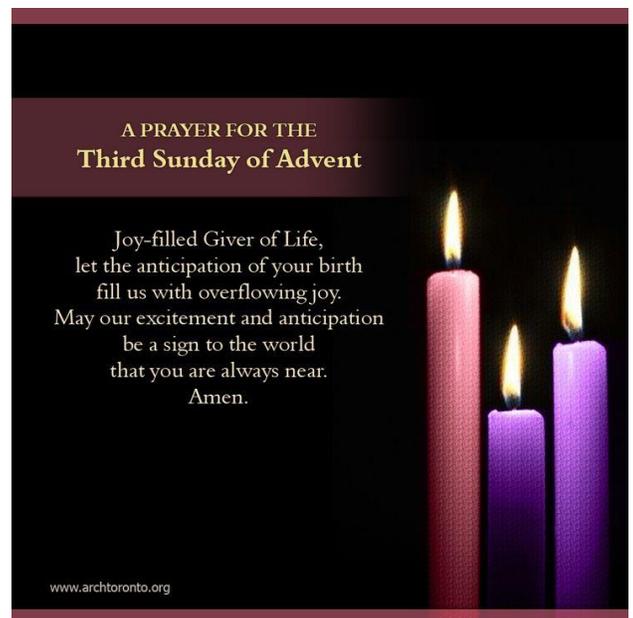
- Pictures of student and/ or family in front of their Christmas tree.
- Pictures of student and/ or family sharing their nativity.
- Pictures of student and/ or family in front of their outdoor Christmas lights.
- Pictures of student and/ or family decorating.
- Pictures of student and/ or family with their favorite Christmas story.
- Pictures of student and/ or family baking or making a gingerbread house

These are different and difficult times. Your participation will help bring smiles to children and adults alike. I look forward to celebrating Christmas with you!

I wish you all a wonderful weekend!

Peace,  
Mr. Thomasian

PS: Visit our Facebook page to view great new pictures and posts!



*Proudly celebrating our 98<sup>th</sup> year!*