

November 23, 2021

Happy New Year! Advent begins Sunday, November 28. Advent marks the beginning of our Church's liturgical year. What is your family doing this Advent to prepare your hearts for Christmas? Maybe your family would like to join the MMOC family in one or more of the Advent activities listed below.

- Thursday, December 2-Family Prayer Group-Family Advent Night
- Friday, December 3-The Advent Glow
- Sunday, December 12-Happy Birthday, Jesus Party
- Tuesday, December 14-Advent Communal Reconciliation Service

We are excited to announce that Children's Liturgy will resume Sunday, November 29, the First Sunday of Advent during the 9:00 AM Mass. The purpose of Children's Liturgy of the Word is to help children understand the Sunday readings and how they can put God's Word into action in their lives.

Wednesday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. That evening, the Wednesday PSR session will attend Mass. This is a parish Mass. Mass will begin at 6:30 PM to accommodate PSR families. Parents are invited to attend and celebrate Mass with their children. We will NOT have regular dismissal that evening.

The last PSR sessions before Christmas Break is December 13/15. PSR will resume January 3/5.

The celebration of First Reconciliation is quickly approaching for our second graders and their families. We will be conducting a First Reconciliation Rehearsal on Monday, January 10 in church at 6:30 PM during PSR for both the second graders and their parents. Second grade parents, if you have not dropped off your letter to your child, please do so before the practice in January. The First Reconciliation celebration is Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30 PM in church.

The 8th grade confirmandi will be attending their Confirmation Retreat on January 15/16 to further enrich their lives as they prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation which will be conferred on **May 12 at 7:00 PM**. Bishop Mark Rivituso, Auxiliary Bishop of St. Louis will be the celebrant.

There is no PSR on January 17/19 in honor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

During Advent take time to reflect in joyful anticipation on Jesus' birth, celebrate his presence among us today, and look forward to his second coming. I hope your family has a blessed Advent, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

Peace and Joy!
Cheryl Degenhart
Director of Faith Formation

