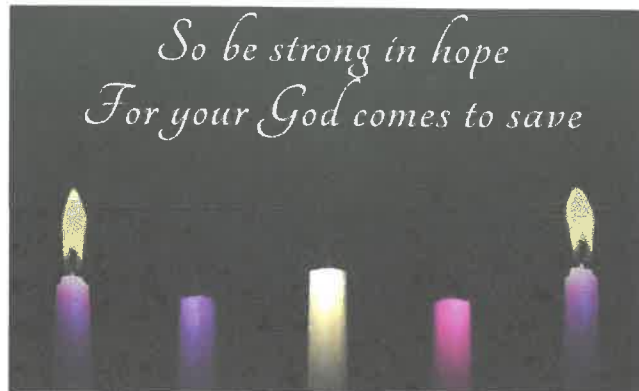


St. Thomas Aquinas School



December Calendar

December 8 – Mass at 12:30 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
No Mass on December 9
Christmas Concerts will be virtual /recorded - More specific information will be sent via emails and Remind text messages
December 23 – 2hr. early out
December 24-January 3 – Christmas Break
January 4 – Classes resume



Congrats to the Capital Campaign committee who dedicated their time, talents and treasures to ensure a truly successful event. Above are prayers written by STA students during the campaign in hopes of exceeding the campaign goal.

Please see the Advent Calendar attached for daily family activities for the Advent season.



A huge thanks to the Hrnicek family who donated grant money they were awarded through Thrivent Financial. STA used the donation to decorate our new cafeteria with some very meaningful messages.



Thanks to all who donated to our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.



Mrs. Thompson's 1st grade class show off their turkey decorations just in time for the holiday break.

Advent 2020

CALENDAR

Daily At-Home Advent Activities for Families

NOVEMBER DECEMBER

SUN 29

Prepare an Advent wreath: three purple candles, one pink candle, and some evergreens. Place all on a tray or large plate. The candles can symbolize hope, faith, joy, and love or peace. Light the first purple candle and pray to God about the things you hope for.

MON 30

Make a nativity scene with household materials. Paint paper tubes to make the Holy Family. Use bits of fabric to make clothes. Use a shoebox to make the barn and a small box for the manger. Wait for Christmas Day to put Jesus in the manger.

TUE 1

People hoped and waited for so long for Jesus to come and bring light to the world! Share stories about the ways parents prepared and how they felt as they waited for their children to be born. Older siblings can share stories of waiting for younger siblings. Look through the first photographs taken of your children. Pray about your hopes for your family.

WED 2

The Christmas story begins with one small family set to change the world. On yellow strips of paper, write ways that your family can help bring light and hope to your community during Advent. Keep the papers in a jar. As you complete these actions, place them in the nativity scene you made to act as hay.

THUR 3

Mary and Joseph were immigrants traveling far from their home when Jesus was born. Try sleeping in a different place in your house tonight. Swap beds with a sibling or sleep in a sleeping bag on the floor. Thank God for the comforts of your home.

FRI 4

Make Christmas cookies and share them together. Thank God for the gifts of food and family.

SAT 5

On Christmas Day, children may receive new gifts and new toys. Go through the toys you have and donate ones that you have outgrown to a local charity.



Advent 2020

CALENDAR

Daily At-Home Advent Activities for Families

DECEMBER

SUN 6

Feast of Saint Nicholas

Listen to a story about the legendary gift giver. Make or buy a small, thoughtful gift for someone you know. Light the second purple Advent candle. Pray to God to be faithful even when it is difficult.

MON 7

Sing Christmas hymns together.

TUE 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Honor Mary, Mother of God by praying the Hail Mary today. Mary is Jesus' mother. Take special care of your mother or a mother figure in your life today.

WED 9

Feast of Saint Juan Diego

Juan Diego lived in Mexico, and Mary appeared to him. Read the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Eat a Mexican meal today and pray the Hail Mary before your meal in honor of Saint Juan Diego's devotion to Mary.

THUR 10

During Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Donate baby supplies to a local charity.

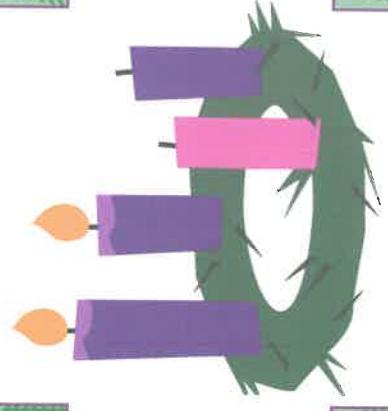
FRI 11

Choose family prayer partners. Print each family member's name on an index card; decorate it; fold it in half and place in a basket. Pass the basket around and have each family member pick a name. Pray for that person during Advent.

SAT 12

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Mary made flowers appear as proof of her apparition. Send real flowers or a drawn bouquet to someone you know.



Advent 2020

CALENDAR

Daily At-Home Advent Activities for Families

DECEMBER

SUN 13

Gaudete Sunday

Light the pink Advent candle. This candle is a symbol of joy because we are at the midpoint of Advent. Pray about things that make you joyful and the ways you bring joy to others. Today at Mass, notice that the priest will be wearing pink vestments!

MON 14

Read Matthew 2:1-12 as a family and learn about the Magi who followed the star to find Jesus after his birth. Go outside with your family tonight and do some stargazing. Pray about the beautiful world that God has created for us.

TUE 15

Gather together for a meal and begin with a blessing. Make a plan to donate a meal to a person or family in need in your community.

WED 16

Gather as a family around the Christmas tree or the Advent wreath and pray a prayer of blessing.

THUR 17

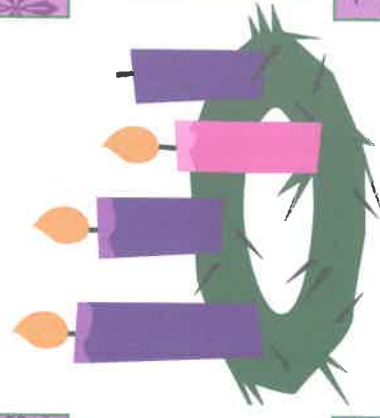
O Wisdom of our God Most High!
Today begins the O Antiphons. These are special prayers as the birth of Jesus draws closer. Pray to God about areas of your life where you need the gift of wisdom to grow.

FRI 18

O Leader of the House of Israel!
Pray for help to follow Jesus' leadership. Demonstrate good leadership to younger classmates and siblings.

SAT 19

O Root of Jesse's Stem!
Jesse and King David were Jesus' ancestors. Send Christmas cards to family and friends.



Advent 2020

CALENDAR

Daily At-Home Advent Activities for Families

DECEMBER

SUN 20

O Key of David!

Jesus opens doors that seem difficult to open. Pray about ways to overcome things that may be difficult for you. Light the fourth Advent candle. Consider ways you can bring peace and love to others.

MON 21

O Radiant Dawn!

Jesus is our light! Shut off the house lights and all electronics after dinner and enjoy the light of the Christmas tree together as a family.

TUE 22

O King of All Nations!

Jesus is the king who unites us all. Read about how other countries and cultures celebrate the traditions of Christmas. Consider adopting one of these new traditions in your family.

WED 23

O Emmanuel!

We believe that Jesus is with us always. Call or visit someone who could use your company today.

THUR 24

Come, Lord Jesus, Come! Read the nativity story in the Bible together as a family.

FRI 25

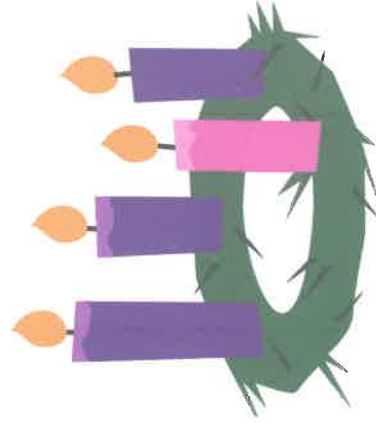
Christmas

Christ is Born! Let us rejoice! Thank God for the greatest gift, the gift of his only Son! Put the figurine of the baby Jesus you made for the nativity scene in the manger.

Additional seasonal resources for families:

www.SadlierReligion.com/Resources

www.SadlierReligionBlog.com



St. Thomas Aquinas School

Lunch Menu - December, 2020

SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
		W.G Toast, Cheese Omelet, Fruit, and Milk B.B.Q. Chicken Sandwich Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk Animal Crackers	W.G. Toast, Cereal, Fruit, and Milk Maidrite on a Bun Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Pop Tarts Cereal, Fruit, and Milk P.B.& J. Uncrustable Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Whole Grain Toast, Fruit, Cereal, & Milk Corn Dog Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk Granola Bar	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Whole Grain Toast, Fruit, Cereal, & Milk Grilled Chicken Sandwich Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Sausage, Whole Grain Toast, Fruit, & Milk Cheesy Chicken Pasta Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Whole Grain Toast, Cereal, Fruit, & Milk Hamburger with a Bun Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk Teddy Grahams	Granola Bar, Cereal, Fruit, and Milk Chef Salad, Breadstick Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit W.G. Sun Chips Milk	Whole Grain Toast, Fruit, Cereal,& Milk Hot Dog on a Bun Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Whole Grain Toast, Fruit, Cereal, & Milk Chicken Strips Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Fruit, and Milk Crispitos Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Goldfish Grahams	Whole Grain Toast, Cereal, Fruit, & Milk Turkey & Cheese Melt Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Pop Tarts ,Cereal , Fruit, and Milk Taco Casserole Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Whole Grain Toast, Fruit, Cereal, & Milk Yogurt Mozzarella String Cheese Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	W.G. Toast, Cereal, Fruit, and Milk Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Breadstick Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Granola Bar, Cereal, Fruit, and Milk Breaded Pork Fritter Sandwich Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	W.G. Toast, Cereal, Fruit, and Milk Christmas Meal 2 Hour early out	CHRISTMAS BREAK	CHRISTMAS BREAK School resumes Jan. 4	

This institution is an equal opportunity employer.