



# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Nov. 30, 2017  
St. Andrew

Advent is clearly a time when the Church encourages us to prepare for Christmas in a different way than the commercial world. Love, prepares a place for Love to come into our hearts. Jesus is love. How are you making room for Him in the Inn of your heart? There was no room 2017 years ago, but that doesn't need to be the case this year. Here at school there are 522 hearts in which we are trying to build a warm and receptive place for baby Jesus and the graces He wants to share. There are so many competing distractions that are trying to crowd Him out. May we use the gift of our will to make a concerted effort to open our hearts to Him.

Purple is the liturgical color of the season, because sometimes it hurts a little to make room for Him. We need to be willing to enter into a bit of penance as we prepare. Not as much as in Lent, but just enough to remind us that our fallen human nature needs to be kept in check. We need to focus on Him, not ourselves, and that takes a bit of penance, which is good, very good.

Straw – little reminders here at school that we need to make a place for Him within. Children add a piece of straw to the manger when they do a kind act. The straw is symbolic but the welcome is real. He is real, our hearts and souls are real. May the spiritual reality of Jesus coming to us be alive now, and impact eternity. (Will a gift from your favorite retailer do that?)

We need to focus more on Jesus, not on the ads in the paper. Here at school sometimes the children make little gifts for parents or someone else. They are gifts made by people, not purchased at the store. Can we give the gift of self in His honor in some way?

Spend time with Him. One of my favorite Advent meditations is mentally “cleaning out the manger” of my heart. Get all that other stuff out of there, and tidy it up for Him. Are we ready to receive our Eucharistic King into the throne of our hearts this Christmas? Sweep clean the throne room of our hearts by making a good confession. There is always more than enough to do: cleaning, gift prep, food prep... Make the spiritual prep a priority, and spend a little time with Him.

Whose birthday is it anyway? Make it His and give Him something. We will work at keeping Christ in Christmas here at school, thank you for making it part of your Christian home also.

By the way, can you help us promote Christianity in our neighborhood? The Sisters are often on the lookout for outdoor nativities as we travel. It's our version of 'Where's Waldo'. Consider one for your family. What a great gift to give Him, and one which helps your kids know and see that you clearly fly the flag of Christianity to the neighbors, as well as to your family.

May Mary, His Mother, help us prepare a place for Him where He is welcome. And when He comes, let's also take a little time to let Him love us. He is so good at that.

In Christ our Infant King,  
Sister Mary Faustina, C.K.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### DECEMBER

**1 Fri** Tuition Due –monthly, quarterly, semester payments

**5 Tue** Science Assembly

**6 Wed** Preschool Programs  
10:15 & 2:30

**7 Thu** NO SCHOOL

**8 Fri** NO SCHOOL

Immaculate Conception

**11 Mon** Stu Co Party

**12 Tue** Class Mass 1B

**14 Thu** 5B Class Mass, Student Confessions, 2nd & K Field Trip

## VOLUNTEERS

### Lunchroom Duty

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094baca9283-lunchroom2>

### K-1-2 Recess 10:45-12:00

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094baca9283-k1and>

### 3-6 Recess Duty 12:00-1:00

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e44aca23a57-3rdand>

## HAITI

We are collecting **athletic/ tennis** shoes for our Haiti mission. The box is outside the office door. Non athletic shoes and boots **will not be sent** to Haiti.



REMINDER!!!!

It is that time of year again that bugs are spreading. Please make **hand washing** a priority!

# NOVEMBER 30, 2017

[DECEMBER CALENDAR](#) OR [DECEMBER MENU](#)

## SCHOOL NEWS

**STUDENTS' OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER AT MASS** (3rd-8th Grades) for this weekend to help distribute, then collect offertory commitment cards during Mass. Students needed for all five masses. [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1c\\_oZr5-OvB3eR3a3Tk70i-9bwvgO2\\_0IRlcHohMYfo8/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1c_oZr5-OvB3eR3a3Tk70i-9bwvgO2_0IRlcHohMYfo8/edit?usp=sharing)

**K-6 CHRISTMAS MUSICALS 2017** Last Names beginning with **L-Z**, Monday, December 18, 7:00pm; Last Names beginning with **A-K**, Tuesday, December 19, 7:00pm.

**CAROLING:** Friday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Prime timers are meeting after the 8:15 Mass and have invited St. Joseph students to join them for caroling. We do not have school on that day but students are welcome to join them in Resurrection Hall immediately after Mass. Please RSVP to Kathy Powers, 402-202-0250, by Wed., Dec. 6. Students may share in the donuts.

**SPIRIT WEAR** Need Christmas Ideas? Did you miss the last opening? Our webstore for spirit gear items for St. Joseph are up and ready for ordering. It is best to use a desktop computer when ordering. The website will be open 11/27/17-12/4/2017. [SPIRIT WEAR](#)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**ST. NICK IS COMING TO PIUS X** on the Feast Day of St. Nicholas, Wednesday **December 6 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** Please join us for a Baby Jesus/Nativity Blessing at 5:30 p.m. in the Pius X Chapel. 6:00-7:30 p.m. come on down to the Commons and get your picture taken with an authentic looking St. Nick, decorate a sugar cookie, color a St. Nick page, and listen to our talented Pius X choirs sing beautiful Christmas Carols! There will be no charge, but free will donations will gladly be accepted.

**9TH ANNUAL HOMEMADE COOKIE AND CANDY SALE** sponsored by Sacred Heart Altar Society will be held Saturday, December 9th from 4:00-6:30 PM and Sunday, December 10th from 8:00 AM-12:30 PM in the Sacred Heart Rectory basement, 3128 "S" Street. Enjoy free hot cider, coffee, and cookies while you choose the cookies you would like to buy for your holiday events, gifts, or your own special cookie eaters. All proceeds go to the Parish Hall Building Fund.

**THE PIUS X THUNDERETTE DANCE TEAM** is hosting a kid's clinic on December 9th from 8:30am-12:00pm. [Dance Registration](#)

**WINTER CAMPS** at the SAC Aerospace Museum are hands on and fun! December 26 - January 4 [SAC Museum](#)

**LINCOLN HOUR OF CODE EVENT AT NEBRASKA INNOVATION CAMPUS** is an annual event hosted at Nebraska Innovation Campus. This year's event happens on **Saturday, December 9th, 9 am to noon**. For more info: [Hour of Code](#). This event of this event is joint venture between Lincoln Public Schools and other community organizations, but the event is **free** and open to the public. To register click [Code Event](#)

**LINCOLN MOMS MEETING** December 2 "Seasons, Saints, Celebrations, Oh My!" with Amy Zelany. Each year the Church offers us the Liturgical Calendar as a way to celebrate and understand more fully the mystery of Jesus Christ. Monthly meetings are held every first Sat, 8:30-10:30 am at Gianna's Java & Gelato, in The Guadalupe Center (2241 O St., Suite T). Free-will donation helps cover the cost of reserved babysitting, and coffee/snacks (\$5 suggested). Contact us at [lincolnmoms@outlook.com](mailto:lincolnmoms@outlook.com) or our Facebook page. Let us know in advance if you need babysitting, and please bring a friend!