



**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

1940 S. 77TH ST, LINCOLN, NE 68506

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# WEEKLY WATCH

## Don't give up on Advent!

It's hard to keep Advent!

By mid-December many people have already celebrated multiple Christmas parties, decorations have been up since before Thanksgiving and Christmas music has filled the air waves with sounds of the season. By the time we get to December 25<sup>th</sup> many are ready to be done celebrating.

But the Church gives us an alternative. Advent reminds us that we are still in a time of preparation and waiting. Just as a pregnancy may be surrounded by ultrasound reveals, showers and gifts, there's still no substitute for the actual birth of the baby and the joy it brings! THEN the real celebration begins as the tiny, tender child is held close and one feels like you could gaze for hours on those precious little features.



As we are just shy of two weeks before Christmas, now is a great time to redouble our efforts to prepare our hearts for the graces Jesus has in store for us this Christmas. While it may sometimes feel like just another holiday, the graces God gives are real, and, when we go to Mass on Christmas, we are TRULY present at Jesus' birth. Since God is beyond time, the whole life of Jesus is present to us in the Mass, including His birth. It's part of the mystery of the fact that God became man in Jesus. As one of the early church Fathers, St. Athanasius, once said, "God became man so that man might become God." We get to share in His divine life...and it starts at Christmas.

In these last days, may we take time to make a good confession, go out of ourselves in hidden ways to help others, and commit a few quiet moments each day to ask Jesus for a greater openness of heart to what He desires to give us most, His very Self. Then, at Christmas, we can know even more the profound love He has for us. And, knowing His love, we will be able to share it with our children, our family and all those around us.

Have a blessed Advent...and *then*, a Merry Christmas!

In the Heart of the King,

*Sr. Mary Angela, C.K.*

Sr. Mary Angela, C.K.

## **BIST Tip: Calm tone**

What do you mean “calm tone?” If I’ve asked a student to do something for the umpteenth time, I’m far from calm! Just remember, that a child can either deal with the adult’s strong emotion or deal with the problem behavior. They cannot do both! We know from experience, we are better listeners and problem solvers when we are calm. So if you find your tone is far from calm, it’s okay to take some time for yourself to relax before talking with the child. Stop, relax, think...and then problem solve. You are your child’s best role model!

## **Book Fair Thanks and Reminder!**

Thank you to all the parents, students, staff, and community members who made our book fair a success! If you weren’t able to attend or still have shopping to do, there is still time to order ONLINE. All purchases will help our St. Joseph’s Library. Online ordering is available **THROUGH Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**. Visit the website [BN.com/bookfairs](https://BN.com/bookfairs). At the very end of your ordering process there will be a box that says “check here if this is a Book Fair order”. You will then need to enter our **BOOKFAIR ID NUMBER: 12810461**. Thank you for your support!



## K-6 Christmas Musicals 2024 Performance Days/Times:

**Monday, December 16th at 7:00pm**

**Students whose last names begin with L-Z**

**Tuesday, December 17th at 7:00pm**

**Students whose last names begin with A-K**

***Both nights the gym doors and front school doors will be unlocked at 6:30 pm. Attendance is mandatory per the school handbook.***

Please have your 5th and/or 6th grade child(ren) in the school cafeteria by 6:50 pm the night of their program. K-4th graders are to be in their classrooms by 6:50 pm. We'd prefer they stay with you until 6:40 to ensure proper supervision. Students with costumes will need to go to the music room first to put their costume on.

### Costume reminders:

**Sheep:** Come in a T-shirt, black pants/sweats/leggings, and black socks. We have the sheep costume you will wear over that.

**Doves:** Come in white/grey pants/sweats/leggings, white socks, and a white shirt. We have the dove costume you will wear over that.

**Cows:** Come to the concert in shorts, a T-shirt and black or white socks. We have the cow costume you will wear over that.

**Donkeys:** Come to the concert in black leggings, pants, or sweats, black socks, and a black long-sleeved shirt. We have the rest of the donkey costume you will wear over that.

**Camels:** Come in a T-shirt, shorts, and tan/brown socks. We have the camel costume you will wear over that.

**All other characters:** Characters in either musical that I have not mentioned yet (ex. main characters, Mary, Joseph, kings, shepherds, angels, misc. characters) we have the costume for you. Please wear shorts and a t-shirt to go underneath your costume. You are also to wear a type of sandal or socks to complete your costume.

**Hand bell players and choir members:** Come dressed-up in nice Christmas dresses or slacks outfits. Please do not wear jeans, shorts, sweats, jerseys, etc.

### Additional information:

K-3 will perform the musical "**Hooray in a Manger**," while the 4th-6th graders watch. We will take 5 minutes to switch the staging while the 4th-6th graders take their places on the risers. The K-3rd graders will then watch the 4th-6th graders perform "**Camel Lot**." We will be done approximately 8:10 pm. Out of respect for the latter performers please stay until both musicals are completed. Your presence is greatly appreciated - thank you!

***Students may not participate in a program if sent home sick or gone for more than half of the school day.***

I think that is it! If you have any other questions, please e-mail me at [kathy-krinke@cdolinc.net](mailto:kathy-krinke@cdolinc.net). Looking forward to seeing you all at the concerts!

*Mrs. Krinke*



## December 20 – special notes

- **Reminder** – December 20 is a NOON DISMISSAL day!
- **Special Dress** – Children are welcome to wear red and green non-uniform attire (be mindful of appropriate wear for Mass).
- **Lessons and Carols** – Join our students in church at 10:45 for a special prayer service, “Christmas Through the Eyes of Mary” in Scripture and song. All grades, K-8, will have roles in telling the story as we prepare for Christmas on this last school day in Advent. See flyer below.

# Lessons and Carols



**“Christmas  
through the eyes  
of Mary”**

**December 20,  
2024  
10:45 a.m.**

**All are welcome to join the school children  
for our prayer service to celebrate the  
coming of Jesus at Christmas. We will be  
reflecting on Christmas through the eyes  
of Mary in Scripture and song. If you are  
available Friday morning, we would love to  
have you join us!**



# SFA Teacher & Staff Christmas Gift



Dear Parents,

December 1, 2024

As the holidays are approaching, the SFA Board is asking you to consider giving a financial gift in thanksgiving to our Saint Joseph teachers and staff. The time, dedication, and joy of faith that they share daily with our children are immeasurable.

Your donation can take the place of individual Christmas gifts to teachers. Plus, these monetary gifts support not only your child's homeroom teachers, but also specialty class teachers (Art, P.E., Spanish, Library & Computer), office staff, lunchroom staff, and so many others that make Saint Joseph so special to our children.

This donation ensures that every teacher and staff member at our school receives a holiday bonus as a sign of our appreciation for all they do. Additionally, the names of each family who donates will be shared to acknowledge and celebrate your generosity.

If your family would like to donate, please send a check to school, payable to St. Joseph's SFA, by Wednesday, December 13. This will allow SFA to deliver the monetary gift prior to Christmas break. You may also make a donation online at [bit.ly/SFA-StaffChristmas-2024](https://bit.ly/SFA-StaffChristmas-2024).

Thank you for your support, generous giving, and volunteer efforts this school year. Our school community truly is blessed!

God bless you and your families!

St. Joseph School Family  
Association 2024 Board



## **Christmas Confessions**

Since we did not have student confessions in school during December, be sure to take advantage of the confessions offered in the parish before Christmas! A clean soul is the best preparation for the Baby Jesus!

# *Advent Evening Confessions & Eucharistic Adoration*

**Sunday, December 22**

6:30 p.m.: Many Priests will be available for Confession

# *Additional Confession Times*

**Thursday & Friday, December 19 & 20,**

**& Monday, December 23**

12:00-1:30 p.m. daily

## **Play Dates with School Pets!**

Our school Guinea Pigs, Leroy (brown) and Jasper (black) love to be held! They are available to be taken home Friday after school and brought back Monday morning. If your child(ren) would like to adopt Leroy and Jasper (together) for a weekend send in a letter with your child, email the office staff, or give us a call at 402-489-0341 and we will put you on our list!



## **Grief Resource**

Mourning Hope of Lincoln is a grief support network for children, teens, young adults and their families who have experienced the serious illness or death of someone special to them. If this holiday season is a particular challenge for your child or your family, please reach out for assistance. [www.mourninghope.org](http://www.mourninghope.org)

## Talent Show- Coming Soon!



COMING SOON...  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2025  
**THE TALENT SHOW!**

### Who performs in a talent show?

*Students in 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades, teachers and any staff!*

### What talents do we want to see in a talent show?

*People who take:*

*Gymnastics*

*Piano lessons*

*Cheer*

*Voice lessons*

*Dance*

*Instrumental lessons*

*Taekwondo*

*Any skill you are WORKING on getting better at!*

*\*\*\*No lip-syncing, made-up skits or dances, songs sung at church, etc.\*\*\**

*\*\*Questions? See Mrs. Krinke \*\**

*\*Be watching for specifics when we are back in January!\**





## Scratch Paper

We need scratch paper! If you have any paper already printed on one side and looking to get rid of please send it our way! God bless you for your generosity!

## SCRIP Pizza Party

Thank you to everyone who has sent in a script order for our script pizza party contest! Currently 1A is in the lead!! If your class wants the pizza party... Send in a script order! Let's see which class can sell the most scrip! Use SCRIP to help with all your holiday shopping needs! Use SCRIP to give back to your church and school! Send your order with your student in the morning and we will return it with them the same day! Text Kate with any questions: 402-314-1416. [DOWNLOAD THE ORDER FORM!](#)

## C.K. Sisters' Advent Retreat

Peace in Christ, our Eucharistic King. As we approach the season of Advent, we are happy to invite you to an Advent retreat on **Saturday, December 14**. The attached [LINK](#) will have more details and an opportunity to register. For now, know of our prayers for you and our desire to journey with you as Christ the King draws you into the goodness of His reign.

## Pius X Jr. High Basketball Game



**PIUS X BOOSTER CLUB  
PRESENTS**

**JUNIOR HIGH  
GAME DAYS**

**Saturday, January 11th**

**PiusX Freshman Basketball vs. Southeast**

**Girls - 9:30am**  
**Boys - 10:30am**

**FREE Admission** With a current school ID

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