

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave., Concord, CA 94519



(925) 689-3990

12/7/11

www.stagnesconcord.com

Principal's Corner

Practices are in full force, ticket sales have begun and the discussions are building. Each year concern arises about the time spent during the school day preparing for our Christmas "Play." This year is no exception, however there is a new twist – there seems to be the additional concern about the existence of a program! GO FIGURE! Forever being the teacher I believe in finding any possible way to create a teachable moment, so here you go! The Diocese has a schedule for the number of daily instructional minutes prescribed for each subject. Fine Arts is no exception, in fact the allotment is 100 minutes per week! You do the math. There is no way we can fit these required minutes in our weekly schedule. Therefore we have elected and are

allowed to block instructional minutes, into preparing for our Christmas and spring performances. So to answer the various concerns out there, yes there will be a Christmas performance, yes it will be different and yes I hope you are pleasantly surprised and pleased. Yes, change is difficult but not always negative. Finally, yes there is a rationale for the amount of time spent preparing for this performance; we are fulfilling the Fine Arts allotted time required by the Diocese. We pride ourselves in preparing our children well, whether that occurs in the classroom, during Mass or in our performances and that takes practice. Your children are very excited to perform for you. We hope you are as excited to see them "on stage" as we continue to nurture the

development of the whole child.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today we commemorate the attack of the U.S. Naval Base on Pearl Harbor in 1941. The USS Arizona was destroyed along with devastating damage to many other military vessels. More than 2300 Americans were killed on this day. We have no holiday to mark this tragic event in history but we can take a moment to say a prayer for the safety of those who are currently serving in our military. If you know a veteran, particularly a WWII Vet., tell them you appreciate all they have done to keep our country safe.

TICKETS FOR SALE

Don't forget to order your tickets for the Christmas performance scheduled for December 20th at 1:30 & 7:00. You can find the

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order form on our website.

LAST CHANCE

Just a reminder, this is the LAST week to order your Stocking Stuffer Free Dress Passes. Orders are being sent home on Wednesday, 12/7 & 12/14. If you do not receive your order by the 14th please contact Skye Hayworth at 925-687-1538 or by email Haywire0@gmail.com as soon as possible. If you already have placed an order they are enclosed in this envelope.

FORGIVEN

Congratulations to our 2nd graders who celebrated their First Reconciliation this past Saturday. The spirit of forgiveness and love was prevalent throughout the church. We look forward to May when they will experience the Eucharist for their first time.

CLASS KUDOS

Thank you to the 6th grade for leading us in prayer as we celebrated our first Friday of the month Mass. The Advent wreath, made by the class and blessed by Father Vince, will be on the table outside the school office door for all to enjoy. Job well done!

JOIN US

Don't forget tomorrow is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. We gather to reflect that from the first moment of her *conception*, Mary (by God's grace) was born without original *sin/immaculate*. Please join us for 9:00 AM Mass as the 4th grade will lead us in this special liturgy. Mass attire is required.

RECESS GOODIES

A bake sale sponsored by the Student Council is scheduled for this Thursday and Friday

during the morning recesses. Items will be sold for 25¢ each.

STUDENT STORE

Each Wednesday and Friday the Student Store will be open during the morning recesses. Items range from snacks to shoelaces to license plate frames. Prices vary from 25¢ to \$5.00. Thank you for your support!

MASS PARTICIPANTS

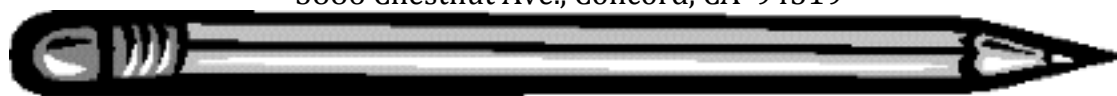
Our St. Agnes Parish community would love to see you at Mass on Christmas Eve. There are various ministries from which your children can choose: from angels to greeters, readers to ushers there is something for everyone! A sign-up sheet has been included in this family envelope.

FACEBOOK US

Do you want to find out the latest information regarding our Auction?

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Please "like" us on Facebook. You'll get updates, ideas for your family donation and more!

ARE YOU A VIP?

This year's Auction is going to be very special for one lucky winner. Yes, we're talking about the VIP table. Be sure to complete and send in your ticket form in your family envelope. Once 100 tickets are sold we will be announcing the winner for this year's VIP.

JUNIOR HIGH YOU ARE NEEDED AGAIN!

Volunteers are needed to sell Auction raffle tickets after all the masses at St. Bonaventure Church on December 18th. We would like to have our volunteers stay for two or three masses at a time. Sign-up forms are available on our website under the forms tab.

Thank you in advance for your gift of time!

WE PRAY

Please pray for Elly O'Bryant (6th grade) and her family as they mourn the passing of their great grandmother. We also pray for the Scheffler Family (Olivia 8th grade) as they mourn the death of their grandfather.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS?

If you have any comments or concerns please contact: Lisa Karmann, School Board President at 673-1635 or Cristina Pauline, PACE President at 672-6808.

Important Dates, Information, and Updates

- 12/8
 - Immaculate Conception Mass 9:00 formal attire
- 12/8-12/9
 - Student Council Bake Sale
- 12/10
 - Breakfast with Santa 9-12
- 12/13
 - PACE Meeting 6:30
- 12/14
 - Development Meeting 6:30