



## Principal's Thoughts

The Advent season has begun and now we need to prepare spiritually. December 1<sup>st</sup> marked not only the beginning of Advent but the start of a new liturgical year. This is a jubilee year and has been officially declared the Year of Hope. Many special ceremonies will take place during this extraordinary year and the first occurred this past Monday with the ritual of preparing to open the Holy door on December 24<sup>th</sup>. Here is a link about this amazing ancient tradition:

<https://www.usccb.org/news/2024/preparations-begin-opening-holy-doors-vatican-rome-basilicas>

During Advent we are reminded to be attentive and hopeful "for we do not know when the Lord is coming." While we cannot relive the birth of Jesus, we can be mindful of the impact the Christ child had on humankind. We can use this knowledge to live more purposefully in the present, acting on the model Jesus provided. Many of us spend so much time worrying and planning for the future that we forget about the here and now. We need to put our spiritual needs first and foremost in our lives. Perhaps during this time of Advent, we can begin each day by praying that the Lord will show us someone with whom we might share His love, mercy and forgiveness. Every night when we go to bed, let us ask ourselves, "Where have I found Christ today?" The answer might be God's Advent gift to us. So let us spiritually prepare in the present so we will be ready!

### Advent Resources for You

Best Advent Ever Daily Reflections: <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent.html>

Advent Calendar Reflections: [https://www.usccb.org/resources/Advent-Calendar-2024\\_updated.pdf](https://www.usccb.org/resources/Advent-Calendar-2024_updated.pdf)

Advent Wreath Craft:

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=954>

Elf on the Shelf Alternative: <https://cultivatingcatholics.com/5-catholic-elf-on-the-shelf-alternatives/>

### *St. Agnes School Mission Statement*

*St. Agnes School, in partnership with the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Oakland educate children in the Catholic faith and nurture their minds, bodies, and souls, inspiring them to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, achieve their highest academic and creative potential, and actively serve and enrich the community.*

## Newsletter-12/4/24



[www.stagnesconcord.com](http://www.stagnesconcord.com)



### • **Concert News**

- Please join us for our Annual Christmas Concert: Jesus, What a Wonderful Child! The show will take place on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm & 7:00pm in the church.
- If you preordered tickets they are in your envelope today. Remaining ticket orders can be picked up at the door on the day of the Concert. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

### • **Concert Costumes**

- A flyer with costume information can be found on our website. White tops and black bottoms are a must.

### • **A Surprise from Mrs. Cesca**

- A special form has been included in your envelope to order certificates for the Annual Book Fair (January 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>) that make wonderful stocking stuffers.
- Orders need to be turned in no later and 12:00pm on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. An envelope with your certificates will be sent home in the family envelope on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### • **Plan Ahead, please**

- Kids Club will be closed beginning the afternoon on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

### • **Student Council Christmas Events**

- A Bake Sale will take place on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Items are priced at .25 - \$1.00
- Candy Gram Sale is scheduled for Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Each Gram will sell for .25 each. This is a perfect Buddy surprise!
  - All Candy Grams will be delivered to each classroom.
- Calling all Designers!
  - Please consider entering the Gingerbread House Decorating Contest
  - Students will bring their creations to school on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> for judging and take them home that day.

### • **Classic Design Closed**

- **The store will be closed from December 15<sup>th</sup> to January 3<sup>rd</sup>, to prepare for the end-of-year inventory count. Online orders placed during this time will also be delayed. The store will reopen on Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.**

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### Parish News

- **Baby Jesus Mass (A loved tradition)**
  - All Parish & School youth (Grades K-8) are invited to participate in the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass (Baby Jesus Mass).
  - A flyer with important details and a QR code has been posted on our website.
  - Please sign up online by Monday, December 16: <https://forms.gle/jV4oCPNtZPhNrRwe6>
  - A mandatory practice for all participants will be on Monday, December 23 at 10 am in the church. Any questions can be directed to Marion Armstrong at (925) 381-1817 or Michelle Koski at (650) 759-8847 or [mkphantom33@att.net](mailto:mkphantom33@att.net)
- **Parish Christmas Concert**
  - You are invited to attend this wonderful holiday tradition on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Come and witness all the talent in our St. Agnes Community!
  - A flyer with additional information has been included in your envelope.
- **Little Vinnie's Helpers**
  - Seventeen junior high students worked with the St. Vincent de Paul Society to donate, collect and assemble supplies for Hygiene Kits.
  - They made 156 kits to distribute to the homeless at the Loaves and Fishes Dining Room in Pittsburg for Thanksgiving Day! Community Service is alive and active at St. Agnes!



### TIME SENSITIVE

- **Nutcracker Ballet**
  - The Idul Family is inviting you to attend the ballet December 6<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> at the El Campanil Theater in Antioch. A flyer with a QR code to buy tickets has been posted on our website.
- **Last Day Scrip Special Orders**
  - The approaching holidays are a perfect time to order extra scrip. Please remember it takes at least one week to receive special or large orders of scrip. This Friday is the last day to submit special orders.

*Weekly Schoolwide Learning Expectation: 4.3 An effective communicator who is able to cooperate and collaborate with others.*

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- **Dine Out TODAY!**
  - Don't forget your flyer and present it when you order your food at Five Guys in Clayton today until 10pm.
  - Five Guys will donate 15% of your purchase back to St. Agnes!
  - The flyer is posted on our website.
- **Special Non-Uniform Stocking Stuffer**
  - Order from now until December 23<sup>rd</sup> for your child to have "free" dress January 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>.
  - <https://event.auctria.com/8d2c2dc2-716a-4ba9-b9d2-62e19a662e0d/>
- **Breakfast with Santa**
  - This VERY popular event will take place on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> with two separate seatings: 8am & 10am.
  - Santa will be available to hear the children's wishes and have a photo taken.
  - Tickets are now on sale! Hurry, this event typically sells out!
- **Holiday Candy Sale**
  - The See's Candy Holiday sale ends this Friday! Order online and the candy will be mailed directly to you!
  - [https://www.yumraising.com/secure/stas\\_christmas91/RacDac5573/candy](https://www.yumraising.com/secure/stas_christmas91/RacDac5573/candy)
- **Spirit Shirts Remain**
  - We have a few spirit shirts left for sale: 4-YS, 2-YM, 2 YL & 1-YXL (\$30 each.)



For those who have died and those who mourn their passing:


- Bishop Emeritus John Cummins (2<sup>nd</sup> Bishop of the Oakland Diocese)
- Sue Ellen Lacroix paternal grandmother of Louise (3<sup>rd</sup>.)

Please keep them in your prayers. May they feel God's presence and know our love.

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	<b>IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS</b>
12/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FULL School Day</li> <li>• Reindeer Lane Last Shopping Day</li> <li>• Dine Out – Five Guys 11am-10pm</li> </ul>
12/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast with Santa Sale Closes</li> </ul>
12/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See's Candy Sale Ends</li> </ul>
12/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast with Santa! Ho! Ho! Ho!</li> <li>• Work Party 9-1</li> <li>• Parish Christmas Concert 7:30pm</li> </ul>
12/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent - Lk 3:1-6</li> </ul>
12/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass 9am Formal</li> </ul>
12/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2.00 Non-Uniform Dress Day</li> <li>• PACE Meeting Cancelled</li> </ul>
12/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas Concert 1:30 &amp; 7pm</li> </ul>
12/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faith Families 1:45</li> <li>• Last Day to Order Book Fair Certificates</li> </ul>
12/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last Day of School</li> <li>• Minimum Day 12:00 Dismissal</li> <li>• No Kids Club Available in the Afternoon.</li> </ul>



2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF *Advent*

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<https://clipart-library.com/search/1?q=advent+wreath#gsc.tab=1&gsc.q=advent%20wreath&gsc.page=4>