



St. Charles Borromeo Religious Education  
Parish School of Religion

### Our Mission

*Together we come to know and be in relationship with  
Jesus Christ.*

*Together we participate in Catholic worship.*

*Together we respond with Christian service.*

*Together we learn through  
Religious education programs.*

*Together we worship.*

*Together we serve.*

*Together we learn.*

December 4, 2011

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your generous support of our Advent Wreath making for the Mt. Carmel retirement home! I feel so blessed to be among a community so willing to give to others and when those wreaths are delivered, the whole facility seems to light up - the Light of Christ shining through you and your children all the way to the retired folks who loved our donation!

And appropriately so as we light the second candle on the Advent wreath - these candles remind us that Jesus is the light of the world and we are called to reflect His light to others not only at this time of year but all the yearlong!

As we light the second candle, I'm very thankful of Advent - it so helps me, as a mother, to help my own children and all those I encounter keep the focus on

Christmas day! Keeping focus on Christ shifts our focus from gifts, gifts, and more gifts!

On December 11 and 18 we will be collecting mittens and socks (hats too) to be delivered to Youth in Need, St. Charles. I thank you in advance for your generosity - I know at my house gloves especially are always one found, one lost, so giving to the needy youth in our area is a huge service!

Next week, the 11<sup>th</sup>, we are hosting the Catechist/Parent Conferences. These will be in the individual classrooms on a first come, first serve basis. All parents are encouraged to participate. Classes are in session - we will be grouping children together and doing Christmas and Mass learning!

We also have been preparing for the **Stations of the Nativity** prayer gathering which will be watched by all the PSR students on December 18 at 10:40. Of course all parents and families are invited.

Peace be with you -

## Calendar



Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Holy Day of Obligation

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> Parent & Catechist Conferences  
Classes are in Session  
Socks & Gloves Collection



Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> Socks & Gloves Collection  
Stations of the Nativity – Families invited



Dec. 25-January 8 – **Merry Christmas – NO CLASSES**



## *Participate at Mass Together As a Family!*

*St. Charles Borromeo Mass Times  
Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 7, 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 am*

### ***December Feasts & Saints***

- 6 – *St. Nicholas, protector of children. Find out more at [www.stnicholascenter.org](http://www.stnicholascenter.org)*
- 8 – *Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Participate in Mass tonight!*
- 9 – *St. Juan Diego – pray the Hail Mary at dinner tonight!*
- 12 – *Our Lady of Guadalupe – Buy two poinsettias. Bring one to a neighbor who you may or may not know; keep one yourself.*
- 13 – *St. Lucy – Lucy worked with the blind - donate those old eye glasses*
- 15 – *St. Mary Di Rosa – Mary worked in a military hospital. Visit a local Veteran's Hospital.*
- 20 – *Hanukkah – Light a special candle in remembrance of Jesus' Jewish roots.*
- 26 – *St. Stephen – the first Christian martyr*
- 28 – *Feast of the Holy Martyrs*
- 30 – *Feast of the Holy Family*

#### ***Prayer for December***

*Long-awaited Savior;  
Come into the busy days  
of my life once again.  
Lead me into a quiet place  
and speak to me.*

*Your words alone are spirit and life.  
Come, Lord Jesus.*

*From Bringing Home the Word; St. Anthony Messenger Press*

### *Prepare the Way of the Lord*

*As we journey through Advent, preparing our hearts and homes for the coming of Emmanuel, God is with us, let us celebrate:*

*Expectation*

*Proclamation – How might we reflect the light of Jesus to others this season?*

*Celebration – What does the evergreen teach us about God's love for us?*

*Fulfillment – Like the angels, how might we be witnesses of God's miraculous love?*