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Living, Celebrating, and Proclaiming our Faith



Advent
Week 1 - **Hope**

As we begin our Advent pilgrimage, we light a candle of hope. Grant us the courage to hope: hope for your presence, hope for your peace, and hope for your promise. Amen.

New Items:

Last call for Christmas Store donations!

Please return signed report card envelopes to teachers

Christmas Program details to come next week

Upcoming dates:

Dec 3rd - Carolfest

Dec 4th - Plant order pick up 2-6pm

Dec 10th - Christmas Store

Dec 18th - Christmas Program

Dec 19th - Mass in the AM Roi in the PM

- Wear Christmas attire

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE: We are in the midst of the first week of Advent and in Monday's assembly, the gr. 5-6 class focused on "Hope" as the first candle of the advent wreath was lit. In this first week of Advent, we are invited to meditate on *hope*—not mere optimism, but a theological virtue rooted in trust in God's promises. Hope looks beyond present struggles and anticipates the coming of Christ, who brings light to the darkness. At school, this hope reminds us that every effort to learn and grow participates in God's plan for renewal. May our lives reflect the hope we have in Christ so that we can, in turn, bring others in to share in that hope, something so very needed in our world today. Have a good week.

CAROLFEST STUDENTS: Dress appropriately for walking over to SSS on Dec. 3rd. Pizza has been ordered for those students participating in Carolfest. Please also All students must be at SSS by 4:30 and picked up at 8:00. Please check out your child when you have picked them up.

CHRISTMAS STORE: Thank you to everyone who has already donated, we are ever so grateful! We are still in need of gifts for Dads as well as wrapping paper, gift bags, ribbons and small boxes.

CHOCOLATE ALMONDS: We are hoping to sell the rest of the chocolates before Christmas break. Keep selling!!!

POINSETTIA/PLANT ORDERS: Plant pick up is on Dec. 4th from 2-6pm, please use the outside gym entrance. If you placed an order you are responsible to pick up the entire order and deliver to those on your list. I should have a few extras if you are interested, just let me know. Thanks, Arlene McGibbon

ROI THEATRE: We will be attending the Roi theatre the last day of school to watch the Grinch. Thank you to the PSG for paying for each student to attend! Parents/Guardians, along with siblings are welcome to attend for \$5 per person. There will be a concession form sent home in the next week. Keep a look out for this.

YOUTH GROUP: Our next St Joseph's Church Youth Group for all students grades 5 to 7 is Saturday December 6th. Students are invited to come to the 5:00 p.m. Mass, 6:00 p.m. at the gym for hamburgers and 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. for games and activities. We will be making gingerbread nativities. Prizes for the best creations! Our concession will be open. Can't wait to see you there! For more details please contact Joanna at 250-643-4263.

We are asking if any students are interested in taking part in the Christmas Eve Mass at the Church. Students who would like to sing, play a musical instrument or help out with the readings at the Mass are asked to come to our first meeting at the Church on Sunday, December 7th from 6:00 to 7:15pm. We will have two additional practices on Sunday, December 14th and 21st from 6:00 to 7:15. For more details please contact Joanna at 250-643-4263.

BOTTLES & CAN DONATIONS

Gr. 7's are starting to raise money for their year-end trip. If you have recyclable bottles, cans, etc at home, it would be great if you brought them to the recycling depot. There is an account for St. Joseph's gr. 7's there and if you are willing, you could ask that the refunds go into that account.

NET TEAM: Every year the National Evangelization Team (NET team) comes through the northwest to offer retreats to students in gr. 6 and 7. This year, they will be doing a retreat with our gr 6 and 7 students on March 13th, 2026. The team will need a home to stay in for three nights: March 12, 13, and 14th before they continue their journey. Is anyone willing to open their home to two or more NET team members? They are fine with sleeping on foamies on the floor, on couches, etc, etc. If you are able to help, can you let us know at the office? There are 8 team members we are seeking to host and the school is happy to hand out grocery cards to cover expenses. More information about what NET is can be found here:

<https://www.netcanada.ca/>

PSG NEWS - NEXT MEETING DEC 10th @ 6:30 :If you have questions or want additional information about the PSG feel free to reach out via email at psg.stjoes@gmail.com

Chair - Tanya Flynn

Vice Chair - Carly Rosger

Treasurer - Charlie Stam

Secretary - Taryn Opel

Hot lunch coordinators - Brett Wilson & Melissa Bennett

E-TRANSFER REMINDER: Friendly reminder that we only accept e-transfers for tuition/fees and school run fundraisers. We cannot accept e-transfers for Pizza or Hot lunch sales. If you have any questions about how to pay for something, please feel free to check with the office first.

CHURCH NEWS:

Mass: 5pm on Saturday, 9am on Sunday, 5:30 on Tuesday, 9am on Wednesday, Thursday & Fridays

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy: Fridays at 1pm

Private adoration: is welcome at St Joseph's during office hours, Wednesday-Friday 10am -2pm

Flocknote: to get on Flocknote text **SMITHERS to 514-900-0130**

Confessions: are 15 mins before every Mass or by appointment

Sunday School: is offered during the 9am Sunday Mass for children 2 years old until 1st Communion

Nov 23rd Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast. The Knights of Columbus are hosting a pancake breakfast right after Sunday morning Mass. Admission is by donation, everyone is welcome!

See last page for next 4 week calendar.

St. Joseph's School CHRISTMAS STORE

WE'RE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS!

Help us make this holiday season special for all families.

Looking for gently used items suitable for:

- ♥ Moms
- ♥ Dads
- ♥ Stepparents



Students will be able to “shop” for loved ones at our Christmas Store!

All money collected from the store will go directly to support the Local Food Hamper Program.

Drop-off Location: St. Joseph's School
Donation Deadline: Dec 3

Thank you for spreading Christmas cheer and helping local families in need!

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
PRESENTS**











**A WHOVILLE
KIDS
CHRISTMAS
PARTY AND
TALENT SHOW**



**DECEMBER 7TH 11-3
TALENT SHOW SIGN-UP AT 11
A VISIT FROM MR. AND MRS. CLAUS AT 11:30
REHEARSAL AT 1
FOOD AVAILABLE BY DONATION
ENTRY BY A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM**



December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Hot Dogs 	2	3 Carolfest 	4 Plant pick up 2pm -6pm 	5 Gr 3-7 Mass Gr 6/7 reading Chicken Ranch wraps 
8 Hot Dogs 	9	10 Christmas Store 	11	12 Gr 3-7 Mass Gr 3/4 reading Tacos 
15 Hot Dogs 	16	17	18 Christmas Concert 	19 Wear Christmas attire  Mass 9am Pizza  Roi Theatre Afternoon. Pick up at the theatre about 2:15ish