

HOME & SCHOOL

Monthly Newsletter

Important Dates

November

- 27th- Teacher Christmas Fund opens
- 28th – Teacher’s Luncheon Hosted by 6th Grade
- 28th – Confirmation Meeting
- 29th – 1st Grade Gala Donation Party
- 29th – SVdP Cookbook pop up shop
- 30th- 8am, ALL Pre-school Coffee with Sister

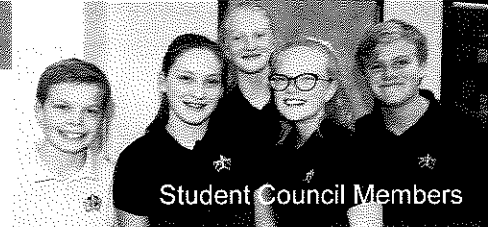
December

- 2nd – Family Sundays at SVdP
 - 4th – Jamba Juice
 - 6th – 6th Grade Gala Donation Party
 - 6th – Crusader Cards deadline for Christmas ordering
 - 7th – Christmas Teacher Fund deadline
 - 7th – Barnes & Noble Book Fair
 - 9th – Middle School Boys’ Discernment Retreat
 - 10th – 13th – Spirit Gear Delivered
 - 11th – Jamba Juice
 - 11th – Preschool Gala Donation Party
 - 12th – Confirmation Meeting
 - 12th-13th – Christmas Shoppe
 - 14th – Spirit Wear Day
 - 14th – Alive Middle School Youth Ministry
 - 17th – Crusader Cards delivered/ ready for pick up
 - 18th – Jamba Juice
 - 19th – 1st-3rd Grade Art Show
 - 19th – 1st-3rd Grade Christmas Concert
 - 21st- Class Christmas Parties
 - 21st- Noon Dismal and start of Christmas Break
- #### January
- 2nd – Catholic Schools Night with Colorado Avalanche
 - 6th – Family Sunday SVdP

Our H&S Christmas Elf has hidden two surprise messages in the Events & Volunteer Calendar. Look for the two Christmas song titles hidden in the month of December and use the email link in the event description to claim your prize!

Veterans Day Assembly

Our SVdP Student Council and students were busy at work the last few weeks getting ready for our Veterans Day reception and assembly that took place on Friday, November 9th. During this special afternoon, students honored 39 Veterans from all branches of service. All of these Veterans are held close to the hearts of SVdP families, as they are fathers, mothers, grandfathers, uncles, godparents, alumni, faculty and friends of our school and church community.



Student Council Members

In preparation for the celebration, our students read articles and books that highlighted the sacrifices veterans made and continue to make everyday for our country and created a card filled with heartfelt messages, drawings and words of gratitude that were presented to our special guests. Student Council also organized a poster contest that focused on Veterans and our scriptural theme of gratitude. The winning poster was created by 6th grader Sophia Simoes and featured an American

flag that was detailed with adjectives that describe our Veterans. Sophie chose words such as courageous, fearless, devoted, respectful, and generous to characterize our heroes.

Veterans Day is a school wide event, where students and staff take time to show their appreciation for our heroes. We are truly blessed to have so many Veterans as part of our SVdP community that our children can look up to and model.



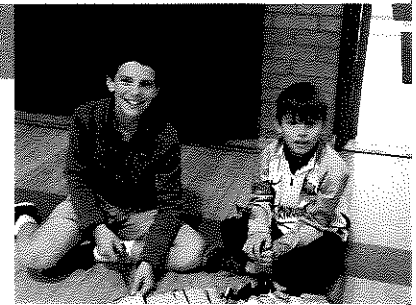
Crusader Corner- Meet Miss Hazell

Meet our amazing new 2nd Grade teacher! A wonderful addition to SVdP, Miss Hazell brings not only her beautiful smile, infectious laugh and warm personality, but her love and experience of teaching for 14 years. Most recently, Miss Hazell taught Kindergarten at Stephen Knight Center for Early Education and has also taught grades 1st-3rd. Originally from Missouri, she moved to Colorado in 2010 with her daughter, Emery who is now 10. Newly engaged, Miss Hazell's family will grow with two step-sons when she marries in the Fall of 2019. In her spare time, you might see her with her family at Bonnie Brae Park with their Goldendoodle, Lulu. She loves to travel and her favorite place is anywhere they are able to go as a family, "watching children experience a new culture for the first time is simply wonderful" she says. Miss Hazell loves to cook, bake and when she has time she enjoys running. She loves the sense of community at SVdP and has felt so welcomed by parents. "Watching children grow, develop and blossom each year after year is a wonderful gift. I am a lifelong learner and will continue to learn with each passing day". Welcome to Saint Vincent de Paul Miss Hazell!



SVdP Serves

On November 16th, the entire school participated in a service day as part of the SVdP Serves program. In the spirit of our namesake, Saint Vincent de Paul, SVdP Serves' mission is to offer opportunities for students to be stewards of the faith through education and awareness of the needs of others while creating partnerships within our community. The students achieve this mission through two grade-specific service projects per year with a partner agency, as well as two all school service days.



For the first all school service day this year, the students enjoyed pairing with their "buddy" and working on various projects including holiday centerpieces for the Father Woody Christmas dinner benefitting the homeless and fidget blankets for There with Care. The Thanksgiving Food Drive is also a focus on the Fall service day for the 8th grade, which provided over 1,000 lbs of food last year to families in need! A special thank you to Beth Riviere who coordinated the all school service day!

Now in its third year, SVdP Serves has been a wonderful success thanks in large part to chair Lara O'Shaughnessy and all of the parent volunteers and class coordinators. Through their hard work, our students have served almost 5,000 hours the past two school years to agencies in need. To find out more or to volunteer, reach out to your class service learning coordinator.

Fundraising

Crusader Cards

Let us help you get your gift cards for everyone on your list while raising funds for SVdP! The Crusader Cards program is very simple and easy to use! Just turn in your completed order form and payment to the office by the deadline, **Thursday, Dec. 6th**. Gift cards will then be delivered via kidmail or available for pick up at the front office.

Last December, our community placed over \$20,000 worth of gift card orders and earned \$1,226 for our school in a single month. Let's see if we can beat \$20,000 worth of orders this year!

Christmas Shoppe

Everyone loves shopping for presents for his or her loved ones, and our students are no exception. Our own Christmas Elf **Shannon Novak** works very hard for months to put together a wonderful Christmas Shoppe for our students. Shannon scours numerous stores and sales throughout the year to purchase gift options for our students to pick from at the Shoppe. Shannon and her team also prepare hundreds of handwritten gift tags ahead of time to gift-wrap each gift. Shannon's thoughtfulness, cheerful attitude, and genuine Christmas spirit make the Christmas Shoppe an event our students look forward to every year. She has truly been a gift to SVdP for her years of volunteering.

All proceeds from the Shoppe benefit our school and it averages \$2 - 3,000/year. Look for the Christmas Shoppe order form that will come home for you and your student to fill out together. After your child visits the Shoppe with their class, their wrapped gifts will come home ready to place under the tree.

Barnes & Noble Book Fair

Join us Friday, December 7th from 4-8 PM for a magical evening as we hop on the train to The Polar Express. Wear your favorite jammies, grab a cup of cocoa and get cozy for the first reading of The Polar Express at 4:30 by Mrs. Gerken for Pre-school-5th grade. A second reading will take place for 6th-8th grade at 7 PM read by a Barnes & Noble member.

Whether a book, music or toy, SVdP will earn 10% back from ALL purchases made. Also, one lucky winner for both Pre-school - 5th grade and 6th-8th grade will be taking home a custom SVdP basket filled with goodies from Barnes & Noble, Starbucks and SVdP spirit wear. You must be present to enter the raffle and you have a second opportunity to enter when you make a purchase.

Faith and Family

Spotlight on Advent

Joy! Advent is the season to prepare for the arrival of Jesus. Here are a few wonderful ways your family can prepare:

- Attend the **Advent Workshop in the gym at 10:30 on December 2nd**. Even if you go to a different Mass, you and your family are welcome to come for donuts and participate in several stations with crafts and activities that will help your family engage with the deeper meaning of the season in very practical ways. The theme is "True Giving."
- **Pray at dinner or before bed** specifically for the people you received Christmas cards from that day.
- **Light an advent wreath** at dinner.
- **Subscribe to daily scripture** readings for the season that focus on the themes of waiting, preparation, light in the darkness, and the coming of the Messiah at www.Catholic.org/advent.
- **Go to Adoration**. School has it December 7th and 14th for the students.
- Have your kids **write a "Thank You" note to Jesus** for the past year and put it under the tree.
- **Call grandparents** and ask them about their Christmas memories.
- **Go to the 1st-3rd grade Christmas concert** December 19th in the church at 6:30 to listen to carols.
- Each family member can **pick their favorite ornament and have family blessing** of them before they go on the tree. www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/family/holidays-and-special-occasions/advent-and-christmas has a blessing you can use.
- **Consider helping some families in need:** The Jesse Tree will be available in the back of the church starting the week after Thanksgiving with several hundred ornaments listing gift suggestions for families in need.