

# HOME & SCHOOL

## December Newsletter

### Important Dates

#### December

- 5<sup>th</sup>- All School Mass  
Advent Lessons and Carols
- 6<sup>th</sup>- K-5<sup>th</sup> Adoration
- 8<sup>th</sup>- Family Sunday  
THRIVE Youth Group
- 9<sup>th</sup>- All School Mass- *Feast of Immaculate Conception*  
Noon Dismissal  
Junior Great Books
- 10<sup>th</sup>- Nutcracker Ballet
- 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>- Christmas Shoppe
- 11<sup>th</sup>- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon- 5th Grade Confirmation/First Communion  
Dine-Out: Modern Market
- 13<sup>th</sup>- 6-8<sup>th</sup> Adoration
- 18<sup>th</sup>- 1st- 3rd Grade Christmas Program
- 19<sup>th</sup>- All School Mass
- 20<sup>th</sup>- Christmas Class Parties  
Spirit Wear Day  
Noon Dismissal
- 20<sup>th</sup>-Jan 5<sup>th</sup>- Christmas Break

#### January

- 5<sup>th</sup>- Family Sundays at SVdP
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Back to School
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Gala All Hands Meeting
- 8<sup>th</sup>- Confirmation/  
First Communion
- 9<sup>th</sup>- All School Mass  
Mid Trimester 2
- 10<sup>th</sup>- 6-8<sup>th</sup> Adoration
- 11<sup>th</sup>- Intermediate Spelling Bee
- 13<sup>th</sup>- Junior Great Books
- 15<sup>th</sup>- First Reconciliation Parent Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup>- All School Mass
- 20<sup>th</sup>- No School- MLK
- 22<sup>nd</sup>- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon- 1st grade  
First Reconciliation Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup>- All School Mass
- 24<sup>th</sup>- Spirit Wear Day
- 26<sup>th</sup>- Catholic Schools Week  
Mass/Reception  
THRIVE Youth Group
- 27<sup>th</sup>- 30<sup>th</sup> Catholic Schools Week
- 28<sup>th</sup>- School Open House
- 29<sup>th</sup>- Confirmation/  
First Communion
- 30<sup>th</sup>- All School Mass
- 31<sup>st</sup>- No School- Staff Day

**Check out the Volunteer Calendar on the Parent Portal for more information on events and to find links to sign up.**

### What is SVdP Serves?

At SVdP we strive to honor our namesake, St. Vincent de Paul, the patron saint of charitable societies, and inspire service in the hearts of our students through a program called *SVdP Serves*. For 4 years, President Lara O'Shaughnessy has been developing, expanding and orchestrating this now robust program. The mission of *SVdP Serves* is to offer opportunities for our students to be stewards of the faith through education and awareness of the needs of others while creating partnerships within our community. This program is designed to inspire and educate our students in the Corporal Works of Mercy (feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, burying the dead, giving alms to the poor). Our school is so blessed to have Lara leading and organizing 2 all-school service days each year, plus 2 service projects per grade level which include a food drive, a diaper drive, and a coat and boot drive. WHEW!!! Thank you, Lara!!



**Grade Level Service Projects:** Each grade level is aligned with an agency for one full school year, emphasizing how to serve that segment of society.

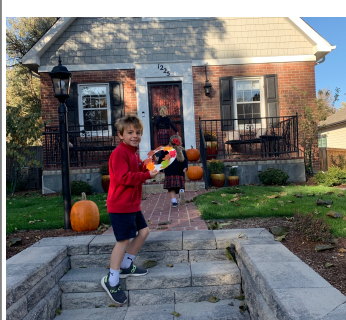
**Kindergarten – Neighbors (Service Rep: Mollie Smith)** Kindergarteners reach out to neighbors with goodwill messages and arts and crafts to be compatible, friendly neighbors.

**1<sup>st</sup> – Seniors (Service Rep: Dorie Hoody)** The 1<sup>st</sup> Graders make birthday cards for all parishioners 65+ and sing songs, say grace, and make arts and crafts for the senior lunches.

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Hope Haven Rwanda (Service Rep: Emily Riccio)** Through prayers, art work and video exchange, our students learn about Hope Haven, a school in Africa that has grown out of the hardship of genocide and through the love and passion of founder Susan Hollern.

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Dominican Sisters (Service Rep: Kathleen Davia)** 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders learn about the Order of the Dominican Sisters, tour the convent, pray the Novena with the Sisters, create arts and crafts for the Sisters and plant spring gardens at the convent.

**4<sup>th</sup> – Asbury School (Service Rep: Darby Barfield)** Our children travel to Asbury Elementary and work with a buddy who has learning disabilities and/or adaptive behaviors.



**Kindergartners deliver fall wreaths to the neighbors.**

**5<sup>th</sup> – Catholic Charities Early Childhood Education Programs (Service Rep: Natalie Urruty, Carissa Money)** Our students collect used books to deliver to children at the ECE and partner to read, play and make crafts.

**6<sup>th</sup> – Mullen Home for the Aged (Service Rep: Monica Bradac, Laurel Barsa)** Our 6<sup>th</sup> graders visit the Mullen Home where our students sing songs and do crafts and play games with the elderly.

**7<sup>th</sup> – Women/Family Services (Catholic Charities) (Service Rep: Nancy Belcher)** Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders visited the Samaritan House this fall and made 150 sack lunches and learned about living in poverty.

**8<sup>th</sup> – Homeless and Low Income Families (Service Rep: Jenae Neiman, Katie McCloskey)** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students organize the school-wide Thanksgiving Food Drive benefiting over 70 families in the community.

**All School Service Days:** As a school community, SVdP has 2 All School Service Days which allow our students to work with their church buddies to provide a service for 4 additional agencies (on top of the grade level service work that is done all year).

For the first service day this year, students will work with their buddies to make texture toys for Anchor Center for the Blind, blessing bags and rosaries for Christ in the City, Christmas centerpieces for Father Woody's Christmas dinner, and crafty Christmas trees for seniors sponsored by A Little Help.

We encourage you to ask your child about his/her service experience and to research the above agencies to promote deeper discussions with your child about serving in our community.

## Congratulations to our Specials Teachers!

As many of you have noticed, our librarian, Mrs. Edmonds, and new physical education teacher, Mrs. Kueber, came to school this fall with wonderful news! Both are expecting their first child this December. We are so excited to have them as part of our community and cannot wait to welcome their new additions! Thank you to all that contributed to their "Babies First Libraries!"

### Meet Mrs. Edmonds



Our wonderful librarian, Mrs. Edmonds, actually started out her career in education never intending to become a librarian! Initially she taught high school English on opposite sides of the country, both in New York City as well as in Anchorage, Alaska. Exhausted by the high stakes testing culture in public high schools today, a few years after moving to Denver, Mrs. Edmonds began to consider how to transition her career yet remain in the world of education. She found that moving to the role of school librarian allowed her to blend her love of the classroom setting with the fun and creativity that the library brings. Mrs. Edmonds attended Catholic school K-8 in a small, yet famous, town in Iowa. Dyersville is where "Field of Dreams" was filmed! Interviewing and touring SVdP brought back such fond memories of her days in Catholic elementary school. After working in several schools throughout her career, Mrs. Edmonds can safely say that the top notch staff and administration along with the strong community at SVdP are truly unique.

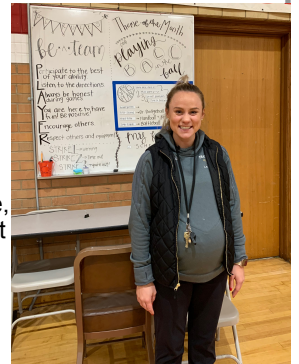
Mrs. Edmonds and her husband are expecting their first baby, a boy, this December! One of the most fun parts of her pregnancy has been sharing the excitement of her upcoming arrival with our students. The children tell her they are praying for her baby and have offered name suggestions. "Elvis Edmonds" and "Luigi Edmonds" are among her favorites! In her spare time, Mrs. Edmonds enjoys working out and, of course, reading.

*Thank you to parent volunteer Caroline Iannucci for submitting this article!*

### Meet Mrs. Kueber

As long as she can remember, Mrs. Kueber wanted to be a teacher. After majoring in Early Childhood and Intervention Specialist education at Franciscan University, Mrs. Kueber began her career in teaching. She found her first job at the Catholic school she had attended for 9 years as a child teaching 5th and 6th grade science, social studies, and religion. While her degree was focused on younger children and those with special needs, she found she absolutely loved teaching nonetheless! After 2 years she moved to Nashville with her husband (whom she met in undergrad) and began to teach 1st grade at Saint Henry, a Catholic school that is also home to the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation. When her husband's job brought them to Denver this past summer, she was absolutely thrilled to find a position at a Catholic School affiliated with the Dominican Sisters and knew this is where God wanted her to be. Being a physical education teacher is really her dream teaching job as she has played sports (she played lacrosse in college), coached, and loves being active. Her mother in law was a PE teacher for 25 years and Mrs. Kueber is excited to follow in her footsteps. She has loved her time at SVdP so far and really enjoys seeing the children so joyful during activities in PE.

Outside of SVdP, Mrs. Kueber enjoys reading, going on runs, drinking coffee, crafts, and cheering on her husband at his rugby games. She is looking forward to her due date on New Years Eve when her family of two becomes three!



## 6th Grade Leads the Veterans Day Assembly



The 6th graders at SVdP were proud to honor the veterans of our parish and school community with a musical presentation. This was the first year that sixth graders provided leadership for this annual assembly. This change allowed for improved vertical curriculum alignment in music, and also provided opportunities for cross-curricular learning in 6th grade music, art, social studies, and more.

Music selections this year during the assembly included both historical songs, such as "The Soldier's Fare," which dates to the Civil War era, and modern day songs, including a song composed and performed by one of SVdP's own students. The sixth graders provided an outstanding performance, and it was our pleasure to honor those who have served in our armed forces to protect our freedoms in the United States of America.

## 2020 Gala News: It's Donation Time!

Our gala acquisitions team has been hard at work running down loads of donations to make our silent and live auction successful and FUN! This week all families will receive an email from Sister along with the first Friday Forecast of the month asking to consider donating items you may have in the past or connecting the acquisitions team to local businesses with which you have a relationship. Keep an eye out! Forms are available in the main office, and it's always great to ask for a donation after or as you make Christmas purchases. You can also donate online: <https://svdpch.ejoinme.org/2020gala>. Thanks to everyone for their help!

## Dine Out: Dec 11

Don't miss our next Dine-Out on **December 11th at Modern Market!**  
**Where: 100 S Colorado Blvd**  
**Time: 5:00pm - 8:00pm**  
 The school will receive **50% back** of all dine-in and to-go orders (excludes online orders).

### Notice of Student Non-Discrimination Policy

The Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Denver, under the jurisdiction of Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila, S.T.L. and at the direction of the Superintendent, state that all of their Catholic schools admit students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the schools. Furthermore, Archdiocesan schools admit disabled students in accord with the policy on Admissions in the Archdiocese of Denver Catholic Schools Administrator's Manual. These schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, age, disability, color, and national or ethnic origin in the administration of their educational policies, employment practices, scholarship and loan programs, athletic or other school-administered programs.