



# Nazareth School

December 1, 2017

Dear Parents:

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the Turkey Trot. Please note that today is the last day for families to turn in donations that will be counted for eligibility for prizes. Next Thursday, Dec. 7, we have a special post-Morning Assembly gathering for the top 25 donation-collectors to pick their prizes. Parents are welcome to attend this event.

The December school calendar may have few days, but there are many activities that will capture our attention between now and the end of the month.

- **Morning Advent Prayers:** This Sunday a new Church year begins with the celebration of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent. At our Morning Assemblies we will be celebrating Advent with prayers and the story of the Jesse Tree. In the classrooms, the students will be participating in special Advent activities. You may want to include some of these activities in your home Advent traditions.
- **Decorating the Holy Family Courtyard:** The PTG Board will be organizing the decorating of the Courtyard tomorrow at 1:00. If you are interested in helping, please contact Mrs. Mary Whelan Farrell or one of the other Board members.
- **St. Nicholas Day:** It is our tradition to celebrate St. Nick's Day on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> with candy canes and traditional red and white Santa hats. In their classrooms, students will learn more about the legacy of St. Nicholas and the candy cane prayer.
- **Preschool and Nazareth House Posada:** Our students' visits to Nazareth House are always special events, but on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> our Nazareth Preschoolers will share this very special Christmas tradition with the Residents at Nazareth House.
- **Feast of the Immaculate Conception:** This feast on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please join us in celebrating the liturgy in honor of our Blessed Mother at 8:30 at the St. Francis Chapel.
- **Christmas Tree Decorating:** Mrs. McDoniel and her Art Volunteers have been busy working with the students to create the ornaments for our auditorium Christmas tree. When you have a moment, stop by and see our tree laden with charming "Santa Cookies." We will light the tree on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.
- **Catholic Charities Toy Drive:** In this season of sharing our blessings, Nazareth "Gives Back" to families in our local communities through donations of toys to Catholic Charities. This event brings much joy to and appreciation from families in need. We will place the toys under our tree on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at Morning Assembly.
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Service:** The 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students will be leading us in prayer in honor of Our Lady on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. The prayer service will be at Morning Assembly. Please join us.
- **Advent Reconciliation Services:** Students in Grades 3 – 8 will be participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the St. Francis Chapel starting at 8:30 on Wed., Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. You are welcome to join the students if you would like to receive the sacrament.
- **Christmas at Nazareth:** This beautiful Nazareth tradition is our children's special musical gift to their parents on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. An encore performance will be shared on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> before dismissal for the holidays.

With all of this happening, however, our school focus will continue to support student learning in the classroom. In our classrooms and on the fields, we prepare for the children's future; in our hearts and spirits we prepare for the coming of Jesus.

Blessings to you and your families,

Dr. Colleen Mauricio, Principal