



ST. ANN SCHOOL of CAPE ANN

A CATHOLIC SCHOOL WHERE
FAITH AND EDUCATION MEET

Issue: 13

NEWSLETTER December 1, 2011

www.stannsschool.com

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

This past Sunday marked the beginning of the liturgical season of Advent. Our students have been learning about Advent in religion, and advent wreaths are in plentiful supply throughout the building. On Monday, I gathered with the children and teachers from K – 5 in the first floor corridor, where we sang, prayed and “lit” an advent candle on the large paper wreath displayed on the bulletin board. On Tuesday, I joined the middle school for their student-led prayer service. Does your family have an Advent tradition? If not, please consider starting one this year!

FIRST RECONCILIATION...

Blessings upon our second graders, who will be celebrating First Reconciliation on **Saturday, December 3** at 2:00 pm. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers this weekend. Many thanks to Mrs. McKay for her dedication and commitment to our children's sacramental preparation.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES...

Fr. John Kiley and Fr. Matthew Green will be leading Advent Penance Services for grades 3 – 8. Students will have the option of receiving a blessing or participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

PICTURES, TAKE 2...

Hockmeyer Studios will be here on **Thursday, December 8** for any retakes, and PK III students will also have their individual and group pictures taken. School uniforms must be worn for pictures. Please remember to return the original package if this is a retake. Order forms are available in the school office.

PTO NEWS...

The next PTO meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 13** at 7:00 pm. Please join us as we discuss plans for upcoming events such as the Christmas Store, Polar Plunge (1/1/12), and Comedy Night (2/10/12). Refreshments will be served.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS...

We pray for the San Paolo Family.

SERVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY...

During this season of giving, St. Ann School has had several recent opportunities for community service.

Thank you to Mrs. Mohan for organizing a pumpkin pie-baking event for our eighth graders. Our students made 30 pies, which were donated to **Harvest Meals**. Many thanks to our students as well as parent volunteers Mrs. Powers and Mrs. Wonson. Check out our pictures on Good Morning Gloucester!

Did you know that our eighth graders also won the **Turkey Shoot** this year? As a school community, we raised over \$350.00 for Saint Vincent de Paul.

Speaking of the **St. Vincent de Paul Society**, our school community also presented 25 bags of food to the Society's food pantry at our Thanksgiving Prayer Service. Our Student Council organized the food drive and led the prayer service on Tuesday, November 22. We were pleased to welcome Mrs. Helen Downey who spoke to our students on behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Stay tuned for details about our next community service projects – collections for **Toys for Tots** and a **Mitten Tree**.

CALENDAR REMINDERS...

Thursday, December 8 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception; please join us for Mass at 12:00 pm.

Wednesday, December 21 – Christmas Concert, 1:00 pm. Dismissal will be from the school immediately after the concert.

Thursday, December 22 – No School, Cardinal's Day Off

Friday, December 23 – Monday, January 2 – Christmas Break

PARISH EVENTS...

Holy Family Parish's Annual Christmas Concert will be presented on **Sunday, December 4** at 2:00 pm in the Church.

Pick a star from the **Giving Trees** located in the church entrances and supply a gift for Saint Vincent de Paul to give to a family in need. Unwrapped gifts should be brought to the Parish Office by noon on **Monday, December 19**.