



ST. ANN SCHOOL of CAPE ANN

A CATHOLIC SCHOOL WHERE
FAITH AND EDUCATION MEET

Issue: 15

NEWSLETTER December 15, 2011

www.stannsschool.com

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

The evidence of this holy season is all around us at St. Ann School. Even with the excitement surrounding "Elf on the Shelf" and the promise of a visit from Santa Claus, we are ever mindful of the significance of Advent and the miracle of Christmas. On Tuesday, December 13, we had an evening PreK Christmas Social, where children and their families enjoyed a reading of "The Story of Baby Jesus" and we sang "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. Each week, we gather by grade levels to celebrate our Advent Prayer Services. As I write this newsletter, I am being serenaded by the lovely sound of our upper elementary students (Grades 3 – 5) practicing for caroling at the Rose Baker Senior Center later today. Children in grades 3 – 8 also participated in Advent Penance Services this week with Fr. John and Fr. Matthew.

I wish all of our students, families, staff, clergy, and supporters a blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year!

GINGERBREAD HOUSE WINS...

Congratulations to our first graders, who won first place in the Middle Street Walk Gingerbread House contest held at City Hall this past weekend. Thank you to Mrs. Gauthier for organizing this activity. The gingerbread house is now on display in the school office.

HOLIDAY PRODUCTION...

Please see the enclosed flyer for the Gloucester Stage Youth Acting Workshops Presentation of Holiday Delights featuring Haley from Gr. 8, Laura from Gr. 7, and Kira from Gr. 2. Good luck to our student performers!

NEW AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES...

Lego Club will start in February 2012, with registration in mid-January.

CHARITABLE GIVING UPDATE...

Today was the last day to donate new, unwrapped toys for **Toys for Tots**. Thank you to all who donated!

POLAR PLUNGE...

The Polar Plunge is taking place on **Sunday, January 1** at 9:45 am on Niles Beach. Pledge sheets were sent home last week. If you need another sheet, please have your child stop by the office. The money raised will be used for outdoor sports equipment.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS...

We pray for the San Paolo Family.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT INFORMATION...

Our annual Christmas Concert will be presented on **Wednesday, December 21** under the direction of our Metropolitan Opera Guild Choral Artist, Betsy Smentek. Our preschoolers will perform at 12:45 pm, followed by the K-8 students at 1:00 pm. All K – 8 students must wear a white uniform shirt. A plain white shirt is an acceptable substitute if your child does not have a white uniform shirt. Students will be dismissed from the school immediately following the concert.

CALENDAR REMINDERS...

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

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

Sunday, January 1 – Polar Plunge, 9:45 am at Niles Beach

Tuesday, January 3 – School Resumes

Wednesday, January 4 – Pizza Orders Due for January - March

Friday, January 13 – Pizza Lunch Starts for 2012

Monday, January 16 – No School, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Sunday, January 29 – Catholic Schools Week Mass, 10:30 am

PARISH EVENTS...

This weekend is the last chance to participate in the **Giving Tree** – please pick a star from the trees located in the church entrances and supply a gift for the 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**.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday, December 24 – 4:00 pm (St. Ann); 5:00 pm (St. Joachim); 6:00 pm (St. Ann); 8:00 pm (St. Ann, Brazilian Mass).

Sunday, December 25 – 12:00 am (Midnight Mass - St. Joachim); 10:00 am (St. Ann); 10:00 am (St. Joachim).