



St. Francis de Sales – St. Stephen School

Family Memo – Friday, December 7, 2018

“Your light will come, O Jerusalem. The Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty. We shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God. The sign of the cross shall appear in the heavens, when our Lord shall come to judge the world.” ~William G. Storey

Our annual **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** will be held on **Tuesday, December 18th at 6:45 p.m.** in St. Stephen Church. In today's family packet, you will find a flyer for our PTO sponsored **raffle for the two front pews** at the concert. Please return your money and tickets no later than **December 14th** as we will be drawing that afternoon before dismissal. Immediately after the two front pews, **we will be reserving one pew for each of our eighth-grade families.** We plan to do this annually, so that eighth grade families can get a good view of their student's last Christmas performance at SF-SS. **All students are asked to arrive at school and report to their homerooms at 6:15 p.m.** The doors to St. Stephen Church will also open at 6:15. **Please DO NOT reserve more than ONE PEW per school family in the sanctuary,** so that all families will be able to see the children perform. **ALL students are asked to dress UP** for the concert. Dress pants, nice blouses or sweater, skirts, or dresses are all fine. (Shorts under skirts and dresses are strongly encouraged.) **Grade six** is asked to wear black on the bottom and red on top. **Grade seven and eight** will wear their “ugly” Christmas sweaters for their performance, but not for the whole evening.

Mila Grazie! Thank You to those families who had dinner at Bella's last Monday evening. Each Monday (except Christmas Eve) during the month of December Bella's will donate a portion of your meal check to St. Francis de Sales – St. Stephen School for our lunch program. Why not give yourself a night out of the kitchen and try the delicious Italian cuisine at Bella's. Tell them we sent you and please thank Richard and Tomás for their generosity and community spirit!

Mila Grazie!

Bella's
SICILIAN RISTORANTE

December Calendar

- Mon. 12/10 - Early Dismissal 1:35 p.m. per GCSD
- Tues. 12/11 - **Gingerbread Workshop** (Parish Center) - 6:00 p.m.
- Tues. 12/18 - **Christmas Program** - 6:45 p.m. St. Stephen Church
- Wed. 12/19 - **Grades 3-8 Christmas Caroling at area nursing homes**
- Fri. 12/21 - **School Mass - Advent - 8:30 a.m. - Please Join us!**
- 12/24 - 1/4 - No School - Christmas Break





SCHOOL CHRISTMAS GIVING

It has been a **longstanding tradition** for our entire St. Francis de Sales – St. Stephen School community to “**adopt**” a **family in our community for Christmas**. This year, we have a **family of seven** that lives in our community who has fallen on hard times. We want to make this Christmas season bright for them. Our **EIGHTH GRADERS** have each selected a gift item from the family’s Christmas list, which they chose to do **in lieu of a gift exchange** this year.

There are still many items left to purchase and a nice holiday meal to provide. **If you are willing and able to help, please send a monetary donation of \$5.00 (or more if you wish) per school family so we can get our Christmas elves out shopping for this family!**

THIRD GRADE:

The third grade is learning about proper hygiene in Health class. In conjunction with this unit study, **we will be sponsoring a personal care product drive to gather items for local shelters**. These items are always in need, and what an extra special time of year to give more. The students have placed large Christmas bags in each classroom for other grades to put the donations in, and they gave a brief explanation of what the project is all about. **The collection period will be through December 18**. The class that donates the highest number of items per student will win a pizza party sponsored by Miss Williams. The list of requested items is: **tooth paste, tooth brushes, toilet paper, tissues, shampoo, body soap, hand soap, hair brushes, combs, wash cloths, and deodorant**. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Sixth Grade:

Our sixth grade has also generously decided to forego a gift exchange this year. They plan to use the money they would have spent on a gift exchange to **purchase a goat for a needy family through Heifer International**. This is a wonderful program, because the family that receives the goat will be taught how to care for it and they will also be expected to give the first offspring of the goat to another family in need.

OUR STUDENTS CERTAINLY SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS – TO LOVE THEIR NEIGHBORS AS GOD LOVES US – AND TO SHOW THAT LOVE BY GIVING TO OTHERS, INASMUCH AS WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE GIFT OF THE CHRIST CHILD, AND THROUGH HIM ETERNAL LIFE.



Next Week's Lunch Entrée Items (12/10 – 12/14)

Monday – Chicken Alfredo

Tuesday – Cheese Quesadilla

Wednesday – Grilled Cheese and/or Chicken Noodle Soup

Thursday – Grilled Chicken Tenders w/ veggies & dipping sauce

Friday – Pizza (pepperoni or white garlic)



Attention Handy-People



MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK! We have **TWO** school parents interested in starting a team of workers to beautify our physical plant over school breaks. Some potential projects are cleaning, painting, replacing fixtures, installing new doors on bathroom stalls, removing old carpets, and refinishing the hardwood floors underneath. Some of you have previously offered to do this type of work in the building or actually done it. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We are all set with two helpers to assist on a project during the second week of Christmas break. We still need help during February break, and we hope to schedule several projects over the summer. If you would be willing to help with one or more of these projects, **PLEASE** e-mail Mrs. Mantelli at Mary.Mantelli@dor.org

Birthdays - Reminder:

Please do not send birthday invitations to school with your child unless you are inviting the whole class, all of the boys, or all of the girls. This is a longstanding, unwritten, school policy. We understand that some families do not host a large children's parties while others may. This is a personal decision and there are many considerations for families in planning children's events. We are not saying you SHOULD invite more children than you are comfortable hosting. We just ask that you be as considerate as possible when deciding how to send invitations. It would also be wonderful if you could discuss this topic with your child(ren) and ask them not to discuss their parties at school.

William Smith College Girls Lacrosse Clinic Gr. 3-6

Saturday, January 19, 2019 1:00pm – 3:30pm

*Hobart & William Smith Colleges Bristol Field House
283 Hamilton Street Geneva, NY 14456*

All levels of lacrosse are encouraged to attend.

Register done online at www.leaguelineup.com/cagirlslacrosse

\$30 registration before December 20th

\$35 from December 21st - January 15th.

Please fill in on your registration form the positions you are interested in focusing on and years of experience.

Players must arrive 15 minutes early and bring stick, goggles, mouth guard, water bottle and a snack. (Don't have a stick or goggles? We have extras you can borrow, just email kflowersnh@gmail.com to reserve one by Jan. 15th)



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