



Friday Notes

St. Mary's Catholic School, David City, NE

Virtues and Academics: What's the Connection?

As with many things in life, a small investment in one place yields great benefits in other areas. We see it with recess. If students were required to stay in the classroom all day with no stretch break, we would not necessarily get greater results from them. That 15-20 minute break brings us back students who are refreshed and ready to focus on learning. Patience, for example, can help students to tackle difficult problems without quitting as well as listen to all the instructions before getting started. Any amount of time we can spend working on virtues has a similar effect.

If we can help students to be more patient, more kind, more studious, more diligent... all of those attributes lead to more positive results academically. In addition to becoming better people, virtues help us to make the most of the gifts and time that God gives us each day. It's easy to see when we look at how vices have the exact opposite result. Time spent complaining, arguing, hurting others, or focusing on distracting ideas does not yield positive impacts on others or on our efforts at home, school, or work. None of this is revolutionary, but a good reminder you may want to share with your children as you work on virtues homework. I hope you are seeing the fruits of our work and yours in the way your children approach their studies and treat other people (even siblings).

May God abundantly bless your efforts and those of our teachers and staff, Mrs. Zook

Upcoming Events — SCHEDULE CHANGES

Wed., Dec. 5: NO LATE START (Regular day schedule)

Thu., Dec. 6: EARLY OUT, 12:45 bus kids, 12:55 walkers.

Thu., Dec. 6, Amigos donation night, 5-8 PM, Amigos donates 15% to Aquinas & St. Mary's Catholic Schools

Fri., Dec. 7, Baptism Mass/Adoration/First Friday, Mass 8 AM—all are welcome! Staff Marian Consecration after Mass.

Sat., Dec. 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, Holy Day of Obligation. Check for Mass times Fri. night and Sat.

Tue./Thu., Dec. 11/13: Aquinas advanced art students teach lesson grades 1-5.

Thu., Dec. 13, Bank of the Valley deposit day, 7:45 AM, all can join!

Fri., Dec. 14, SPIRIT DAYS (Please add to your school calendar)

DONATIONS DUE: hats/gloves, paper products (K-2), canned food (3-5)

RSVP: Mother/Son Bowling Due today! Call office, check Facebook, or call/text Joanie at (402) 367-8331.

VIRTUES IN PRACTICE

2018 Year of Hope

Dec. Patience: Waiting or enduring without complaint.

K-2: St. Monica

3-5: St. Isaac Jogues

Recommended Grade K-5 Homework can be turned in 12/17-19

***Big Idea This Month: Check an Advent calendar daily and patiently await the celebration of Jesus' birth.**



Advent begins on Sunday, the students will light our candle and pray together each Monday morning. Look for an Advent calendar with your oldest or only child.

PRAYERS AND THANK YOU'S

Prayers for their souls...

~ the Jean and Ryan Meister family for the loss of their Grandma *Joan Semin*

~ the Lee and Andrea Meysenburg family for the loss of Aunt *Bev Hain*

~ Thank you to the *construction workers, helpers, and Aquinas students* who are working diligently in the cold to get the Childcare Center enclosed.

A Note from the St. Mary's Spirit Club Spiritual Coordinator



Advent & the Jesse Tree

Advent is a time of waiting-4 weeks of waiting to celebrate the birth of Jesus! The Old Testament, the time before Jesus' birth, is full of waiting. When God created the world, it was perfect and without sin. Then Adam and Eve changed things by disobeying God. We all still carry their doubt and disobedience, but just like Adam and Eve God loves us so much he refuses to leave our side even when we

turn away from Him. And God promised his people in the Old Testament he would send a Savior to fix what that first sin had broken, but he knew they weren't ready yet. So, he made them wait many years while he taught them many important lessons.

The Jesse Tree is a fun way to learn about all those lessons, and to trace the ancestors of Jesus. Traditionally, a paper ornament is colored and a bible passage read each day of the week. The ornaments can be hung on a Christmas tree, on a pine branch or even on a paper tree on the wall. Gathering to read the readings each night can be a great way to prepare your hearts and your family for the blessing of our Savior's birth. And the great thing is, if you miss a night, you can just pick back up the next night!

Here's a link to free printable ornaments and readings. Happy Advent!!

https://www.catholicinspired.site/uploads/1/1/0/0/110088477/jesse_2.pdf

Live link in your email so you don't have to type this all in.

St. Mary's Donations

Due Dec. 14:

- ✚ Hats and gloves
- ✚ K-2: Paper Products
- Toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, diapers, etc.
- ✚ Grades 3-5: Canned Food
- Especially protein foods and dinner items.

WE ARE COMBINING NOV/DEC FOR BOX TOPS COLLECTIONS!



ALL BOX TOPS DUE 12/14
IF WE RAISE \$150 IN BOX TOPS
THE ENTIRE SCHOOL GETS
UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER DAY
ON 12/19!

(IF YOU DON'T HAVE A SWEATER YOU CAN WEAR A HOLIDAY SHIRT & JEANS)

'tis the season...
TO ROCK
UGLY
SWEATERS



December Baptism Celebrants

Ainsley	Wollmer	5	B	2-Dec
Rebecca	Wacker	5	B	21-Dec
Grace	Masek	5	B	30-Dec
Rose	Wessling	4	A	21-Dec
Myles	Kobza	4	A	28-Dec
Nayeli	Villa	3	A	24-Dec
Sienna	Hilderbrand	2	A	5-Dec
Henry	Sisco	1	A	18-Dec
Owynn	Kastl	1	B	4-Dec
Avery	Chermok	K	A	9-Dec
William	Dalton	K	A	9-Dec
Halle	Eller	K	A	9-Dec
Isaac	Hoelscher	K	B	16-Dec

Box Tops help to fund the Spirit Club activities each year. Thank you for collecting them!