



Fourteen Holy Helpers Religious Education Newsletter

December 2019

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Thanksgiving is so late this year! It seems like there's so little time to prepare ourselves for Christmas. By now, you know how I feel about Christmas preparations. While it is important to cook, shop, decorate, and bake. It's also important to take time to prepare our hearts for the beauty of the Christmas Season; the season of the birth of Jesus in a humble manger, in our hearts, and in the days to come. So prepare all you want, but make sure to relax and spend time with God in preparing for the birth of his son.

Advent begins on Sunday, December 1st.

Upcoming classes: Saturdays – Grades Pre K through 5 – December 7th, 14th, 21st and January 11th and 25th.

Saturdays, - Grades 6 – 10 –December 14th and 21st and January 11th and 25th.

I would like to thank all those families who came out on Friday, November 1st to celebrate All Saints/All Souls Day with us. There were so many creative "Saints" with wonderful information to go along with the costume. I also would like to thank those who could not make the Mass but still sent in their child's project on the saints.



God's Little Angels met on Saturday, November 9th. We had more people with us this month and were able to create great Thanksgiving crafts for the recipients of Meals on Wheels. This month we will be meeting on **Saturday, December 7th after our Family Advent Adventure to make Christmas crafts for the residents of Seneca Healthcare Facility. Please plan on sharing your time and talents with us. Thank you in advance!**

Please check the schedule that you were given in September so that you know which stations will carry the weather related closing of our program. Also Facebook members, please ask to become a member of our page, "Fourteen Holy Helpers". I will be posting upcoming events, closings, etc. If you did not receive a schedule, please ask for one.

Our First Halloween Party in a few years was a huge success! Thank you to those who came out to party and volunteer their time. Thank you to all who donated to this Family Centered activity; the Holy Name Society, the Sodality of our Lady, Wegmans, and Tops. Thank you especially to Father David for his support and to Ginny Stolarski for helping to co-chair this event.

Thank you to all who helped support our two Confirmation students and their baked good sale. They made a total of almost \$219 which they are donating to Children's Programming at the Parish. Thank you to Sara Dressler and Alyce Zimniewicz for their gift to the children.



On Thursday, December 5th, we will be going to Seneca Healthcare Facility with the Knights of St. John from St. Saint John XXIII Parish to sing Christmas Carols with the residents. The Knights will distribute gifts to the residents as we entertain with some heartfelt Christmas melodies. We need families to come out with us to share in the beauty of spending time with those who have given so much in their lives and now need someone to give back to them. We will be meeting at the healthcare facility at 6:45 PM and will be done by 8:00 PM. You do not need a good singing voice to bring joy to the residents.

Our Advent Family Adventure will take place on Saturday, December 7th from 9:00 until approximately 10:30 AM. A parent or other responsible adult is asked to attend with their child.

Lessons and Carols will be presented on Saturday, December 21st from 9:15 AM until around 10:00 AM.

Refreshments will be served in the school cafeteria after the service. I encourage all of our students to participate. **Rehearsal will be after class on the 14th for about an hour.**

Santa will be returning to Fourteen Holy Helpers on Sunday, December 15th from 1:30 to 3:30 PM.

Tickets are three dollars a person. This ticket includes a lunch of a slice of pizza, a bag of chips, a cupcake, and unlimited drinks. If you'd like an extra piece of pizza that will be \$1 a slice. We will have games, raffles, sno cones, cotton candy and much, much more. Please plan on joining us!

A family Movie Night is being planned for Monday, December 30th. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and pillows. You can wear your pjs, too! Mark your calendars. More information will follow!

We in the Faith Formation Office would like to thank you for all you do for us and the children.

Your assistance in our efforts and in the faith formation of your children is much appreciated! May God Bless you and your families at this Thanksgiving time and always. May you be blest with peace, joy, health, and love at your Thanksgiving table!



Advent Prayer for families

Heavenly Father, your Son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family, this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your Son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you. Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you. Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love.

AMEN