



St. Paul Catholic School

Newsletter

11.30.23

NO BUS: There will be NO OGS dismissal bus tomorrow the 1st. Students will need a ride at dismissal or can stay in after care if need be. St. Paul buses will run as scheduled.

DONATIONS: Thank you to all our families that donated an abundance of items to the Odell Food Pantry. The staff members at the pantry are continually blown away at how generous are students and families are year after year!

SQUARES: There are still squares available for a chance to win a whole hog, including processing! **Squares are \$20 each and only 130 remain.** Don't have room for a whole hog in your freezer? Split the ticket with family or friends! Thank you to Carolyn & Mark Austin of Austin Farms for donating the pig & processing.

STEAKS: For all the carnivores out there, we also have steaks available to purchase - \$10 each or two for \$15. If you would like to purchase steaks or a hog raffle square, please send in the money and a note with your child. Thanks!

CHEESE: More news from the St. Paul Pantry - we have extra Chuck's Cheese tubs available in all flavors for \$6 each while supplies last!

NATIVITY WALK: The 2nd Annual St. Paul School Nativity Walk, in memory of Msgr. Watson, will be held after the 8:00 a.m. St. Paul Mass on Sunday the 17th. We appreciate Fr. Bill's family generously and graciously donating his beautiful nativity collection to St. Paul after his passing, and we look forward to sharing them once again with our school and parish community.

COOKIE DONATIONS: We will have refreshments after 8:00 a.m. Mass for the Nativity Walk on the 17th. We are in need of cookie donations for that morning. Please let Kelli know if you can bring a dozen or two in. Cookies can be homemade or store bought.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: The halls of St. Paul School will soon be filled with Christmas spirit as the kids begin practicing for the annual Christmas program. Again, the program will be Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. in St. Paul Church. Students should dress up for the evening, which means no jeans.

STEWARDSHIP MASS: Our next Stewardship Mass of the school year will be our traditional Christmas Eve Mass at St. Paul Church at 4:00 p.m. If you know that is a Mass your family will be attending, please let us know. Thanks!

EUCHRE: The Booster Club is still in need of a chairperson for one of our new events we are planning this year - a euchre tournament tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 13. Please contact President Amy Turner at 815-685-2656 if you're interested or have any questions about chairing an event. Thank you!

FEEDBACK: Thank you to all those that wrote letters and submitted feedback regarding the proposed Diocesan parish models. To our knowledge, we won't know anything more until the Bishop announces his final decisions in May. Please continue to support St. Paul Church, giving of your time, talents, and treasures. Students, please let your teachers know when you attend Mass so you can earn your tickets for a chance to pie Mr. Morehouse in the face during Catholic Schools Week!

UPDATE FROM MRS. HART'S ROOM: In PK and Kindergarten, we sing the "season song" every day. Yes, by calendar standards, we are still in the season of fall. My favorite season of the year is the church season of Advent, (the 4 Sundays leading up to Christmas). Spending Advent with 3-6 year olds is a balance of letting God "come" into our hearts and the excitement of Santa and gifts. I loved Father John Bosco's homily on November 26th. He spoke of "calm sheep" and "stubborn, naughty, jumpy goats." Father said, "Jesus wants us to be the good sheep that are calm, harken to his voice and follow him." This year, our class has many more "goats" than "sheep." I invite all parents to go to church during Advent with their children. Mass is the ideal place to practice being calm. Help your children let "calm" come into their hearts and your lives. I pray that I see you at Sunday masses with your children over the weeks leading up to Christmas and at the Christmas Eve mass. God is love.

"My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?" John 14:2

UPCOMING ST. PAUL CALENDAR:

- ✠ Friday, December 1.....No OGS Afternoon Bus
- ✠ Wednesday, December 13..... Vision/Hearing Rescreens
- ✠ Sunday, December 17.....Nativity Walk after 8:00 Mass
- ✠ Monday, December 18..... Jr. High Band & Chorus Concert at OGS
- ✠ Wednesday, December 20..... St. Paul Christmas Program - 6:00 p.m.
- ✠ Thursday, December 21.....No OGS A.M. or P.M. Bus