

# RAMOPAGE

St. Luke Catholic School Newsletter

Steve Weber, Principal

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December 2, 2009

**Mr. Weber Says:** This week is the first week of Advent. Our Advent focus for the Fruit of the Holy Spirit is "Peace." We begin each day with a special scripture reading and Advent prayer when we light our Advent wreaths. I hope that you will consider following Fr. Noah's suggestion of trying to fight the tendency to jump into Christmas, but rather use Advent as a time for prayer and reflection on the gift of Jesus and how it impacts family life. The use of an Advent wreath on the family table and making special efforts to eat and pray together is a good start. Slowly adding Christmas decorations helps to build the feeling of anticipation that Advent provides for us. Our ancestors waited through all of the Old Testament for the Savior to come. We can certainly wait four weeks! My prayer is that you and your family have a meaningful Advent season and truly enjoy the Peace of Christ.

**Letters of Intent:** We still have a few families who have not returned a "letter of intent" for next school year. We do need this for planning and budgeting purposes. Another copy will be put in your family packet if we do not have your response. No money is due at this time, so please return the form this week. Thanks.

**Parent Survey:** Please find a parent survey included with this packet. This is part of our ongoing effort to improve all aspects of our school. Please take some time today to complete and return the survey. We would like them back by this Friday so we can send them for processing. We will survey the teachers, our sixth grade students and our most recent graduates to find out what we do well and what we need to improve. Thank you for your prayerful and thoughtful responses.

**First Reconciliation:** Please keep our second grade students in your prayers as they make their First Reconciliation this Saturday, December 5 at 11AM.

**Advent Breakfasts:** Seventh and eighth grade students are invited to come for a light breakfast, prayer and fellowship on Wednesday, December 2, 9, and 16 at 7:15AM in the cafeteria. Thanks to Mrs. Gilliam for coordinating this Advent service.

**SCRIP:** Are you buying gift cards for Christmas gifts? Why not sign up for SCRIP and order them in time for holiday giving? Contact Kim Schmitz to learn how to sign up. You get dollar for dollar value and help to generate funds to keep book and supply fees down. The SCRIP schedule is on the monthly calendar.

**St. Luke Literary and Art Journal:** We offer special thanks to the PTO Arts and Enrichment Committee for again agreeing to sponsor our second literary and arts journal.

Now is the time to have your children submit their creative work for consideration of inclusion in the journal. *Both written and visual works of art and literature may be submitted in the school office from December 7-11.* Each submitted work must have a separate piece of paper attached with the student's name, homeroom and title of the work. There is a limit of four items per students for review.

There will be another submission window in the second semester. Works may be done independently or may be school related projects. Last year's journal was a great representation of our students' creative abilities and we look forward to an even better journal this year. By the way, have you checked the website under student works? We have posted works by students that were not able to be included in the printed book. We do have copies of last year's book for sale in the office if you would like another copy.

**Marian Feasts:** We are celebrating Christmas because a young girl in Israel listened and responded with a "yes" to God's call. Come and pray with us on December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (a holy day of obligation) and on Friday, when we will celebrate (a day early) the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**Instrumental Concert:** Our instrumental students will present a holiday concert on Wednesday, December 9 starting at 6PM in the south gym.

**Book Fair:** Stop by the Parish Hall Meeting Room following 9 and 11:30 Masses on December 6 to look at a great collection of books for all ages. The student sale will run December 7- 11. You may come in any time to purchase great gift items. The eighth grade parents are sponsoring the sale to help fund grade eight special expenses.

**Middle School Speech:** We wish our middle school speech team success as they compete in the Brebeuf and Eastwood Middle School contests the next two Saturdays. Thanks to Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Dawson and all the parents who volunteer to help students practice and judge events on the weekends. Go Rams!

**Community News:** HETO Open Gym: Our teachers have been going to Honduras over the past several years to help with the underfunded and staffed schools in that nation. The teachers are sponsoring an Open Gym on Friday, December 4 and December 11 to help fund ongoing projects. This is a great time to drop off the kids and go shopping or just go out to dinner! The gym is open from 6-9PM. Contact Mrs. Scheck or Mrs. Kelly for details. Your donation will help fund projects this summer.