

# ST. MIKE'S NEWS

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## 1st Grade

CELEBRATED CHRISTMAS AT BETHLEHEM CATHOLIC TODAY

### Message from your Advancement Director

Hello St. Mikes Families! Just a quick thank you and a couple house keeping items :)

1: Thank you to everyone who attended our Tree Lighting Festival last Saturday night and our ES Christmas Concert. A reminder that if you ordered a Pie from Hausman's you will be able to pick up your items on Thursday the 21st and Friday the 22nd from the ES. **More details will be sent out this week.** Also, anyone that did a Candy Gram or got a Picture with Santa from the festival, those pictures and candy grams will be distributed on the 22nd to the students!

2: We are now in the cold months, which means possible snow! Just so families are aware, we have three snow days and 2 flex instruction days. **We will utilize our snow days FIRST.** Once we run out of snow days, we will then use our flex days.

3: On Monday, a survey was sent out from the Diocese. Please take 5 minutes and complete it! It is always good for us to receive both positive and constructive feedback so we can continue to make improvements at St. Mikes.

Have a great day! - Lindsey Heil

## Student Council Corner

**MS Pretzel Sale! Wednesday December 20th - \$1.00 each**



**School Wide Upcoming Dress Down Days:  
Friday, December 22nd - Christmas Sweater or Red & Green  
with Jeans or STS Sweatpants**

### Message from your Director of Religious Education

**Calling all parish children in grades 1 – 8: Gospel Presenters needed for the “living presentation\*” of the Gospel at the 4 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve.** Participation in one practice session on Thurs., Dec. 21, 3:15 – 4:15 p.m. is required. Costumes will be provided. **If your child or children is/are interested in participating, parents, please contact Mrs. Durback by Dec. 17.** \*No reading or memorizing lines, just acting out the Gospel as it is read

**Advent Prayer Chains:** Our MS students have made prayer chains for Monsignor Klinger and Miss Anna to support them in their recent health issues.

Each link on the chain included a prayer or prayers that the student would pray for Miss Anna or Monsignor and some "words of positivity" to boost the spirits of our dear pastor and learning support teacher to keep them energized. We are proud of our students for showing compassion in this way and so many ways for members of our community and beyond!

Also, on Page 5 are the "results" of the students' reflections from the 12/6/23 Spiritual Assembly. Please enjoy reading these and use them as some spiritual reflection for your families for the final week of Advent!

Thank you!  
-Mrs. Durback

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Spirit Dress Down Day  
8th Grade Street Dress  
Down Day  
December 15th**

**HSA MS Christmas Dance  
December 15th  
Hanlon Center  
7pm-9pm**

**MS Christmas Concert  
December 19th 2pm  
Assumption Church**

**Early Dismissal (Start of  
Christmas Break!)  
December 22nd  
Pre-K 11:30AM  
5th-8th Grade 12:00PM  
K-4th Grade 12:15PM  
Dress Down Day  
Christmas Sweater/Red &  
Green with Jeans or Gym  
Sweats**

**Christmas Break  
December 23rd - January 2nd  
School Reopens January 3rd**

**Spirit Dress Down Day  
January 5th**

**HSA In Person Meeting  
January 11th @ 6PM  
ES Gym**

**School Closed  
January 15th  
Martin Luther King Jr Day**

**Spirit Dress Down Day  
January 19th**

## HSA Corner

Our December meeting this week is canceled, see you in January!

A reminder that Pizza Orders are due by Wednesday at 10PM

The HSA's Middle School Christmas Dance is this Friday!

## CYO News

**Cheer team practice will begin Monday, December 18th.** Details on Teamsnap. Email [Colfitzpat@gmail.com](mailto:Colfitzpat@gmail.com) if you would still like to be part of the team.

Our cheer team will be preparing for our first CHEER FOR THE KNIGHTS day which will be Sunday, January 7th! It's going to be a great day to come and support our St. Mike's basketball teams!

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the CYO snack stand! We will be running a snack stand every Saturday and Sunday of the season during middle school games at Hanlon starting this weekend. No need to pack a lunch or bag of snacks! If you haven't dropped your items off, bring them to practice this week or the school office. Here is the link to sign up if you still wish to contribute!

### St. Mike's CYO: CYO Snack Bar Donations ([signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com))

#### **Home games this weekend at Hanlon:**

Saturday, December 16th

7/8 Girls vs St. Ann's (Emmaus) at 12:00 PM  
5/6 Boys Blue vs St. Thomas Red at 3:00 PM  
High School White vs St. Thomas 4 at 6:30 PM  
High School Blue vs St. Thomas 5 at 7:30 PM

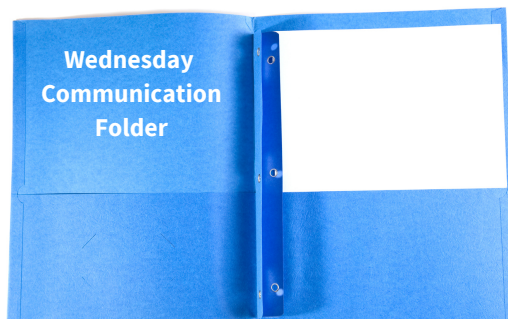
Sunday, December 17th

7/8 Boys White vs St. Joe's at 1:00 PM  
5/6 Girls vs ST. John Vianney at 4:00 PM  
High School White vs Notre Dame at 6:30 PM  
High School Blue vs St. Joe's 1 at 7:30 PM

## Wednesday Folder Sneak Peek

**Check out what is coming home this week....**

- MS Christmas Breakfast Flyer



## Important Website Links (Clickable Links)

[CYO Registration](#)

[Daily Calendar](#)

[Family Handbook](#)

[HSA Home Page](#)

[Spirit Wear](#)

[Teacher Wishlists](#)

[Previous St. Mikes News](#)

[Lunch Volunteer Sign Ups](#)

[Middle School](#)  
[Elementary School](#)

[Active Sign Up Genius Links](#)



# UPCOMING ASSEMBLIES & SPECIAL EVENTS

## CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

### Middle School Christmas Concert

Tuesday, December 19th starting at 2:00pm.

Location: Assumption Church



## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DANCE



## THE SNOW-BALL

Presented by our HSA

Friday, December 15th from 7-9PM  
Hanlon Center

*Interested in donating food items or chaperoning??*

[CLICK HERE to check out the sign up list!](#)

## LAST DAY OF SCHOOL BEFORE CHRISTMAS BREAK SCHEDULES!

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

**Christmas Liturgy at St. Joseph's Church**  
**9:00 am - 10:00am.**

A reminder that if you wish to attend the mass, doors lock at 9am per Fr. Buckley.

**Christmas Parties: 10:00am - 11:30am**

\*\*Parents are welcome to attend the party in your child's class if you are completely vetted\*\*

**Dismissal at 12:15PM**

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

8:30 - 9:20 Christmas Breakfast for 5th/6th Grade

9:30 - 10:20 Christmas Breakfast for 7th/8th grade.

10:30 - 11:00 Advent/Christmas Prayer Service in Hanlon Center

11:00 - 11:45 Parties in Individual classrooms

Dismissal at 12PM

[PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR THE MS BREAKFAST SIGN UP GENIUS!](#)

## Advent Inspiration: The “O” Antiphons, Scriptural References and SMS Students’ Reflections

**December 17:** O Sapientia (O Wisdom); See Isaiah 11:2–3; 28:29.

***O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!***

*Students’ Reflection:*

Jesus followed the Father’s plan and was wise enough to save us from sin to show us God’s love. We should walk in the path of Jesus who will teach us wisdom and love. He shows us how to carry our own small crosses to follow Him.

**December 18:** O Adonai (O Lord); See Isaiah 11:4–5; 33:22.

***O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power.***

*Students’ Reflection:*

God gave us the Ten Commandments and the Holy Spirit to help us to follow his laws and do what is right.

**December 19:** O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse); See Isaiah 1:1; 11:10.

***O Root of Jesse’s stem, sign of God’s love for all his people: come to save us without delay.***

*Students’ Reflection:* Jesus is the flower that came from Jesse’s stem He will save us and give us life.

**December 20:** O Clavis David (O Key of David); See Isaiah 9:6; 22:22.

***O Key of David, opening the gates of God’s eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!***

*Students’ Reflection:* Jesus opens the gates to God’s eternal Kingdom of heaven for us and makes us pure of heart.

**December 21:** O Oriens (O Rising Sun); See Isaiah 9:1.

***O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.***

*Students’ Reflection:* Jesus is the light of the world! He is eternal light and justice

**December 22:** O Rex Gentium (O King of the Nations); See Isaiah 9:5; 2:4.

***O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust.***

*Students’ Reflection:* Jesus comes to unite all people and save all of humanity from evil.

**December 23:** O Emmanuel (God with us); See Isaiah 7:14.

***O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!***

*Students’ Reflection:* The Messiah is our King and judge. He always forgives our sins. He will rule our hearts and save us.

*A Final Note:* According to Professor Robert Greenberg of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, the Benedictine monks of the first millennium arranged these antiphons with a definite purpose. If one starts with the last title and the first letter of each one - **E**mmanuel, **R**ex, **O**riens, **C**lavis, **R**adix, **A**donai, **S**apientia - the Latin words “*Ero cras*” are formed, meaning, Tomorrow, I will come. Therefore, the Lord Jesus, whose coming we have prepared for in Advent and whom we have addressed in these seven Messianic titles, now speaks to us, Tomorrow, I will come. So the O Antiphons not only bring intensity to our Advent preparation, but bring it to a joyful conclusion. Come, Lord Jesus!