



# The Light

St. Luke Catholic School



*In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he will do what is right and just in the land.*

JER 33:15

Dear Parents,

During this wonderful season of Advent, let us pause and give thought to the gifts we have been given and to the gifts we can share. We have suggested to our students that they can give a gift everyday to another by their kind words and actions. Let this be the gift we give to each other. All of us at St. Luke Catholic School are so grateful for the opportunity of serving this community; of educating and forming these children in our faith; and, of building their character by instilling in them, with you as partners, the values and virtues that we hold as central to our beliefs and valuable to our existence. It has everything to do with cultivating our children's gifts so that as they mature they contribute to their community and to society in a positive way. May they learn to always give more than they take.

We wish all of our St. Luke families a Very Happy and Fruitful Advent season.

Many blessings,  
Marcella Salazar  
Principal

## A Journey with Mary and Joseph A Child's Prayer

In my heart, Mary and Joseph, I will journey with you and others for "Las Posadas".  
Carrying lanterns, we sing joyfully and walk along with brave Joseph.  
He leads poor, tired Mary on her little donkey.  
From house to house we go, asking to come in, to find a quiet place for the young mother who is about to give birth.  
"We have no room. There's no room for you!"  
On and on we travel in hope, following an angel.  
Finally on the ninth night, on December 24, we find shelter for the holy pilgrims.  
Your holy child is born in a borrowed stable.  
We will feast and sing and rejoice.  
The long, hard journey has ended.  
This newborn child shall bring us so much joy.  
*From Loyola Kids Book of Everyday Prayers © 2002 by Catherine Odell and Margaret Savitskas*



		2 Chess Club, 3:30-4:15, Rm. 202 Mad Science-ends at 4:20 p.m.		3 Mass, led by 7B Basketball @ St. Pius 7th Gr. to downtown library Scrabble Club-ends @ 4:20 p.m.	4 Regular Dismissal  Dec. 5-6, Basketball B-Teams @ St. Paul Tourney	5 High School Placement Test, held at High Schools
		6	7 Advent Prayer Service, led by 2nd Gr., PH, 8:15 a.m.	8 Mass, led by 5th Gr. <i>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</i> Bball vs. OLPH School Council Mtg., 6:30 p.m., TL	9 Bball @ Atonement Mad Science-ends at 4:20 p.m. PTC Board Mtg., TL, 6:30 p.m.	10 Elementary Christmas Program, 6:30 p.m., Church 8th Gr. to downtown library  Dec. 10-13, St. Luke Basketball Tourney-A Teams
13	14 Advent Prayer Service, led by 1st Gr., PH, 8:15 a.m.	15 <b>Cookie Dough/PTC Fundraiser Delivery</b> Catholic Student Club Mtg., 3:30-4:40, Rm. 205  Reconciliation, Gr. 4-8	16 Mad Science-ends @ 4:20 p.m.	17 Christmas Mass for School, led by 4th Gr. MS Service Hrs. due for 2nd Q Scrabble Club-ends @ 4:20 p.m.	18 <b>NOON DISMISSAL No After-School Care</b>	19 Dec. 18 & 19, Basketball A-Boys @ Central Catholic Tourney

**Angel Tree Gifts**

Each grade level has adopted a family from the Faith Formation Angel Tree. Grade level lists of suggested donations were sent home on Nov. 18. Students are asked to participate in whatever way they can, knowing that each family has a real need. Please bring your unwrapped gift donation to your child's homeroom on or before Tues., Dec. 15.

**Bad Weather Days**

Should severe weather conditions occur that would require either a late start or cancellation of a school day, St. Luke will follow the announcement of Northside ISD. If classes are cancelled, the day will be made up on the Monday following Easter.

**Be Prepared for the Spelling Bee!**

The 2010 Spelling Bee Booklet is now available in the school office (cost is \$1) for students in grades 5 through 8. The school Spelling Bee will take place on Tues., Jan. 19, 2010.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION REMINDER**



The next turn-in date for Box Tops for Education is **Friday, December 11th**. Save those Box Tops from your Thanksgiving feast! **Search your cupboards for Box Tops expiring 12/31/09**. For a complete list of participating products, ways to earn Bonus Box Tops, and for savings coupons on participating products, please visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). (Please remember that St. Luke's does not participate in the Campbell's Soup program.) Thank you for supporting our school by participating in the Box Tops for Education program! Mary Knisley, Box Tops Coordinator



**Cookie Dough and Fundraiser Catalog Items Pick-up  
Tues., Dec. 15**

***This is the only time to pick up cookie dough!***

*These items are perishable, and we do not have freezer space for them; all orders must be picked up on Dec. 15.*

**Catholic Life Insurance School Sweepstakes**

The deadline to turn-in tickets is approaching. Please submit your ticket stubs and money in a sealed envelope to your homeroom teacher. If you need additional tickets, please include a note in the envelope with amount of tickets needed or you can send an email to Jay Rodriguez at [jayrod4@msn.com](mailto:jayrod4@msn.com). As a reminder, 50% of the raffle tickets that you sell will be credited to your child's tuition account; 50% will go to St. Luke School. You benefit and St. Luke benefits! Thank you for your participation.

**In-Parish/Out-of-Parish Tuition**

Please refer to the Parent and Student Handbook (pg. 11) for details on qualifying for the In-Parish tuition rate. In order to qualify for the in-parish tuition rate, a minimum of \$350.00 (\$7.00 per week) to the parish is required. This payment must be made during the calendar year, Jan. 1—Dec. 31. Contributions received after Dec. 31, 2009 will only be applied to 2010, and will not be back-dated to 2009. Tuition for the 2010-2011 school year (in-parish or non-parishioner) will be calculated based on contributions received by the Parish office by Dec. 31, 2009. *Families who have not paid their annual contribution to the church by Dec. 31, 2009 will receive the out-of-parish tuition rate for the 2010-2011 school year.* The contributions must be made by the child's parents or guardians; other relatives' contributions will not qualify the family for the in-parish rate.

**Counselor's Corner...**

**Managing Your Child's Media Choices**

The American Academy of Pediatrics has recently issued a statement urging parents and health care professionals to closely monitor the violence and mature adult content often depicted in music, movies, television, and video games. The AAP cites mounting research establishing a close link between media violence and behavioral problems, such as aggression, bullying, depression, and sleep disturbances. It reports that the associations of violence on screen, or in games, and real life aggression are nearly as strong as the association between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. The AAP also notes that music has become more explicit in references to sex, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and violence, and that studies have linked a preference for certain types of music to problem behaviors.

Dr. Geoff Gentry, a local psychologist, suggests parents do the following to better manage their child's viewing or listening habits:

- Listen to your children's music and discuss with them why they enjoy it.
- Watch television with your children and discuss what they have seen. Help them make sense of the messages they are receiving via media.
- Determine how much of your child's leisure time is spent watching television, listening to music, playing video games or surfing the Internet and ask yourself if that seems reasonable.
- Plan alternative recreational activities with your family and leave the electronics behind.
- Set reasonable limits on the amount of time your children spend watching television, listening to music and using electronic devices. Stick to it and avoid promoting the use of media and electronics as a form of instant gratification, distraction or avoidance.