



# The Cougar Connection



*Loving God, bless each of us today. Help us nourish a deep faith that brings us closer to You. As we open our hearts and minds to Your love, may all of our words and actions be a living witness of the love you have for us. Amen.*

## **PRINCIPAL'S CORNER**

Dear Families,

The Advent Seasons begins this Sunday, December 3rd. This is a beautiful time of the year for Christians to prepare their hearts and minds for Our Lord's second coming at the end of time. It is also during this season that we celebrate the birth of Our Lord on Christmas. Let us embrace the beauty of this season giving love to one another and helping those who are less fortunate.

This year we are asking the St. Columba school families to donate baby items for the ministry, "Culture of Life." All baby items will be dispersed to mothers who are in need of help to care for the basic needs of their babies. If you know of any mothers, expectant as well, who are in need, please contact the school office.

Mid quarter progress reports will be available for you to download on December 8th. Please continue to check your child's academic progress on a weekly basis. If you have any concerns, please schedule an appointment with your child's teacher as soon as possible. Consistency with planners, organizational skills, and time management are important in keeping students on top of their school work and extra curricular activities.

The parent survey is available online. In order to improve student learning it is necessary that each family complete this survey no later than Friday, December 8, 2017. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

As we enter this Advent season let's continue to practice the teaching of Our Lord in all that we do.

Blessings,

*Ms. Navarro*

**PRAYERS:** We ask that you please continue to keep in prayer the Diamond family. May the love and support of our community bring comfort to them each and everyday. We also ask that you please continue to keep in prayer all our families and extended families who are experiencing difficult times.

**MORNING ASSEMBLY:** We welcome you to join us every Monday for our morning assembly starting at 8:00 am.

**MASS:** We welcome you to join us Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> for our all school Mass/Feast of the Immaculate Conception starting at 8:15 am. Students need to be in formal dress uniform.

## **BASKETBALL GAME POSTPONED!!**

The Basketball game against the Eastern Division Police Department scheduled for Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> has been postponed until further notice.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- DECEMBER 3-
  - **Advent Begins**
- DECEMBER 4-
  - Morning Assembly 8:00
- DECEMBER 5-
  - After School Band 2:55-4:55
- DECEMBER 6-
  - Parents in Prayer 8:00-8:30 Library
  - After School Spanish
    - Gr. 1-2 3:00-3:30
    - Gr. 3-4 3:30-4:00
  - PTG Board Meeting 5:30-6:30
- DECEMBER 7-
  - After School Mythology Club Gr. 6-8 3:00-3:30
  - Spanish Gr. 5-7 3:30-4:00
- DECEMBER 8-
  - **All School Mass 8:15/Feast of the Immaculate Conception/Formal Dress Uniform**
- DECEMBER 9-
  - **Family Movie Night "Polar Express"**
  - **Santa's Workshop Preview**
- DECEMBER 11-
  - Morning Assembly 8:00/
  - Santa's Workshop
- DECEMBER 12-
  - Santa's Workshop
  - After School Band 2:55-4:55
- DECEMBER 13-
  - Parents in Prayer 8:00-8:30 Library
  - Santa's Workshop

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS LITURGY MASS:** We welcome all our families to join St. Columba Parish as we celebrate a special Christmas Liturgy Mass for children and their families on Christmas Eve starting at 4:00 pm.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:** Our Christmas program is scheduled for Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. This evening is a special opportunity for our community to come together to prepare for Christmas. This event is scheduled in the church because our intent is to share a "prayerful experience" as a community. After the program our PTG Board will be hosting a reception in the hall with a special guest. Also, the Christmas encore will be Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00 am in the church. We welcome all our parishioners, families and friends to join us.

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY:** Our Christmas holiday will begin Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> through January 3<sup>rd</sup>, school and preschool will be closed. School and preschool will resume January 4, 2018 with a regular school day.

**GIFT CARDS:** Once again, thank you, to the families, parishioner and friends who use the gift card program on a regular basis. It's such a great way to support our school, and an easy way to shop. You can order online just go to [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) enter the school code: 5B746D45922 and follow the simple instructions. Order forms are also available in the school office. Please remember due to the shipping cost; all orders need to be received by Friday of each week. Also with Christmas break just around the corner all orders need to be received by Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT:** Come join us for a family fun movie night, Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> showing "Polar Express" from 5:30 until 8:00 pm in the parish hall. Come in your PJs and bring blankets and pillows to sit on. Light bites and treats will be available to purchase. You will also be able to preview Santa's Workshop, and all the great Christmas items.

**SANTA'S WORKSHOP:** Lots of fun happening, starting Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, through the 13<sup>th</sup> our Santa's Workshop will be opened from 8:00 am until 3:30 pm for your child to purchase Christmas gifts for family and friends. Thank you to Kelly Chuckta for organizing this special workshop for our children.

**FALL FESTIVAL:** Fall Fest 2017 was a great success! The net profit was \$62,450.27. Thank you to all the parents, parishioners, Men's Club, Korean Community and friends for all your support and participation. This very important fundraiser would not have been possible without all of your support.

**JANUARY LUNCH FORMS:** Look for the January lunch order form coming home today with your child. With the holidays just around the corner, January lunch forms must be received by Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**WINTER SPORTS:** Winter sports will begin when we return from Christmas break in January. Schedules are not posted at this time, but will be coming out soon.

**ADVENT GIVING:** During the month of December we are asking the St. Columba families to donate any new baby items for St. Columba's Ministry, Culture of Life. The baby items are distributed to women who are in need of help to care for their young children. There will be a box in front of each class to deposit your donations. All baby items will be collected on December 20<sup>th</sup>, the last day of school before Christmas break.

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

*DECEMBER 13-*

- Spanish Gr. 1-2 3:00-3:30  
Gr. 3-4 3:30-4:00

*DECEMBER 14-*

- After School Mythology Club  
Gr. 6-8 3:30-4:00
- Spanish Gr. 5-7 3:30-4:00

*DECEMBER 15-*

- **All School Mass 8:15/Formal Dress Uniform**

*DECEMBER 18-*

- Morning Assembly 8:00

*DECEMBER 19-*

- **Christmas Program 6:00-7:00 – followed by a PTG Christmas Reception in the Hall**

*DECEMBER 20-*

- **Christams Encore for the Parishioners starting at 9:00 am**

*DECEMBER 21-Jan 3-*

- Christmas Holiday

*DECEMBER 24-*

- **Christmas Eve**
- **Children Liturgy Mass 4:00 pm**

*DECEMBER 25-*

- **Merry Christmas**

Jan 4-

- **School Resumes**

#### **MYTHOLOGY CLUB**

The Mythology club has begun for grades 3-8 after school on Thursdays from 3:00-3:30 pm. Students will be discussing the tales of the Olympian Gods (Zeus, Hera, Hephaestus, Aphrodite, Ares, Athena, Poseidon, Apollo, Artemis, Hermes, Hades, Persephone, and Demeter) plus thematic characters from "Ancient Beginnings" (Prometheus, Pandora). Mrs. Perry will provide all materials for the classes. The fee is \$5.00 per student for the exam (cash or check payable to St. Columba School. Please contact Ms. Linda to place your child on the sign-up list. Look for the flyer coming home today with your child. If you have any questions, please contact Maggie Perry [maggieoden@gmail.com](mailto:maggieoden@gmail.com).