

HFCA NEWS

Holy Family Catholic
Academy

Volume I Issue 13

November 30, 2016

Holy Family Catholic Academy welcomes each child in Jesus' name, developing within its students a love for God, learning and others. — HFCA Mission Statement

Advent

Advent, the first season of the Church's liturgical year, ritualizes the human experience of waiting for God and the wondrous, mysterious timetable by which love incarnate arrives. Advent reveals how differently Christians tell time. The Church's anticipation of Christmas also resets her calendar, making New Year's Day come "early" with the first Sunday in Advent. Christians celebrate Advent as the anticipation of a new creation when the Son of God, the light of the world, will come to illuminate the world.

The season of Advent is cyclical, celebrating the same sequence of faith events year after year. If we follow God's time faithfully, we arrive at the same place, but with a stronger faith, a truer hope, and a deeper love. Christmas is different each year because we are different. We have grown and changed. The season of Advent reminds us that God is always with us, but also always coming.

The word "advent" is taken from the Latin word, "adventus," which means "arrival" or "coming." Advent celebrates the Lord's initial coming in humble humanity and his final coming in glory.

The mood of Advent has evolved over the years. There are indications that a festive tone marked Advent in the early centuries of the Church. Gradually the season took on more of a penitential mood as the second coming of Christ became more of a focus. In modern times, this penitential tone has given way to an atmosphere of hope and expectation that distinguishes Advent from Lent. Today Advent is more focused on anticipation and welcome than on sin and redemption.

The season of Advent begins on the Sunday closest to November 30th, the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle. It always includes four Sundays. The liturgical colors change to purple and the *Gloria* is omitted from the Mass so that this angelic hymn celebrating the Nativity may be properly highlighted by its reintroduction on Christmas.

(excerpts taken from "What is Advent About" by Jerry Welte)

UPCOMING DATES

- Weds. Nov. 30 Group Photos
- Weds. Nov. 30 Picture Retakes
- Weds. Nov. 30 Progress Reports go home
- Weds. Nov. 30 Pep Rally at 2:30
- Weds. Nov. 30 Tree decorating contest begins. Vote!
- Thurs. Dec. 1 Reconciliation for grades 3-8
- Thurs. Dec. 1 Spirit Day
- Sat. Dec. 3 Irving Christmas Parade 3pm
- Sun. Dec. 4 Breakfast with Santa 9-12
- Tues. Dec. 6 Feast of St. Nicholas
- Tues. Dec. 7 Spelling Bee 1:00
- Weds. Dec. 7 Pep Rally at 2:30
- Thurs. Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception Mass 8am
- Fri. Dec. 9 Toy Mass 8am
- Sat. Dec. 10 Santa Paws 5k Run

God can't give us happiness and peace apart from Himself because there is no such thing.



C.S. Lewis

HFCA 2017-2018 Re-enrollment FACTS Grant and Aid TUITION FOR 2017-2018 will remain the same as this current year.

It is time to reapply for FACTS Tuition Grant and Aid! Our goal is to have everyone who needs tuition assistance to have applied before Dec. 31st. We will be here at school until Dec. 15th to help anyone who needs assistance in filling out the paperwork. This is a generous opportunity given by the Diocese to help the smaller schools receive the much needed aid. At this time we are in a pool of 8 schools applying but after Dec. 31st the pools grows to 32 schools! Please help us help you by applying NOW! Paperwork must be submitted before Dec. 31st in order to receive early notification. You may use your 2015 W2s and Income Tax paperwork.

HFCA CHRISTMAS TREE

Come and see your child's beautiful artwork on our first HFCA Christmas Tree. All the ornaments were made by our students under the direction of Mr. Keglovits. The theme was "A Green Christmas". There are two awards given each year; one for creativity and beauty judged by the Irving Arts judges and the other "Viewers Choice Award". This award goes to the tree that has received the most votes by the public. You can vote online until Dec. 31st or visit the center and vote until Dec. 20th. We are so proud of our tree and we would like everyone and their family to visit the Irving Art Center and vote for our tree. Below are the Gallery Hours.



Gallery Admission is FREE

Gallery Hours:

Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00-5:00 p.m.

CITY OF IRVING PARADE



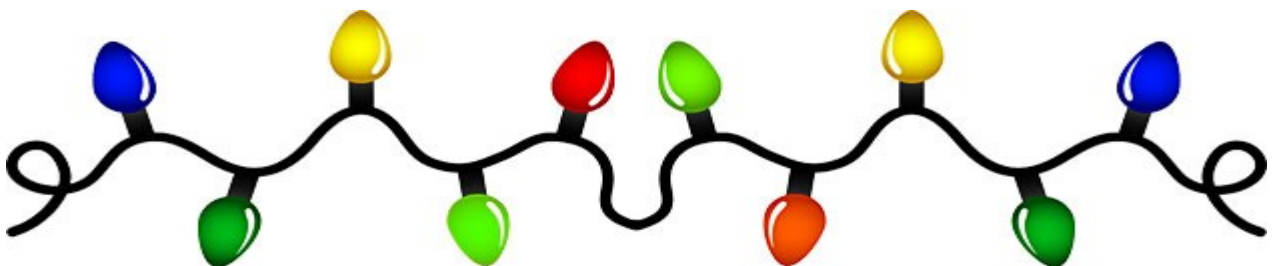
Come and join the fun on Saturday, Dec. 3rd at 2:30pm. The students are to look for the HFCA float that will be parked on Rock Island behind the “old library” and government offices. Our theme is the Nativity. If your child has an angel, shepherd, animal, etc. costume please have them come dressed, if not, the school will provide costumes. The weather is always a factor this time of year. If we need to cancel we will let you know via renweb, please pray for dry weather. We always have so much fun and the adults get to get their walking! I would like to thank in advance Emily Soltero (5th) and her parents for the wood for the crèche and Carlos, Danny and Gaby Gasca (7th, 4th & 2nd) and their parents for the use of their trailer and Charles and John Woertendyke (7th & 8th) and their parents for the use of their trailer. Don't forget your parade permission slips!



Santa Paws 5K Run and Walk

The Countdown has Begun!!!

Bring your children, your friends and your dog to HFCA annual Santa Paws 5K and Walk. There is still time to register. www.bit.ly/santapaws2016 on line or at the door. Groups of 3 or more, discount of \$20 per person. Don't forget, if you raise \$300 or more, half of that will go towards tuition. The 1K will begin at 8:00am and the 5K will begin at 8:30. Dog costume contest will begin at 9:45 and awards (human and dogs) at 10:00.





Sunday, December 4

9-12noon

The community of Holy Family of Nazareth invites you to have “Breakfast with Santa”. This is open to all in the community so bring your family and friends. Photos with Santa are \$5 or you can bring your own camera.

Handbook Addendum

Honor Roll Requirements: Grades 5-8th

Principal Honor Roll: 94 and above in all subjects with a G/E in conduct in all subjects.

A/B Honor Roll: 85 and above in all subjects including at least one A with a G/E in conduct in all subjects.