



# St. Rose of Lima School

*2021-2022 Blue/Gold MEMO from the Principal's Office*

December 2, 2021

.Dear School Families,

The 2021-2022 School Year has been a true blessing to the students, staff and faculty of St. Rose of Lima. Christmas is an opportunity to open yourself up spiritually. Just as we decorate our homes and the Christmas tree, we need to decorate our hearts and souls. Mother Teresa said that “we cannot do great things only small things with great love”.

As we work at beautifying the outside of our homes, what are we doing to beautify our spirituality? Such as exercising the Corporal Works of Mercy: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the imprisoned, visit the sick and bury the dead.

Each little twinkle of a Christmas light comes together with the other lights to light up the sky to show the world the joy that we have at Christmas. The illuminations have an effect on the person that sees them. In some way it moves them to understand that there is something special happening during this time of the year. When we become ambassadors of Christ for others we illuminate God's love to the world.

Through the Spiritual Works of Mercy, we want to garnish and decorate the aspects of our faith that help us to instruct those who do not know about Jesus Christ. To counsel the doubtful with actions and not just words and to make others aware of actions that are moving them away from strengthening their faith. When we have problems and concerns, bear them patiently and pray to the Holy Spirit to guide us and teach us how we should handle the situation. Not to harbor ill feelings and to forgive others to allow the spirit of Jesus Christ to absorb our hurt feelings and turn them into decorations that beam of God's Love. To adorn others' problems and hardships with God's mercy and grace, by being there for them at the times they are filled with sorrow. To continually pray for the living and the dead.

Advent is the season of preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ.

Advent can be a very busy period especially if we focus only on the demands of the nonspiritual world.

Materialism sometimes clouds the spiritual perspective, and we can forget the most important reason for Christmas is that ***Jesus is coming!***

Please take time during the next four weeks and embrace the tradition of the Advent Wreath: **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**. Each of the candles represents an aspect of spirituality in our lives that brightens the pathway to eternity. The secular world and materialism will darken and disappear and have no place in eternity.

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love will be illuminated and enlighten heaven and stay with us throughout eternity.

Jesus is inviting you to look past the materialism and secularism “busyness” and come to His manger. He’s asking you to join him and give the greatest gift: the gift of yourself.

God Bless.

*Deacon Joseph Rafferty*



### Honor Roll

[Congratulations to these students](#) in 5th- 8th grade who made the First Quarter Honor Roll.

*Keep up the great work!*

### **Important Reminder:**

We will not have school on **Wednesday December 8, 2021** in recognition of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. Please check [www.strosenj.com](http://www.strosenj.com) or your home Parish for Mass times.



### **Tuition Assistance and Re-Registration**

Over the next few weeks we will begin to share information about re-registration for our current families for the 2022-2023 school year next year. Please note the following:

- The Tuition Assistance Portal is now open to apply for Tuition Assistance for the 2022-2023 school year. Please complete your tuition assistance applications by **February 23, 2022**. [Please click here for information on applying for tuition assistance for next year.](#)
- If you have any younger siblings who will be joining us for Kindergarten next year, please be sure to [fill out this Google Form so we can save them a seat.](#) If you have already filled out this form you do not need to fill it out again.
- If you have any younger siblings who would be new students at Rosebud Academy next year, you also have the option to [save them a seat in Preschool.](#)



## Synod 2021-2023:

### The Pope Wants to Know!

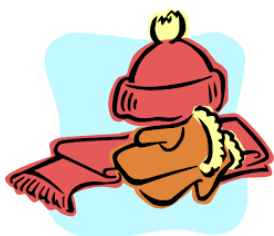
*"By walking together, and together reflecting on the journey made, the Church will be able to learn from what it will experience which processes can help it to live communion, to achieve participation, to open itself to mission."*

Our Holy Father is asking for Input on the state of the Church. **If you are a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish, please click [here to fill out the Google Form](#)** to share your thoughts.



## Extra Care

Statements for November are being sent out on Thursday, please check your child's backpack or folder and send in your payment as soon as possible. [Click here for Dec/Jan Aftercare form](#) to be turned into your child's teacher.



**Reminder:** Please send hats, gloves and scarves to school with children when coming to after care. We do try to take the children outside even if only for 10 minutes or so when the weather is dry. It is also a good idea to label these items so that we can get them back to you if they are misplaced.

## Christmas Concert (All-school K-8 and School Band)

St. Rose of Lima Church  
**Wednesday, December 15, 2021**  
**6:30pm-8:00pm**

Children will sit together with their families, and report to their teacher at the back of the church when it's time for their class. The school band will begin the program and then each class, beginning with youngest (K) to oldest (8) will perform their piece(s), concluding with a "Silent Night" creche. More information about costumes & dress code will be provided by your child's teacher.



**Fun Fact:** Saint Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first live nativity scene, now referred to as (French word) "creche" in 1223 in order to cultivate the worship of Christ

## Advent Penance Service

In addition to our regularly scheduled Saturday confessions here at St. Rose, there will also be an Advent Penance Service at **St. Vincent Pallotti Church** on **December 15 from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.** Priests from St. Joseph the Worker, St. Rose of Lima, and Christ the King parishes will be available to hear confessions. This unfortunately conflicts with our school Christmas concert but please share this information with family and friends. [Please click here for a flyer.](#)



# RECESS

DECEMBER SCHEDULE  
NOW AVAILABLE!

## Recess Duty

Thank you to all of our recess duty volunteers. The [December Schedule is available here.](#)

You can also [sign up to volunteer here.](#) Please reach out to Cathy Lacey with any questions about recess duty. [cathylacey@strosenj.com](mailto:cathylacey@strosenj.com)

## Christmas Ornaments - Decorating our school Christmas Tree!

We will be decorating our St. Rose Family Christmas Tree starting on **Monday, December 6.** *Please send in one ornament per family.*

Students will be called to the office after announcements to hang their ornament and say a prayer. If you miss your day, please bring it in the next day. Please label your ornaments, we will return them after Christmas!

Grades	Date
Kindergarten and Grade 1	Monday, December 6
Grades 2 and 3	Tuesday, December 7
Grades 4 and 5	Thursday, December 9
Grades 6, 7 and 8	Friday, December 10







## **Picture Retake Day: December 15**

LifeTouch Studios will be here on **December 15** to do Fall absentee photos and picture retakes. **We will share an order form in the next Weekly Wrap.**

## **Knights of Columbus Poster Contest**

The Knights of Columbia is sponsoring a “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest. [Please click here for more information.](#) All students are invited to participate! Please give your posters to Mrs Knapp by **December 9.** Thank you!



## **Adopt A Family Gift Deadline: December 10**

Thank you to all of the families who are participating in our Adopt A Family service project with the Holy Name section of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Camden! **Gifts should be sent in with your students no later than December 10. Please send gifts unwrapped, and consider sending wrapping paper and bows in as well. Homeroom teachers are collecting items and the Adopt A Family Coordinator will pick them up from homerooms.** We will not be having a wrapping party in the classrooms this year. *Thank you for your generosity!*



## **Lost and Found: Please label Everything!**

Please remember to label everything you send to school with your family’s name so that we can return lost items. Our lost and found area is overflowing with things you might be looking for! Please reach out to the main office if there is something you are missing and you would like to schedule a time to come look through the lost and found.



## November Students of the Month: ANNOUNCEMENT ON FRIDAY!

November Students of the Month will be announced at Mass on **Friday, December 3.**

*We notified all parents of the students of the month already so they can plan to be at the Mass if they wish.*

After students are announced we will share them in the next Weekly Wrap along with an explanation of why they were chosen for this honor!

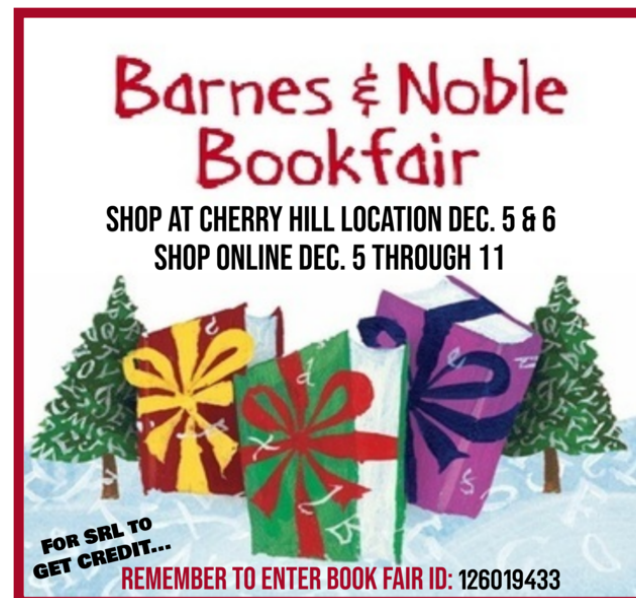


**December's Virtue is: Gratitude.** If you would like a printable page about gratitude to hang at home to reinforce this month's virtue, [please click here](#). For questions or more information about our Student of the Month program, please reach out to coordinator Jackie Valvardi at [happyjackiev@gmail.com](mailto:happyjackiev@gmail.com).

## Barnes & Noble Bookfair: December 5th & 6th

*Books make great Christmas Gifts!*

While we are unable to enjoy our usual Christmas holiday performances at Barnes and Noble, we are still able to buy books and help support our school library. There will be an in person shopping day at the Marketplace Cherry Hill store on **December 5th & 6th!** Make sure you take your [book fair voucher](#) with you and give it to the cashier when you check out. Also, share this voucher with friends and family that might be doing a bit of Christmas shopping. There will also be online shopping available from **December 5th - December 11th**, at [the Barnes & Noble website](#) Remember to enter the Book Fair ID **#12619433** on any online orders in order for them to count towards our totals.



## **National Junior Honor Society**

In addition to our Community Cleanup on November 22nd, some of our NJHS members led by NJHS president Seamus Bieg helped out at the [Sisters of Saint Joseph Neighborhood Center](#), in the Cramer Hill section of Camden. The members got to see first hand how difficult it can be for families at this time of year. NJHS will be donating the proceeds of our next Pretzel for a Purpose to this important work.

Pretzel order forms will be distributed on **Monday**

**December 14** and should be returned to school by **Wednesday December 15**, with pretzels being distributed on **Friday, December 17**. Thank you for your support of this program that helps us reach out to help others while enjoying a pretzel!



## **Student Council Updates**

**Sock Drive** - The SRL Student Council is hosting their annual sock drive to help the homeless in our area again this year. New socks will be collected in each homeroom from **November 29 through December 17**. Please [click here for a flyer](#) for more information!



## **SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE UPDATE: Christmas Donations Due: DECEMBER 13**

First, the Social Action Committee would like to say a huge thank you to all of the families who donated for helping to provide meals for families at Thanksgiving! Because of your generosity, we also had food leftover and now have overflowing shelves!

We are trying something a little different this year as we collect for Christmas baskets. We are asking for \$1 or \$2 from each of our students so we can purchase turkeys and hams for the families we serve. [Please click here for more information!](#) You can also choose to [donate via PayPal on this page](#).





## Athletic Committee Update:

### **Winter Sports Registration Now Open for 5th & 6th Grade!**

Due to new guidelines that were shared by the Diocese of Camden, Winter Sports Registration is now open for 5th & 6th Graders. You can [register your 5th & 6th graders on Family ID here.](#)



- Winter Sports include **basketball** for boys and girls, and **cheerleading** for girls.
- We do not have all of the information about logistics and timing of these programs. However, we do know that **the earliest date** that Winter Sports for 5th & 6th graders may begin is **Monday, January 18, 2021.**
- As with all of our athletic programs, our regulations are subject to change based on guidance from the Diocese of Camden, the New Jersey Department of Health, and the overall presence of COVID-19 in our local communities..
- All students in 6th grade and older must complete [this sports physical form](#) prior to being able to participate in our athletic programs.
- We suggest registering as soon as possible so that the coaches and planners can begin to figure out the logistics and ordering needs related to uniforms and other supplies.

## Important Upcoming Dates

Dates are subject to change and we will keep you updated if changes occur.

- December 3 -**        **Half Day - Noon dismissal** (11:50 for Kindergarten)
- December 5 & 6**    [Barnes and Noble Book Fair](#) in person shopping event. (Online purchases through December 11.) Use Book Fair ID#**12619433**
- December 8 -**        **NO SCHOOL** Due to Feast of Immaculate Conception
- December 9 -**        Knights of Columbus [Poster Contest Entries](#) Due
- December 9 -**        Adopt A Family Gifts due to Homerooms
- December 13-**      [Food Pantry Donations Due.](#) (Optional. \$1 - \$2 per student)
- December 15 -**      1) Fall Picture absentee and retake day.  
2) Pretzels for a Purpose Order Forms Due (Forms coming soon.)  
3) Christmas Concert: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the church.  
4) Penance Service at St. Vincent Pallotti 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
- December 17 -**      1) Falcon Friday and Pretzels for a Purpose  
2) Final day of [sock collection](#) for Student Council Sock Drive.
- December 23 -**      **Half Day - Noon dismissal** (11:50 for Kindergarten)
- December 24 - January 2 - NO SCHOOL. *Merry Christmas!***