

St. Rose of Lima School

2023-2024 Blue/Gold MEMO from the Principal's Office

December 5, 2023



Dear School Families,

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

November Students of the Month

Congratulations to our November Students of the Month who were recognized for excellence in the virtue of Generosity! We are still missing some pictures from students who were absent on Friay. We will post the pictures to Facebook soon. Please click here to read about why these students 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, <u>please click here</u>. For questions or more information about our Student of the Month program, please reach out to coordinator Jackie Valvardi at happyjackiev@gmail.com.



SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE UPDATE:Christmas Donations Due: **DECEMBER 15**

The Social Action Committee would like to say a huge thank you again to all of the families who donated for helping to provide meals for families at Thanksgiving!

We are now collecting food for Christmas baskets! Would you consider donating again to help these families in need this Christmas? Please click here for a list of what each grade is being asked to contribute. Thank you as always for your generosity!





Important Reminder:

We will not have school on **Friday, December 8, 2022** in recognition of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. Please check <u>www.strosenj.com</u> or your home Parish for Mass times.

2024-2025 Tuition Assistance and Re-Registration

- Re-Registration for next year is NOW OPEN! <u>Click</u> here for a <u>Timeline and links to re-register</u>.
- The Tuition Assistance Portal is now open to apply for Tuition Assistance for the 2024-2025 school year. Please complete your tuition assistance applications by March 15, 2024. 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 include them when you register and also <u>fill out this Google Form</u> <u>so we can save them a seat</u>. If you have already filled out this form you do not need to fill it out again.

Extra Care

Statements for November wiere sent via email yesterday. There are still some outstanding October bills. Please send in your payment as soon as possible. If you are not receiving invoices, please contact Mrs. Hull at mhull@strosenj.com. Click here for the December 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.

PLEASE NOTE: On December 13, we are asking that you pick up from AfterCare no later than 5:30 p.m. so staff members have time to prepare their children for the school Christmas show.



Band Christmas Concert

St. Rose of Lima Church Monday, December 11, 2023 6:30pm

Full School Christmas Show:

St. Rose of Lima Church Wednesday, December 13, 2023 6:30pm

Performances by each class K-8. All students are required to attend and participate. We will share more information about logistics soon. In the meantime, please click here for information about dress code/costumes for each class.

Advent Penance Service

As we prepare for His coming during this season of Advent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession will be available within a Penance Service to be offered on **Wednesday, December 20, 2023** here at St. Rose of Lima Church at 7:00pm. As a 'communal' penance service, please arrive on time for this service that consists



of prayer, scripture reading, a homily and a common Act of Contrition; in preparation for individual confession. Priests from St. Joseph the Worker, St. Rose of Lima and Christ the King parishes will be available to hear confessions. (Penitents will have the opportunity of going to confession face-to-face or anonymously.)



Recess Duty

Thank you to all of our recess duty volunteers. There are still some slots available in December. The December Schedule and Sign Up is available here.

Picture Retake Day: December 12

LifeTouch Studios will be here on **December 12** to do Fall absentee photos and picture retakes. If you would like to have your student's photo retaken, please send in the unsatisfactory picture package that you received with your student on the day of the retakes.Information about <u>ordering online is here</u> or you can send in <u>this paper order form</u> or request a paper form from Mrs. Thomas: sthomas@strosenj.com









Tuesday, December 12, 2023 Encarga hoy en mylifetouch.com usando

Order today on mylifetouch.com
using your Picture Day ID: EVTSF3DK4

Encarga hoy en mylifetouch.com usando tu ID del Día de la Foto: EVT SF3DK4

Lifetouch

Christmas Ornaments Decorating our school Christmas Tree!

We are continuing to decorate our St. Rose Family Christmas Tree. *Please send in one ornament per family*. (If you have more than one child, you may decide which of your students hangs the ornament for your 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!



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 11. Thank you!



Adopt A Family Gift Deadline: December 13

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 13. Please send gifts <u>unwrapped</u>, and consider sending wrapping paper and bows in as well. If you are sending a clothing item, please send the item in a box with tissue paper ready to be wrapped. 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!

National Junior Honor Society

Any member that has not paid their annual dues please make sure you give them to Korey Owens by **Monday**, **December 11th**.

Our next Pretzel for a Purpose will benefit St. Jude's Children's Hospital and will take place on **Friday**, **December 15th**.





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 December 6 through
December 20. Please click here
for a flyer with more information!

Barnes & Noble Book Fair

Thank you to all the creative and performing artists who helped to make this year's Barnes and Noble Christmas Event such a joy! It was wonderful to be able to enjoy the live performances and share it with the B&N shoppers! A special thank you to Mrs. Reich, and Mr. Spangenburg for sharing their amazing talent in helping to showcase our students. Thank you to all the teachers, parents, and students who came out during this busy time of year to support this event.

It is not too late to support this event by ordering online at bn.com and using Book Fair ID

12687323 up until Saturday December 9th!

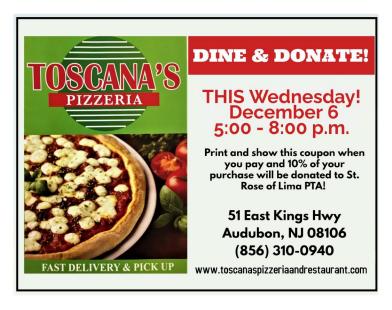


Dine and Donate:

Toscana's

Wednesday, December 6

5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Mention St. Rose & show below image when ordering! Toscana's Dine and Donate proceeds benefit the SRL PTA.





Kindness Krew Meeting

Tuesday, December 12

@ 2:30 p.m. in Mrs. Foley's room

Spring Musical

Shrek The Musical, Jr. Interest Meeting: Wed., December 20

This meeting is for interested students in grades 3-8 only. Parents are welcome to attend the meeting but are not required to attend.

More information will be coming soon about participating in our Junior Ensemble. (Grades K-2)



Important Upcoming Dates

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

December 6- 1) Grades 2 & 6 - Bring Family Ornament for Christmas Tree

2) Dine and Donate @ Toscana's 5:00 - 8:00

December 7- 1) Grades 3 & 7 Bring Family Ornament for Christmas Tree

2) Annual Basketball Pep Rally (during school hours)

December 8 - NO SCHOOL Due to Feast of Immaculate Conception

December 11 - 1) Knights of Columbus Posters Due

2) NJHS Dues are due to Korey Owens or Ms. Crowell

3) Band Christmas Concert - 6:30 p.m. in the church

December 12 - 1) Fall Picture Retakes

2) Kindness Krew Meeting at 2:30 in Mrs. Foley's Room.

December 13- 1) Adopt-a-Family Gifts due to Homerooms/Classrooms

2) AfterCare: Pick up no later than 5:30 p.m.

3) School Christmas Concert: 6:30 p.m. in the church.

December 15 - 1) <u>Food Bank Donations</u> Due

2) Falcon Friday and Pretzels for a Purpose

December 20 - 1) Student Council Sock Drive Socks Due

2) Shrek Interest Meeting @ 2:30 in cafe (Grades 3-8 only)

3) Advent Penance Service: 7 p.m. @ St. Rose of Lima Church

December 22 - Half Day - Noon dismissal (11:50 for Kindergarten)

December 23 - January 1 NO SCHOOL. Merry Christmas!

(School Resumes on Tuesday, January 2)