

Holy Rosary Review

Important

Dates:

December 1:

Picture Makeup Day

December 4:

Noon Dismissal/ End of First Trimester/
Craft Show Setup

December 7:

Second Trimester Begins

December 8:

Mass 10:30am/
Immaculate Conception/
Claire Fundraiser Delivery

December 9:

Secret Santa Shop/
Advisory Board Meeting 6:30pm

December 10:

Secret Santa Shop

December 11:

Report Cards

December 14 :

Reconciliation
Grades 2-5

December 15:

Reconciliation
Grades 6-8/
Band Concert 7pm

December 21:

Christmas Pageant
7:30pm

December 22:

Sing--a-long with Fr. Quindlen 10:30am/
Christmas Pageant 1:30pm

December 23- January 3:

Christmas Break

January 4:

Classes Resume

3040 Walton Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
<http://holyroaryregional.com>

Office: 610-825-0160
Fax: 610-825-0460
School Closing # 1385

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Advent is upon us!

I know many of us approach this time of year with a mixture of emotions, eternally grateful for Christ's birth, but also anxious over all the celebration entails. In preparation for celebrating His journey, which we are blessed to recreate each year, we begin pulling all the decorations out, hopefully the Advent Wreath first. We are filled with angst at the financial burden the next month puts on our families. There are guests to expect, food to prepare, trees to buy, gifts to shop for, and we can go on and on. And we do this because we feel a certain obligation to all the traditions which came before.

This year, let's commit to doing everything we need to prepare for Jesus's birth, but rather than doing it because we have to, do it for love. Every single chore that you must complete over the next four weeks, focus on the love that drives the deed.

As you wrap up the Thanksgiving leftovers and pull out the Advent Wreath, focus on the love...love the fact that we live in a country where we can practice our faith openly and without fear of retribution. Love the fact that God sent His only Son to save and protect us.

As you begin to put up decorations, sometimes freezing every part of your body, stand back afterwards and think about the love...love the fact that you have lit up your home in preparation for the Love of the World's arrival. Love the fact that you can look forward to the welcoming embrace of your well-lit home after a long day's work.

As you cut down, pick up, or order your Christmas tree, focus on the evergreen, loving the fact that God's love is eternal. Love the quiet time in front of your tree- turn off the television, focus on the ornaments which represent very special events in your life...love the memories.

As you shop until you drop, think about the love that drives your purchases, each one special and unique to the loved one you are gifting. Choose one or two really amazing gifts which will mean something special to your loved ones, rather than a pile of stuff not needed and easily discarded. Love the time spent on thinking about each of your family members or friends you are buying for. Love that small space of time you have devoted to each person.

And as you lay down at the end of a busy, crazy day, love yourself. Love the gifts and talents you alone can offer those around you each day. Love the fact that you are surrounded by caring and devoted family members who think you are really quite special. And even if you find an absence of all of this, love yourself because God knows you are quite extraordinary!

Do it for love....and your faith shall set you free!

Peace,

Lisa S. Hoban

One Faith, One Family, One School





Did You Know...

Mrs. Koneski/Ms. Carroll: The first grade was busy talking about the First Thanksgiving and telling God what they are Thankful for. They enjoyed their first class trip, along with the Kindergarten, to Solly Brothers Farm. They learned about bees, apples, had a hayride and picked their own pumpkin. Everyone had a great time!

Ms. Prieto—2nd Grade : The second grade worked together to put on a small play for kindergarten and first grades called The Strongest One. The children learned about "dramas" and auditioned for parts. We had a very dedicated stage crew that created all of the costumes with materials found in the classroom. They had a lot of fun!



Box Tops for Education

WINTER BREAK CLIPPING !

Remember to clip and collect Box Tops over winter break. I'm sure you all started to fill a new bag for submission in the spring. Our first half of the year collection was so successful. Please remember you can drop off Box Tops anytime during the year. You can find Box Tops on many of the products you will be using for dinners and Parties.

For a list of participating products, go to BTFE.com.

If you have any questions about the Box Tops for Education™ program, please contact Luisa Kelly, Box Top Coordinator at Aidankl@msn.com.

Thank you to everyone who clipped and sent in Box Tops!

Holy Rosary Regional Catholic School Neumann Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to **Hank McNeil** and **Anthony Saldutti**,
our very own Neumann Scholars!

Anthony and Hank will receive a full-four year scholarship to the Archdiocesan high school of their choice. In addition, they will receive guidance from the Connelly Foundation as they work their way through high school and prepare for college.

We are so proud of our boys' accomplishments, made possible by hard work, a commitment to excellence, strong family support, and outstanding teachers.



Craft Show

HRCraftshow@gmail.com

Free Admission
Over 100 Crafters

**Holy Rosary's
Craft Show**

**Saturday, December 5th 9-4
Sunday, December 6th 8-2**

Holy Rosary's Craft Show is one of the largest in the area
See for yourself why it was voted the BEST of MONTCO!

Find original Christmas gifts for family & friends!
Enjoy breakfast, lunch and homemade treats
Discount raffle ticket on sale now
at www.hrrfundraising@yahoo.com

Holy Rosary Regional School
3040 Walton Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
located at intersection of
Township Line and Walton Roads

Fabulous *Raffle Items!!!
Mrs. Claus' Kitchen for breakfast & lunch
Rudolph's Bakery for homemade treats
Appearances by Santa Claus
*Need not be present to win Raffles

Like us on facebook at www.facebook.com/HolyRosaryCraftShow

HASA Happenings

Santa Shop

On Thursday, December 10th and Friday, December 11th, HASA will be hosting a Santa Shop for all students!

The Santa Shop is an opportunity for your children to purchase items for their family and friends. Many items with “mom” and “dad” on it will be available.

There are even gifts for aunts, uncles, dogs and cats! Most items range in price from 25 cent to \$12.00. Every grade will be assigned a time to come shop. A flyer will be coming home soon will more information.

Shop Amazon and Help Earn Money for Holy Rosary!

Buying Christmas gifts from Amazon?

Don't forget Holy Rosary's Amazon Fundraiser!

Click here <http://holyrosaryregional.com/amazon-fundraiser-3/> to be directed to Holy Rosary's Amazon Fundraiser page, or find the link on our school website under Fundraising.

Holy Rosary receives a percentage of all sales, and it adds up fast! The school does not receive any personal information on purchases, so please share the link with friends and relatives!

**Letter From the Governing Board of Pastors
Fr. McCreedy—Pastor of St. Paul's Parish**

Dear Holy Rosary Parents, Children, Faculty and Friends,

The month of December is ushered-in by the holy season of Advent, a time of prayerful preparation for the anniversary of our Saviour's birth. Before our minds swim with thoughts of festivities, we ready our hearts for the true meaning of Christmas: Our God has come to us and is among us. (That's what "Emmanuel" means).

Actually, there are three "comings" we celebrate during Advent. Joyfully recalling His first coming in Bethlehem of Judea over two thousand years ago, we celebrate His constant comings in the present. (Remember, every act of God is like God, timeless). He comes to us presently through His Church, her sacraments, and good works motivated by our reception of these sacraments (especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist). The third coming we reflect upon during Advent is His multiple comings on all the "tomorrows" of our lives and at the end of our days... Upon retiring every night, we know our God will be there for us at the dawn of all our new days. One day, He'll welcome us to eternal and indescribable joy. Advent is a celebration of what was, what is, and what will be... three comings, past, present and future. Readied by these thoughts, Christmas is more than just a time for memorable moments. It's deeper, more beautiful and more meaningful.

As if Advent and Christmas aren't special enough, this year, on December 8th (the holyday of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception), Pope Francis will open the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

A Holy Year or Jubilee is a great religious event, held roughly every 25 years, for the forgiveness of sins and the punishment due to sin. The Christian Jubilee tradition began with Pope Boniface VIII in 1300. Since that time, the Church has celebrated 26 ordinary and three extraordinary Jubilee Years. A Jubilee is a year of reconciliation between adversaries, conversion, and a time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Consequently, it is a time of solidarity, hope, justice, and commitment to serve God with joy and in peace with our brothers and sisters. A Jubilee Year is, above all, the year of Christ, who brings life and grace to humanity. This forthcoming extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy runs until November 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Christ the King. More detailed information about the Jubilee Year and its various observances will be disseminated throughout the year in your parish bulletins and homilies.

May all of us in our Holy Rosary family experience all the many rich graces this time offers us. May all our hearts be filled with God's joy and peace.

With prayer always,

Father McCreedy

Holy Rosary Regional CYO News

GO GLADIATORS!

**Congratulations to our Varsity Football players who won the
Archdiocesan Championship on November 14th!
We are very proud of you boys!!**

The CYO Dance that was originally scheduled for Friday December 11th has been cancelled. We look forward to seeing all of our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders at our next dance!

The Holy Rosary CYO Gladiators are getting ready to begin their basketball season and we hope that you will come out and support our teams. Please stay tuned for a posting of all of our scheduled home games so you can come out and support our Gladiators!

For CYO inquiries, please contact **Megan Patzuk**
at holyrosaryregionalcyo@gmail.com

December 2015



						
		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Picture Make-up	Irish Dance	3 rd to Franklin Inst. Bowling	End of First Trimester Noon Dismissal	Craft Show
Sunday	Monday	1	2	3	4	5
Craft Show	Second Trimester Begins	Mass 10:30 Claire Fundraiser Delivery	Santa Secret Shop Adv. Board Mtg 6:30	Bowling 1 st Grade to PJP Secret Santa Shop	Report Cards	
6	7	8 Immaculate Conception	9	10	11	12 Our Lady of Guadeloupe
	Reconciliation Grades 2-5	Reconciliation Grades 6-8 Band Concert 7 PM	Lauren and Alexis to PD	Faculty Christmas Party		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Christmas Pageant 7:30 PM	Sing-A-Long with Father Quindlen 10:30 Christmas Pageant 1:30	No School	No School	No School	
20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 St Stephen
	No School	No School	No School	No School		
27	28	Classes Resume Monday, January 4th		30	31 New Year's Eve	

December 2015 Lunch Menu

December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
		<u>Burgers/Tater Tots/Milk</u>	<u>Pasta w/Sauce</u>	<u>Chick-fil-a lunch 1</u>	<u>Noon Dismissal</u>	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	<u>Pizza/cookies</u>	<u>Hot Dog/Pot Luck Snack</u>	<u>Chicken Noodle Soup/Ham & Cheese on Honey Wheat Bread/Milk</u>	<u>Steak Sandwich/veggie straws</u>	<u>Waffles/Sausage or Gogurt/Milk</u>	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	<u>Pizza/Carrot sticks w/dip/Milk</u>	<u>Cheeseburger/Sun Chips/Milk</u>	<u>Beef Taco (2)/Ice Cream or Fruit/Milk</u>	<u>Chick-fil-a lunch 2</u>	<u>Tomato Pie/Jello</u>	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	<u>Pizza Day w/Salad</u>	<u>Hot Dog/Sweet Corn/Milk</u>	<u>Christmas Holiday</u>	<u>Christmas Eve</u>	<u>Merry Christmas!!!</u>	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	<u>Christmas Holiday</u>	<u>Christmas Holiday</u>	<u>Christmas Holiday</u>	<u>Christmas Holiday</u>		

2015/2016 Home & School Association Board Members



Executive Board

- President – Beth Fish
- Vice President – Anthony Garcia
- Treasurer - Lisa Trowbridge
- Recording Secretary - Giselle Booker
- Corresponding Secretary - Nicole Coey

Committees

- Fundraising -
Kim Taglieber & Sharon Rupprecht
- Beautification-Nicole Marino
- Community Service - Judy Coughlin
- Grant Writing – Jacki Jay
- Lead Homeroom Parent – Melissa Keene
- Marketing – Amy Porter

Tuition Assistance Opportunities for Holy Rosary Families



There are several sources of tuition assistance available to Holy Rosary families. These opportunities are made possible through the generous support of various businesses and foundations. A number of these opportunities require interested families to go through an outside application process. Other opportunities become available because of direct donations to Holy Rosary from generous parishioners of affiliated parishes.

The available opportunities and related application processes are outlined below. In cases in which Holy Rosary decides who the recipients will be, Holy Rosary will only consider families that have completed the application process for all funding sources for which they would qualify. Any cases of extraordinary or unforeseen circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

If you have individual questions on applying for financial assistance, contact **Beth Hallinan** in the school office, bhallinan@holyroaryregional.com , 610-825-0160.

EITC & OSTC FUNDS

Much of the available tuition assistance is made possible through **Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC)** business donations to non-profit organizations interested in promoting education. To be eligible for EITC or OSTC funding for the 2015-2016 school year the adjusted gross income for a family with one dependent must be \$90,000 or less. For each additional dependent, the adjusted gross income threshold increases \$15,000. Below is a listing of the organizations that provide EITC & OSTC funding to Holy Rosary students and an explanation of how to apply for funding from each organization. Please note: all eligible families do not necessarily receive funding. Awards are dependent on the amount of scholarship money available each year.

Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools (BLOCS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping families afford Catholic education. Holy Rosary students received almost \$19,000 in BLOCS funding during the 2015-2016 school year.

BLOCS applications for the 2016-2017 school year will be available in the fall at www.blocs.org.

Tuition Assistance for Holy Rosary Families

The Bridge Foundation is an independent non-profit organization that provides scholarship opportunities to Pennsylvania low-income families. Families must apply directly to the Bridge Foundation between May 1st and June 30th each year. Applications are only accepted during this window. Applications are available online at www.bridgeedu.org. Families who receive Bridge funding must complete a 40-hour community service requirement.

The Henkels Foundation supports benevolent, religious, educational, charitable, scientific, and literary undertakings throughout the United States.

If funds become available through the Foundation, Holy Rosary determines how to distribute the funding. Only families that have completed the BLOCS application, and who meet the eligibility requirements for EITC funding, will be considered for available Henkels funds.

Other Funding Sources

The Kremer Foundation provides Catholic elementary schools with tuition grants for children from financially challenged families. The Foundation's grants are given directly to the schools; school principals select which students receive the tuition assistance. Holy Rosary received \$10,000 from the Kremer Foundation for the 2014-2015 school year.

To qualify for assistance, a family's adjusted gross income cannot exceed the federal food program's maximum family income for reduced priced meals. The 2016-2017 guidelines are not yet available. To qualify for the 2015-2016 school year, a family of four's adjusted gross income had to be less than \$43,568; the qualifying amount was increased by \$7,437 for each additional family member.

If Holy Rosary receives a grant from the Kremer Foundation for the 2016-2017 school year, Holy Rosary will notify families of the application process in the spring. All applications will be submitted to Holy Rosary.

Children's Scholarship Fund (CSF) provides scholarships to qualifying families who live in Philadelphia to fund tuition at a private school of the family's choosing. PLEASE NOTE: Families must reside in Philadelphia to qualify; students may attend a CSF-approved school outside the Philadelphia city limits. Income eligibility requirements will be available on the CSF website www.csphiladelphia.org when they become available.

Applications will be available on the website in mid-November and are due no later than March 1. Scholarships are awarded by random lottery. Recipients are notified by mid-March.