

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help Newsletter

**We are on God's Mission**

**Issue 17**

**December 6, 2017**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School forms leaders of tomorrow by expanding minds, touching hearts and nurturing spirits through the traditions and teachings of the Catholic faith.**

Dear Our Lady Families,

Happy St. Nicholas Day! St. Nick will be paying Our Lady a visit. We'll be sure to have all shoes outside our classroom doors for a special treat from St. Nick and our PTO! How we love this time-honored tradition! Despite the many activities of December, we are still focused and diligent to close this first semester with awesome grades, strong friendships and an even stronger relationship with Jesus. Our children are so blessed by the gift of a Catholic education and the amazing retreat, prayer and reconciliation opportunities you allow them by being here at Our Lady!

**Parent Satisfaction Survey** Hooray! Many of our 228 families have already submitted their online parent satisfaction surveys to eProve. *IF two thirds of surveys (67% of 228 families) are submitted before the deadline, students will enjoy an Out of Uniform Day on Tuesday, Dec. 19! You have until Dec. 8 to respond following the link sent in Jupiter.* We would like to have 100% of surveys completed to learn from parent feedback and continually improve and promote Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School! The Marketing, Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee of School Commission will report a summation of all responses in January. Thanks for your time and genuine feedback.

**Amazon Smiles** This year, two thirds of our student body in Gr. 3-8 is expected to take ISTEP electronically; next year, the Department of Education wants 100% compliance electronically, so we need to have more and up to date Chromebooks for our students. In an effort to raise money for new Chromebooks, we are asking families to place Amazon orders through Amazon Smiles whenever possible. There is no cost to you. See the online flyer for specific details. Simply by ordering through Amazon Smiles, collectively, we may make a big difference for Our Lady! Thank You!

**Winter Closing and Delay Information** 'Tis the season for snow and inclement weather, so be prepared! Our Lady is usually in session because we have adult drivers dropping students off right at the door. However, in the case of a closing or delayed start, parents will receive an email from the school. We will also post this news on Facebook and the school website. Decisions are usually determined by 6:00 AM. We will also broadcast this on WDRB news. Typically, delayed starts are 2 hours; on a delayed start classes will begin at 9:45 AM. Morning care is available in the Aftercare room from 7:15-9:15 AM at a cost of \$5 per hour per child. Preschool and PreK sessions on a delay are 9:45 AM-12:00 Noon and 12:30 PM-2:45 PM. See the handbook online for more detailed instructions.

**Thank You** During this season of hope, our students and school families have filled Operation Christmas Child boxes, helped with the Parish Angel Tree, conducted a coat and blanket drive, sung at nursing homes and sent cards to shut-ins. Faculty and staff have contributed to Toys for Tots and sent packages to troops. With full hearts, we share the love and kindness of Jesus!

**Advent Penance Services** Thursday, Dec. 7, we take time to prepare our hearts and minds for the Birth of our Savior as Gr. 3-8 students attend an Advent Reconciliation Service in church. The Parish Reconciliation Service is in church on Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 7:00 PM.

**Christmas Program 2017** We welcome all parents, grandparents, friends and neighbors to Our Lady's Christmas program featuring Gr. 2-4 students on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 1:30 and 6:30 PM in the gym. Student Council members will sell cookies and hot chocolate following the evening performance.

**First Reconciliation** Saturday, Dec. 9 is a very precious day as our second graders receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time from 10-11:30 AM in church. Thank you for keeping them in your prayers.

**Youngest Carolers** Preschool and Pre K students are traveling to Providence Retirement Home and Autumn Hills Retirement Center on Dec. 13 and Dec. 15 to share some holiday cheer as they sing Christmas carols with the residents. The students will also send cards and artwork to their senior friends so they, too, can have festive rooms!

**Middle School Dance Party!** On Friday, Dec. 15, Gr. 5-8 students will be treated to a Dance Party complete with creative dances, grade level challenges, light-hearted holiday fun, drawings, yummy snacks, soft drinks and Our Lady's famous DJ, Brent Rogers! You won't want to miss this time with friends, so plan now to be at our Holiday Dance Party from 3:00-4:30 PM on Dec. 15. More news and permission slips will be sent through Jupiter!

**Hoop Shoot Contest** Let's hear it for Kylie Stufflebean who came in first in her division and Jacob Kaiser, Kyle Baumgart and JC Lowery who each came in second in their age groups! Grace Kaiser and Livy Theobald were practiced competitors at the Hoop Shoot, too. What a great showing for Our Lady! Kylie will move on to district competition!

**Student Council** is on a roll as they will sell hot chocolate and cookies following the Christmas programs, assisted with the Penguin Patch Secret Holiday Shoppe and will provide a Drop & Shop Night for the children of faculty and staff members.

**Candy Grams** will be on sale in the gym Dec. 13-15 from **National Junior Honor Society** students. Be sure to order your Candy grams for just \$1 each and send friends, teachers, siblings a sweet note of Christmas cheer!

**Café Servers Needed** Our Lady Café needs your help for the month of December! If any parents or grandparents can lend a hand serving lunch to our students, we would be most grateful! We love our volunteers and the students look forward to seeing you!

**Reminders from the School Office - Lost and Found** Please ask your child to check the Lost and Found for any missing jackets, lunch bags, etc. We frequently monitor the Lost and Found and if items are labeled with your child's name, we send the item to the classroom. At Christmas Break, all unclaimed items will be donated to charity. **-Attendance** We ask that parents call the school office before 9:00 AM to let us know when your child is absent. We will call you in the morning if we do not hear from you. **-Early Pickup or Ride Changes** Our office can become very busy at the end of the school day with early pickups and phone calls. You can help us by arriving 5-10 minutes for an early dismissal to allow us time to locate the student. If your child will have a change in ride or should stay for aftercare, please let us know before 2:00 PM when at all possible.

**Ivy Tech's Kids College Winter Enrichment Program on December 20 & 21** Information about their two-day program (with optional extended care both days) was sent home with all students in Grades K-5. This well designed program combines fun and learning activities of interest to all children. And this program would be an excellent choice for parents who need child care for a couple of days the week before Christmas.

**Christmas Gift Ideas** - Our school has a new spirit shirt! PTO is offering several shirt options to be ordered that will make great Christmas gifts. Please see the order form on the website. Orders must be turned in with money (checks to be made out to Our Lady) by Monday, December 11th and will be ready for pickup at RiverCity Workwear Tuesday December 19th. RiverCity Workwear is located at [4020 Earnings Way](#) off of Hausfelt Lane in New Albany. We appreciate your support of Our Lady's PTO.

### **Providence Updates**

\*The eighth grade Providence Placement Exam is on Sat., Dec. 9 from 8:45-12 at Providence High for all students who will be incoming for 2018-19.

\*Free Soccer Clinics begin on Sat., Dec. 16 for girls in Grades K-8. See the flyer online for all the details.

Let us keep our sights set on the lights of the Advent wreath and joyous anticipation of our Savior this Christmas.

With Anticipation,

Mary Ann

## **ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

Wednesday, Dec. 6	Happy Saint Nicholas Day! Week One, 6:00 PM in Wagner Hall
Thursday, Dec. 7	9:30 AM – Reconciliation Service for Grs. 3-8 in Church Grs. 2-4 Christmas Program, 1:30 & 6:30 PM in Gym
Friday, Dec. 8	<b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b> – 8:00 AM All School Mass Deadline to respond to Parent Satisfaction Survey to earn non-uniform day for students
Saturday, Dec. 9	First Reconciliation, 10:00 AM in Church Providence Placement Exam, 8:45-12:00 AM at PHS
Wednesday, Dec. 13	7:00 PM Parish Advent Penance Service in Church
Wed.-Fri., Dec. 13-15	NJHS sells Christmas Candy Grams \$1 each
Friday, Dec. 15	Middle School Holiday Dance Party, 3:00-4:30 PM
Saturday, Dec. 16	Free Soccer Clinics for girls in grades K-8 at PHS
Mon.-Tues., Dec. 18 & 19	Classroom Holiday Parties
Monday, Dec. 18	Preschool and Pre K Christmas Program, 6-7:00 PM in the gym
Tuesday, Dec. 19	<b>NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE TODAY</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Ends – End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester
Wed., Dec. 20-Tues., Jan. 2	<b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b>
Wednesday, Jan. 3	Classes Resume following Christmas Break