

# Holy Martyrs School

SCHOOL NEWS

From: Mr. Hayden

December 2009

## Holy Martyrs Parish Advent Happenings

Holy Martyrs Faith Formation group has put together a variety of activities to help us prepare our hearts for the wonder of Christmas. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending these events:

### Gospel Reflections

Thursdays after the 8:30am Mass

### Do You Hear What I Hear?

**Sunday, December 6th - 7:00pm in Church**

Come and listen with new ears to the sounds and symbols of Christmas. Free Admission! Bring a friend for the Carols, Tree Lighting, and Fellowship.

### Advent Penance Service

Monday, December 22nd - 7:00pm in Church

Please remember to check the parish Sunday bulletin for additional announcements.

### **School Sustainability Update:**

Thank you to all who attended our informative sessions on the sustainability of our school. The committee will be meeting throughout December to assess and analyze the survey results. A formal report will be distributed in January. If you were unable to attend and would like a copy of the information that was shared, please contact Mr. Hayden at the school office by phone-215-887-2044 or via email at holymartyrs54@yahoo.com.

Fr. Ryan will be speaking this weekend (December 5 and 6th) at all the masses concerning our ongoing efforts. As part of his talk, all parishioners will be invited to participate in a survey designed to solicit their input on this sustainability effort. This survey is different than the survey completed as part of our presentation to school parents. As such, school parents are certainly invited to complete this survey as well.

Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools has granted our request to postpone the Visiting Team until December 2010. This additional year will enable to us to focus primarily on this sustainability effort.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Hayden.

## Calendar Highlights

Nov. 29th - First Sunday of Advent  
12/2 - H&S Secret Santa Shop / Free Tag Day  
12/3 - School Mass (8:30am) - Gr. 4  
12/4 - Field Trip - K-3 to the Nutcracker  
12/5 - Parish Christmas Bazaar - 10a-4p  
12/6 - Christmas Bazaar - 10a-2p  
Advent Program - Do You Hear What I Hear?  
7p - Sing-a-long and Tree Lighting  
12/7 - NO SCHOOL - In-Service Day  
12/8 - NO SCHOOL - Immaculate Conception  
-HMS Night at O-Towne Tavern 5p-8p  
12/9 - Start of 2nd Marking Period  
12/10 - HMS Christmas Show - 7pm  
12/11 - Tag Day \$1  
MAPs Christmas Caroling (3:30p-5:00p)  
12/12 - First Penance (Gr. 3) 10am  
12/13 - Breakfast with Santa (10:00am)  
12/16 - Report Card Distribution  
12/18 - Gr. 1 Nativity Play (8:15a)  
12/22 - Red Cross Blood Drive at HM  
12/23 - Preschool Christmas Show - 10am  
- 12noon Dismissal - Start Christmas Break  
Jan 4 - School Resumes  
Jan. 31-Feb.5 - Catholic Schools Week 2010

## Holy Martyrs School Christmas Show

**Thursday, December 10th**

**7:00pm in the Church**

All family and friends are invited to attend this annual celebration of Christmas. HMS Advanced Band and Glee Club will delight the crowd with some holiday favorites. The evening will be capped off with our students (Grades K-8) singing some holiday favorites and acting out the nativity scene. Our students have been working with Mrs. Gries and Mrs. Demkovitz in preparing for this event. We hope you are able to come out and enjoy the festivities!

## Red Cross Blood Drive At Holy Martyrs Parish

**Tuesday, December 22nd**

**11am - 7pm**

**In the Parish Hall**



There are thousands of pints of blood that are given every day in the Philadelphia region. Please consider giving blood to help prevent critical shortages.

### **Student Council Update**

Thank You to all who participated in our Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive. Together, we collected 402 cans. The cans will be distributed to various food pantries and soup kitchens to benefit those in need.

Upcoming Activities:

**Operation Santa Claus** - Collecting new unwrapped toys for distribution throughout the Archdiocese. Collection ends on Monday, December 14th. Detailed information will come home in the December 8th Communications.

#### **Candy Cane Sale - Dec. 14th-18th**

Cost: \$0.25 each or 5 for \$1.00

Students can purchase candy canes to be delivered with a note to their friends and schoolmates. Candy canes will be delivered on Monday, Dec. 21st.

**Catholic Schools Week Tombola** - We will again be hosting our annual Tombola at the end of Catholic Schools Week (Feb. 5th). Details for this event will come home after the new year.

#### **First Trimester Report Cards**

Student Report Cards for the First Trimester will come home on **Wednesday, December 16th**. Please remember to check you child's school bag. Report cards should be signed and returned to the classroom teachers by Monday, December 21st.

*Reminder:* Parents of Gr. 4-8 Students are reminded that student progress can be reviewed any time at [www.rvsgradebook.com](http://www.rvsgradebook.com).

#### **Holy Martyrs School Collects...**

Campbell Soup Labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education, along with used ink-jet cartridges and paper for our recycling program

#### **Catholic Schools Week 2010- Catholic Schools: Dividends for Life**

- Sunday, January 31st-CSW Open House
- Wednesday, February 3rd-Grandparents Mass & Luncheon followed by Concert with HMS Band
- Friday, February 5th-Student Appreciation Day Pajama Day, Ice Cream Treat and Student Council Tombola

## **BUY SCRIP!**

Holy Martyrs Home and School News:

#### **Secret Santa Shop Wednesday, December 2nd FREE TAG DAY**

Our students will have the opportunity to purchase gifts for family and friends at Secret Santa Shop sponsored by our Home and School Association. Gifts range in price from \$1 - \$10. Please see the order information and flier for more information.

#### **Breakfast with Santa Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 12:00noon Price \$7/person or \$35/family**

Come and enjoy some holiday fun with breakfast, music, kid's crafts, and a visit from the Big

#### **Emergency Closing Information Sheet**

**Reminder:** For Weather-related Closings, please check KYW-Radio (1060 AM) and WPVI-TV (Ch. 6) for the latest closings.

#### **Holy Martyrs School – 1111**

For busing service only, please keep in mind the following school closing numbers:

Springfield – 319 / Abington – 301 / Colonial – 305  
Upper Dublin – 311 / Cheltenham - 306

#### **Student of the Month - November**

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized by our Faculty during the month of November.

- K - Brian Smith
- 1 - Joy Pedraza
  - 2 - Joseph Singh
  - 3 - Eleanor D'Angelo
  - 4 - James Lombardi & Ian Nichols
  - 5 - Corey Lavery & Madison Regan
  - 6 - Domenico Varone
  - 7 - Daniel Hardcastle, Grace Harmer, & Monica Parsons
  - 8 - Kaitlyn Brogan & Lydia Gahm

These students have displayed many positive attributes that make Holy Martyrs School a great place to grow and learn.



# December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Nov 29</b> 1st Sunday of Advent	<b>Nov 30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  Free Tag Day Red & Green H&S - Secret Santa Shop	<b>3</b> School Mass (Gr. 4) 8:30am Children's Choir Practice 3:45p-5:00p	<b>4</b> Field Trip K-3 to Nutcracker End of 1st Marking Period	<b>5</b> Holy Martyrs Parish Christmas Bazaar 10a-4p
<b>6</b> 2nd Sunday of Advent Christmas Bazaar 10a-2p Parish Advent Program 7:00pm 	<b>7</b> NO SCHOOL Faculty In-Service Day	<b>8</b> NO SCHOOL Immaculate Conception (8:30am & 7:00p Mass) HMS Night at O-Towne	<b>9</b> Start of the 2nd Marking Period	<b>10</b> HMS Christmas Show 7pm In Church All are invited!	<b>11</b> MAPs Christmas Caroling 3:30p-5:00p	<b>12</b> First Penance (Gr. 3) 10:00am In Church
<b>13</b> 3rd Sunday of Advent Breakfast with Santa 10a-12p MAPs to Mercy Hospice	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 1st Marking Period Report Card Distribution	<b>17</b> Children's Choir Practice 3:45p-5:00p	<b>18</b> Gr. 1 Nativity Play 8:15am Tag Day \$1	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 4th Sunday of Advent	<b>21</b> Parish Advent Penance Service 7pm - Church Advent Confessions (Grade s 4-8)	<b>22</b> Red Cross Blood Drive at Holy Martyrs	<b>23</b> Preschool Christmas Show 10am in Church 12 Noon Dismissal	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Merry Christmas 	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Jan. 1</b>	<b>Jan. 2</b>
<b>Merry Christmas and Happy New Year</b> Christmas Vacation begins with 12noon Dismissal on Dec. 23rd (Busing from ALL districts) School resumes Monday, January 4, 2010						