

Catechism News

OLPH ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMES

Wednesday December 7th

9:30 am—11:30 am

7:00 pm — 8:00 pm

Families Welcome !

Advent at Home

Advent is a wonderful opportunity given to us by the church. In her wisdom, we have the opportunity to prepare ourselves for the Great Feast of Christmas.

There are many ways to celebrate this time of preparation at home with our families. Some traditions are passed down through the family. Like the Advent Wreath, this can help us to set some time aside to gather and pray together. Lighting 1 candle every week at a mealtime, praying an advent prayer can keep our hearts and minds focused on what it is we are preparing for.

So what are we prepar-

ing for? We prepare to celebrate the incarnation. God with us. Jesus came to live among His people over 2000 years ago. The people of His day had been waiting for the Messiah .In the book of the Prophet Isaiah, we hear of this “Light” that would come into the World.

Today by His death and resurrection, and through our Baptism we carry this light with us. Instead of keeping it for ourselves we share it. Like the candles around the advent wreath The light of Christ spreads and grows brighter with the goodness, love and mercy we offer to each other. This begins at

home with our families, and hopefully we can find the courage to offer this love to others around us.

Friends ,strangers ,colleagues, even those we don't find it easy to love.

We can find the courage and strength at the table of the Eucharist. Jesus feeds us with His very Self. Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity.

If you haven't made time to bring your family to mass lately, Come and See... be nourished by the Body of Christ, so that you may live the fullness of his love in your life. You are always welcome...

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Family Advent Ideas

Krist Kindl (German for Christ Child)

On the First Sunday of advent, gather the family together and put all participants name in a box.

Say a prayer together asking God to be with each person so that they may be able to share Christ's love with each other during the advent season.

Draw names from the box.

During the Advent season, in secret do special favors for this person as their Krist Kindl. It may be a prayer, a note of praise or encouragement, a homemade gift. It should never be purchased, instead, a simple daily action is preferred.

If younger ones need ideas, brainstorm a few ideas and put them on a list, but making it personal to the recipient is key!

Try Advent calendars with candy and **prayers**, little bits of **scripture** to read (or look up) and **Holy** cards.



Winter weather cancellations

Winter is coming, and so it is necessary to have a plan in place for **winter weather cancellation**. If the weather makes travel hazardous causing **schools in our area to close, catechism and choir will also be canceled**

In the event of a winter storm which progresses during the day, please consult the website www.olphwinnipeg.ca for a cancellation announcement. Cancellations will be on the website by 3pm.

You can also call the office at 832-1993 or Religious education 832-4336. Determining factors will be road conditions, catechist attendance and whether or not the parking lot is passable.

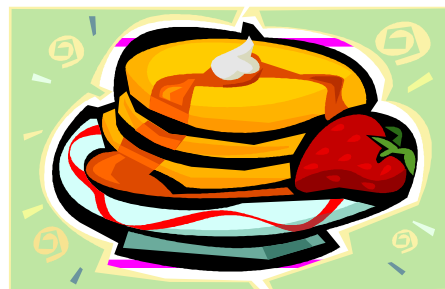
Catechists need to call by 2pm if they think they are unable to arrive for class that evening.



Rossbrook Breakfast Collection

Every Advent we ask the families from Catechism to bring in a loonie or toonie for Rossbrook House. Longtime parishioner Florence Jansen, makes breakfast there regularly for the children who drop in for food and friendship.

Thank you Ms. Jansen for the love and care you provide by making breakfast for the children of Rossbrook House.



Knights of Columbus St. Nicholas Party Celebrating the Feast of St. Nicholas

Time : 12:00 to 3:00 PM

Date: Sunday December 4th, 2011

Place: OLPH Main Hall

All Children are invited to this party in celebration of St. Nicholas who will make an appearance to deliver a gift to each child. There will be games, crafts, music, singing and food for all participants.

Parents, please remember to list the names and ages of their children on the sign up board in the gathering space.

Parent and teen volunteers are required. Sign up sheets are in the foyer.



St. Nicholas

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara. At the time the area was Greek and is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving

God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to the those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Visit this site for more great information and activities for children.

Source: <http://www.stnicholascenter.org/pages/who-is-st-nicholas/>



New in the Pew

On the first Sunday of advent we will be using the new Translation of the Roman Missal. You will find a few new items in the pew to help us along with the changes in the Mass. One card with walk you through the newly translated responses ,another card will have the new music and words to the ordinary of the mass ,commonly referred to as the "mass parts". This includes The Kyrie, Gloria (omitted in Advent)

The Mystery of Faith, and the Great Amen! Please join in and sing along!

The Knights of Columbus have purchased 24 copies of the 2012 Sunday Missal for Young Catholics .You are welcome to take one as you enter the church ,and return it to the basket as you leave. These are to remain in the church for the following Sunday * **please do not take them home***

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will.

Come to Church this Christmas

Mass times 2011/2012

December 24th, 4pm

7pm

10pm

December 25th, 11am

January 1st 9am,11am



**Last Catechism Class
Before Christmas
December 19th**



**Classes resume Jan.9th
2012**

Important dates for families preparing their children for First Communion ,or Sacraments of Initiation

Monday March 12th, 2012 Banner Making for RCIA children celebrating sacraments at Easter Vigil. . During class time. Please have a parent or adult join their child to help make their banner.

Monday March 19th,2012 6-7pm First Reconciliation Grade 2 and RCIA / Scrutiny for those to be baptized at Easter Vigil ,

. Please have a parent or adult accompany your child for this celebration.

.April 7th,2012 7:30 pm, Easter Vigil Saturday RCIA class and those to be baptized. Rehearsal TBA

April 16th,2012 Banner making for 1st communion children Grade 2, during class time. Please have a parent or adult join your child to help make their banner

Saturday May 5th ,2012 10AM First Communion Grade 2 Rehearsal

Sunday May 6th,2012 11AM Mass First Holy Communion Grade 2

Confirmation Grade 8 TBA

Knights of Columbus “Keep Christ in Christmas” Art Display

The Charleswood Knights of Columbus No. 7523 will sponsor a Christmas coloring/collage event for all children in the OLPH parish during the next three (3) weeks. Completed artwork must be handed in not later than the December 17-19th weekend.

Please drop off your work to your Catechist, the parish office or to Maureen. Rules and ideas for the coloring/collage gallery, “Keep Christ in Christmas”, may be obtained from the Bulletin Board in the gathering space. Parents are encouraged to have their children take part. All submissions will be displayed

in the gathering space. Every child submitting their work will receive a bag of treats.

