



Saint Hilary School

Where faith, family, and academics thrive!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

December 2, 2015

“Advent is the time for us to prepare for Jesus by repenting for our sins, by renewing our lives through prayer, penance, and by sharing our blessings with others. Advent also provides an opportunity for us to check for what needs to be put right in our lives, to see how we have failed, and to assess the ways in which we can do better. Jesus must be reborn in our hearts and lives, during this season of Advent and every day of our lives, in our love, kindness, mercy and forgiveness. Whether you and I will have a successful Advent these next four weeks will depend on the attitude or face we bring to it today.” - Homilies of Fr. Tony Kadavil

Thank you to the 4th graders and their Kindergarten faith partners for presenting our Thanksgiving Prayer Service and reminding us of all that we should be thankful for. They also hosted our Family Mass on November 22nd. Thanks to Ms. Salmon and Mrs. Barr for coordinating the service.

Thank you to the Family & School Association for hosting our first Christmas Vendor & Craft Gift Fair. Almost 40 exhibitors were here with wonderful gift ideas. I want to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Scarpelli and Mrs. Ernst for organizing this event. Thank you, also, to the many volunteers who set up, served, and cleaned up.

St. Hilary certainly understands the importance of giving to those less fortunate than ourselves. This year 2,237 items were donated to our Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. These items were given to the Harvest for Hope and the St. Hilary food pantry to be shared with families throughout this holiday season. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Service hour opportunity: this Friday, December 4th the Family School Association is hosting their annual Family Christmas Party. Please do not wait until the spring to complete your service hours, look in today's envelope for the volunteer sign up sheet.

On Friday, December 4th we will all enjoy a Holiday Concert performed by Resurrection and Notre Dame High Schools at Resurrection High School. This will be an out of uniform day, everyone is asked to dress up in Christmas colors. Everyone is asked to bring a home lunch; no hot lunches will be served that day.

Tuesday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The school will be attending the 8:30 a.m. mass, everyone is welcome to join us. This is a holy day of obligation, according to the Precepts of the Church – “the faithful are required to attend church on the holy days of obligation”.

Deacon Ramirez will be training any student in 5th – 8th grade who would like to join the lector club. The training will be after school on Wed. Dec. 9 and 16 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Students should let their teacher know if they are interested.

Next Thursday, December 10th our 2nd graders will be making their First Reconciliation. Please keep them in your prayers as they receive this important sacrament.

The power of pray is amazing. I ask you to keep in your prayers: Mrs. Kulig who recently received a knee transplant and Mrs. Weiner who had surgery yesterday.

Reminders:

Deacon Juan Ramirez will hold a VIRTUS class on Thurs. December 3 from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Anyone who would like to volunteer for any school or parish events must complete this training. Please sign up for this session at www.virtus.org.

I want to thank everyone who has completed the Virtus training. Please remember that in order to stay current and active you must complete the monthly bulletins that are emailed to you. If you fail to complete these you will be moved to an inactive or suspended status. Thank you for your vigilance in following this policy.

Last call to nominate outstanding Catholic educators for the **Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Awards!** The National Catholic Educational Association has a longstanding tradition of honoring and recognizing excellence and distinguished service in Catholic school education. NCEA's new Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Awards will recognize the outstanding efforts, contributions and achievements on behalf of Catholic school education. All completed nomination and application forms must be submitted for consideration **by December 4, 2015**. This is your opportunity to nominate an outstanding teacher, president, principal, pastor, diocesan leader, board or home and school association. Applications are available online at www.ncea.org.

Contents of this Wednesday's envelope:

- SCP flyer
- FSA Christmas Party, and Volunteer flyers
- Christmas Fund reminder
- Christmas Pageant flyer

Mark your calendars:

- Dec. 4th – All School Holiday Concert Field Trip
FSA Family Christmas Party 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the cafeteria
- Dec. 11th – Christmas Fund contributions are due!
- December 17th – St. Hilary School and Parish Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m. in the church.
- December 18th – 11:30 dismissal Christmas vacation begins. School resumes on Monday, January 4, 2016.

Emergency Closing/Cold Weather

Cold weather: Students will be kept in for indoor recess when the temperature is below 25 degrees (actually or with wind chill) or in wet rainy/snowy conditions. Please make sure your child comes prepared to go outdoors – gloves, scarf, hat or hood. This is especially true of those who are on patrol.

Emergency Closing Information

Our SchoolReach system will notify you either by phone or email in the event of our school closing due to weather. In addition, emergency closing information will be announced on WBBM Radio Newsradio 780 and WGN Radio 720. The television stations to watch are CBS Channel 2 Chicago, Channel 5, ABC Channel 7 Chicago, WGN Morning News, Fox 32 and CLTV News. On-line you may access information at www.EmergencyClosings.com. Our website www.sthilarychicago.org will also have closing information. We will close if the Archdiocese closes and if CPS Closes – extremely rare events. **You should choose, based on your own judgment and situation, whether or not to keep your child(ren) home.**

Please check out the Peek at the Week for a look at the week ahead.

As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me at school 773-561-5885 or by email donovan@sthilarychicago.org.

Gratefully,

Mrs. Kathie Donovan

Mrs. Kathie Donovan
Principal

A Peek at the Week

Week of DECEMBER 7 - 11

St. Hilary where faith, family, and academics thrive!



Second Week of Advent



MONDAY: December 7th

Altar Servers: Brandon, Nathan, Tam

- ✓ Religious Education classes
- ✓ Cadet Band 7 – 7:45 a.m.
- ✓ Concert Band 3 – 4 p.m.
- ✓ Yoga class 3:00 – 3:45 in the gym

TUESDAY: December 8th Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Altar Servers: Ruel, Camille, Christine N.

- ✓ Student Council meeting – officers only
- ✓ 8:30 all school mass

WEDNESDAY: December 9th

Altar Servers: Gabby, Adhrian, Sabrina

- ✓ Family & School Association meeting 7:00 p.m. in cafeteria
- ✓ Cadet Band 7 – 7:45 a.m.

THURSDAY: December 10th

Altar Servers: Truc, Lina, Zachary

- ✓ Cardinal Choir Practice 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Room 109
- ✓ Concert Band 7 – 7:45 a.m.
- ✓ 2nd graders First Reconciliation 7:00 p.m. in church – Pray for them

FRIDAY: December 11th

Altar Servers: Sidonie, Zheous, Katrina

- ✓ Art Studio 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Room 108
- ✓ FSA Lock-In for 6th, 7th, & 8th graders

SATURDAY: December 12th

- ✓ Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

SUNDAY: December 13th

Please refer to the school website www.sthilarychicago.org
for all basketball practices and games.

Santa is coming to St. Hilary

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 * 6:30 TO 9 P.M.

ST. HILARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

\$20 PER FAMILY BEFORE DEC. 1 / \$25 PER FAMILY AT THE DOOR

Pictures with Santa + Letters to Santa

Pizza + Refreshments + Hot Cocoa Bar

Decorate cookies + Make ornaments & crafts

BINGO + Raffle

Prizes include gifts from

Brookfield Zoo, Shedd Aquarium, Laser Quest, Putter's Edge, Beijo de Chocolate, Potbelly, Lou Malnati's, Starbucks, Bricks 4 Kidz, and more!

Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 1

Please cut and return this form with your payment by **Tuesday, Dec. 1**, to let us know that you are coming. This will help us make it a great evening. Thank you!

Yes! My family is planning to attend the Christmas Party.

Family name: _____

A total of _____ family members will be there.



Calling all volunteers!

Ring in the season at the annual Family Christmas Party on Friday, December 4. Volunteers are needed to help with the festivities. This is a fun way to earn family service hours. Parents: If you have a high school student who is looking for service hours, their help would be most welcome!

AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Set up	3 to 6 p.m.	Decorate the cafeteria; set up food and drinks; prepare activity areas
Greeters	Please arrive at 6:15 p.m.	Greet and check in families, collect admission if necessary
Servers	6:30 to 9 p.m.	Serve food and drinks
Craft tables	6:30 to 9 p.m.	Staff craft tables and help children and families with the activities
Cookie decorating	6:30 to 9 p.m.	Pass out cookies and assist children and families with decorating
Raffle	6:30 to 8 p.m.	Sell tickets and draw the winners
BINGO	8 to 9 p.m.	Run the BINGO games
Clean up	9 to 10 p.m.	Clean up after the party

HOW TO VOLUNTEER

Sign up on Volunteer Spot at <http://vols.pt/H8KZu3>

Contact Maria Hench at mariahench@gmail.com or 773-620-0642



St. Hilary Family & School Association

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Family & School Association coordinates events for the children and families of St. Hilary. We need volunteers to help ensure that these programs are successful and lots of fun! Please consider sharing your gifts of time and talent to assist us.

If your family is looking to complete service hours, here are some ways and upcoming events where helping hands would be greatly appreciated.

Family Christmas Party — December 4

Our annual celebration is Friday, Dec. 4. Available volunteer opportunities: Set up and decorate (3-6 p.m.), Greeters (starting at 6:15), Servers (6:30-9), Help with crafts and cookie-decorating (6:30-9), and Cleanup (9-10). Sign up online at Volunteer Spot at <http://vols.pt/H8KZu3> or contact Maria Hench at mariahench@gmail.com or 773-620-0642.

Student Lock-In — December 11-December 12

This is an overnight event for 6th through 8th graders. It starts at 8:30 p.m. Friday and ends at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday. Volunteers for this event must have completed VIRTUS training. Male and female chaperones to accompany the students overnight are especially needed, and shifts are available. We also need help with set up, check in, and dinner between 8 and 10:30 p.m. and with breakfast, checkout and clean up from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. Sign up online at <http://vols.pt/4VQhng> or contact Kathy Ernst at ernst@sthilarychicago.org.

Pancake Breakfast — January 31

This event kicks off St. Hilary's Catholic Schools Week celebration. Volunteer opportunities include serving on the planning committee, setting up, greeting, cooking and serving food. Please contact Kristen Allen at kristenileene24@yahoo.com.



Family & School Association Meeting

**Wednesday, Dec. 9
7 to 8 p.m.
School Cafeteria**

**Help enrich our school community!
Mix and mingle with other St. Hilary
parents while getting updates on the
FSA's winter events and activities. We
welcome your questions, ideas, energy
and expertise.**

**This meeting is open to all parents and
guardians, so we hope to see you there!**



Children's Christmas Eve Nativity Pantomime

This Christmas Eve we will do a pantomime of the Christmas Story at the **5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass**. We invite all the children of the parish and their guests (i.e. cousins or grandchildren who are visiting) to join in this festive celebration.

If your child wants to be part of the pantomime we ask you to sign the slip below and indicate whether they will be a *shepherd, angel, or lamb*. ***If your child wants to “dress for the part” costumes need not be elaborate*** – a white dress, sweater, or shirt and a halo made of gold or silver garland will do fine for an angel (wings are optional). Shepherds need only come in a bathrobe – a towel fixed on their head with string or a sports band does great for the headgear and staffs or shepherds crooks are allowed but not required. Lambs can dress in white or black. A couple of ears made out of construction paper and cotton balls will be plenty. We do have a few costumes available.



Dressing up is half the fun yet even if your child decides at the last minute to be part of the pantomime or unexpected guests arrive just bring them along.

We will cast the roles of Mary and Joseph and provide those costumes. If your child would like to be Mary or Joseph please indicate below. Once we have all the names of those children we will draw names from a hat to cast the leading roles. If your child's name is not chosen for these roles we hope they will join us in one of the other roles.

We will need a few adults that evening to help us direct the children where to go. If you can help out please indicate that on the sign-up slip.

We hope this will restore some of the festivity to the celebration, make it memorable for our youngest parishioners (pre-school on up) and not add to the stress of an already hectic season.

Christmas Eve Play sign-up (Due back by Monday, DECEMBER 7)

Name _____ Age _____ Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____ Name _____ Age _____

My child/ren would like to be a ☐ shepherd ☐ angel ☐ lamb ☐ Mary ☐ Joseph

☐ I can help direct the children during the Pantomime Name _____

Email _____ Phone _____



CHRISTMAS FUND REMINDER

Dear St. Hilary Parent and Guardian,

If you have already made your donation to the Teachers Christmas Fund, THANK YOU! If not, please consider making a donation. Again, there is no limit as to the amount you can give. Any donation would be appreciated. We also encourage you to have your child(ren) write notes to his/her teachers, telling them that you donated to the Christmas Fund. It's a terrific way to show your support to our wonderful faculty and staff here at St. Hilary School.

Again, the very warmest Christmas wishes to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Donovan and the St. Hilary Christmas Fund Committee

ST. HILARY CHRISTMAS FUND

Enclosed is our donation of \$ _____ for the faculty and staff of St. Hilary School.

You may enclose cash, money order, or a personal check payable to St. Hilary School. Please return to the School Office, no later than Monday, December 11th.





SIMPLIFY YOUR SEASON, PURCHASE SCP FOR ALL THE PEOPLE ON YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST!

Bonus Rebate Offers in December: Bath & Body Works (8%) Nov 7th - Dec 4th, Lettuce Entertain You (9%) Oct 31st - Dec 25th, Lane Bryant (4.5%) Nov 28th - Dec 11th, Red Robin (6%) Nov 28th - Dec 11th, Mario Tricoci (4.5%) Nov 28th - Dec 11th, Hyatt Hotels (5.5%) Nov 28th - Dec 11th and CVS (2.5%) Nov 28th - Dec 11th. Note: Subway Golden Gift card Giveaway Oct 31st thru Dec 13th.

ORDER EARLY TO ASSURE AVAILABILITY

Remember, no order is too **Big** or too **Small**. It all goes to benefit our children.

You can now use your rebate towards reducing your tuition, your book fee, purchase gym uniforms, after school care, or add to your lunch card and as always you can buy more certificates, or donate your rebate to the school which would be used towards the school technology program

- ❖ USE THEM TO SHOP INSTEAD OF CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT.
- ❖ ST. HILARY RECEIVES A COMMISSION ON EACH CERTIFICATE SOLD.
- ❖ WE WILL SPLIT THAT COMMISSION "50-50" ON YOUR TOTAL PURCHASE FOR EACH QUARTER. IT CAN BE USED TOWARDS TUITION, BUY MORE CERTIFICATES OR DONATE IT TO THE SCHOOL.
- ❖ "FACTS" PARTICIPANTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ALL THE BENEFITS OF THE SCP PROGRAM.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SCP* Email KATHY ERNST at:
ernst@sthilarychicago.org

CERTIFICATES USUALLY ON HAND:

CERTIFICATE ORDERS RECEIVED BY FRIDAY WILL BE AVAILABLE ON TUESDAY OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK:

RESTAURANTS:

Burger King (2% rebate)	\$10 ____
Chili's (5.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Chipotle (5.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Dunkin Donuts (1.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
I Hop (4%rebate)	\$25 ____
Kentucky Fried Chicken (4.5% rebate)	\$5 ____
Lettuce Entertain You Restaurants (6.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Lou Malnatis (3.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Panera Bread (4.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Olive Garden/Red Lobster (4.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Panera Bread (4.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Pizza Hut (4% rebate)	\$10 ____
Starbucks Coffee (3.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Subway (1.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Wendy's (2% rebate)	\$10 ____

SPECIALTY:

AMC-Cineplex-Sony-Lowes Theaters (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
AMC-Cineplex-Sony-Lowes Theaters (4.5% rebate)	\$9 ____
Fannie May (12% rebate)	\$20 ____
I Tunes (1.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Mobil/Exxon (0.50% rebate)	\$50 ____
Shell Debit Card (1% rebate)	\$25 ____
Shell Debit Card (1% rebate)	\$100 ____
U.S. Postage Stamps 20 @ .49¢ (0% rebate)	8.8 ____

RETAIL:

Bath & Body Works (6.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Best Buy (1.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Carson Pirie Scott (4.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Claire's (4.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Dick's Sporting Goods (3% rebate)	\$25 ____
Gordon Food Service (1.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Home Depot (2% rebate)	\$25 ____
Jewel-Osco (2% rebate)	\$25 ____
Jewel-Osco (2% rebate)	\$100 ____
Lowe's Home (2% rebate)	\$25 ____
Marianos (2% rebate)	\$25 ____
Marshall's/T J Maxx(3.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Muller Meats (3% rebate)	\$20 ____
Old Navy,Gap,Banana Republic (2% rebate)	\$25 ____
Ross (5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Toy-R-Us (1.5% rebate)	\$20 ____
Walgreens (3% rebate)	\$25 ____
Wal-mart (1.25% rebate)	\$25 ____

ST. HILARY GIFT CERTIFICATE

CHOOSE THE AMOUNT \$_____

CERTIFICATE ORDERS (FROM BOTTOM SECTION) RECEIVED BY FRIDAY WILL BE AVAILABLE ON TUESDAY OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK:

RESTAURANTS:

	\$10 ____
	\$10 ____
Boston Market (6.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Buffalo Wild Wings (3.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Eduardo's Pizza (4% rebate)	\$10 ____
Houlihan's (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Mrs. Fields Cookies (9% rebate)	\$10 ____
Outback Steakhouse (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Red Robin (4.5% rebate)	\$25 ____

SPECIALTY:

Barnes & Noble (4% rebate)	\$10 ____
B P Gas (.50% rebate)	\$50 ____
Chuck E. Cheese (4% rebate)	\$20 ____
Honey Baked Ham (4.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Hyatt Hotels (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Oberweis (4.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Timber Ridge Lodge (4.5% rebate)	\$25 ____

RETAIL:

Bed, Bath & Beyond (3% rebate)	\$25 ____
Build A Bear (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Crate & Barrel (3% rebate)	\$25 ____
CVS Pharmacy (2% rebate)	\$25 ____
Eddie Bauer (4.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Express (5.0% rebate)	\$25 ____
Foot Locker (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Hair Cuttery (4% rebate)	\$10 ____
J C Penneys (2% rebate)	\$25 ____
Land's End (7% rebate)	\$25 ____
Lane Bryant (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Mario Tricoci (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Menard's (1.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Office Depot (2% rebate)	\$25 ____
Office Max (2.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Payless Shoes (6.5% rebate)	\$10 ____
Pier 1 Imports (4.5% rebate)	\$20 ____
Pottery Barn/Wm. Sonoma (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Shutterfly (4.5% rebate)	\$25 ____
Sports Authority (4% rebate)	\$25 ____
Target (1.00% rebate)	\$25 ____
Target (1.00% rebate)	\$100 ____

Please note: When one or more companies are listed together, the certificates are good at either store.

NAME _____

ORDER TOTAL \$ _____

SEND WITH STUDENT * _____

WILL PICK-UP AT SCHOOL _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Please make checks payable to: St. Hilary School

*PLEASE NOTE: St. Hilary School & its Board cannot be held responsible for any loss that may occur in transit.

Any Questions, Call Kathy Ernst (773) 989-9249.

ROOM # _____