



Saint Hilary School

Where faith, family, and academics thrive!

November 22, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Saturday during the Confirmation homily, Bishop Wypych reminded us of the importance of the family gathering around the table to be one and to share with each other. Our wish for you over this Thanksgiving holiday is that you are able to have time to gather together around the table and reflect on all your blessings.

Congratulations to Cardinal Cupich! We look forward to his continued support of Catholic schools as he continues to guide the Archdiocese of Chicago. Each school presented Cardinal Cupich with a special token of our support. Mrs. Rhodes worked with our students to create a congratulations book. Zheous A. drew the cover which was shown in Friday's Chicago Tribune on page 10. We are very proud of Zheous and all of our students for taking time to recognize and congratulate the Cardinal.

Congratulations to our Confirmation class of 2016 who received the sacrament last Saturday. Zheous A., Connor B., Iatlia C., Kevin C., Caitlin L., Tam L., Kelsoe M., Eloise M., Annabelle N., Christine N., Sabrina N., Ivan R., Jay Jay T., Andrew T., and Jaden W. We are very proud of their commitment and reverence to this important sacrament. May God continue to Bless them.

Thank you to Ms. Weber, Dc. Juan Ramirez, and Mrs. Giannoni for their instruction, guidance, and hard work in preparing our children for this sacrament. Thank you to Mr. Chadek and Ms. Lamorena for the beautiful music. Thank you also to Mrs. Kilroy, Mrs. Allen, and Mrs. Hench for hosting the Confirmation reception.

Please read the letter in the white envelope that was sent to you today in the Wednesday envelope. This letter pertains to our Annual Christmas Fund for the teachers. I appreciate you helping me show our deepest gratitude for their dedication to our children.

St. Hilary certainly understands the importance of giving to those less fortunate than ourselves. This year 1,976 items were donated to our Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. The top rooms from each floor were Kindergarten with 509 items and 6th grade with 220 items donated. A special thank you to Ellie in kindergarten; Ellie asked her family and friends to participate and she, alone, donated 287 items. Thank you for your continued generosity to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Service hour opportunity: this Friday, December 2nd 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.

Basketball season is right around the corner and the teams have been practicing. I wanted to share an opportunity for you to earn service hours. When St. Hilary is hosting the games we are in need of volunteers to work the concession stand and the score board. You will be trained on these tasks if you are interested. Please let Mrs. Donovan or Mr. Kummerer know if you would like to volunteer for these jobs.

Wanted:

St. Hilary has many reasons to be proud of our community. I would like to share some of your stories with others. I am asking if you could take a few moments to write a testimonial about what you like about St. Hilary. This should only be 3 – 5 sentences total. Please email your testimonials to me at Donovan@sthilarychicago.org as soon as possible.

We are in need of a 4th grade basketball coach. If you or someone you know would be interested please let me know as soon as possible.

Thank you:

Thank you to our preschoolers and 5th graders for hosting the Family Mass this past Sunday. They help us remember to give thanks for all that we have. Thank you to Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Whitlock, and Mrs. Frank for organizing this mass.

Thank you to our 4th graders and their kindergarten faith partners for hosting our Thanksgiving Prayer Service today. It is important for us to gather together and show our gratitude for how blessed we are.

Thank you to everyone who supported the FSA Christmas Wreath Sale. The items will be delivered the week of Dec. 4th. You will be notified when they arrive.

Reminders:

Don't forget to let someone else do the cooking tonight. Our Family & School Association will be hosting a St. Hilary Night at Lou Malnati's on Tuesday, November 22nd. Remember that you must mention St. Hilary and we ask that you check your receipt to make sure that we will be credited with your purchase.

Don't forget:

The St. Hilary Christmas Concert is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20th at 7:00 pm. You will want to extend an invitation to your family and friends for this special evening

where parish and school come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The children have spent a lot of time practicing and are excited to share their talents with you. All children are expected to attend and to dress nicely in holiday attire. All are welcome!!!

The end of the first academic trimester was November 18th. Per board policy, students whose tuition and fees have not been kept up to date will be subject to exclusion on Wednesday, November 30th. There are a number of families who have a balance due on their extended care account. These invoices are sent home biweekly. Your immediate attention to this discrepancy is expected. If your accounts are current, I thank you!

Have you nominated a teacher yet? We are blessed with amazing and dedicated teachers who know that they are here because they have been called to the mission of Catholic education. The Golden Apple Foundation is accepting nominations for full-time 4th – 8th grade classroom teachers. The Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching is presented to 10 outstanding teachers each year. If you would like to nominate one of our 4th – 8th grade teachers please complete the application at www.goldenapple.org. These nominations must be received no later than December 31, 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 School Messenger 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 is closed as a system, an extremely rare event. **You should choose, based on your own judgment and situation, whether or not to keep your child(ren) home.**

Contents of this Wednesday's envelope:

- FSA Christmas Party flyers
- PAW

Mark your calendars:

- Tues. Nov. 22nd – Thanksgiving Prayer Service 2:00 pm in church
- Wed. Nov. 23rd – Fri. Nov. 25th No school Thanksgiving holiday
- Mon. Nov. 28th – school resumes
- Wed. Nov. 30th – Report cards sent home
- Fri. Dec. 2nd – FSA Christmas Party

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,
Principal



Happy Thanksgiving!



A Peek at the Week

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
"YOU ARE THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD"
2016/17 SCHOOL YEAR

WEEK OF November 28 – December 2

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

<p>MONDAY: November 28th Altar Servers: Sidonie, Rianne</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Religious Education classes✓ Concert band 3:00 – 4:00 in Room 109✓ Yoga class✓ Art Studio 3:00 – 4:00 pm✓ Cadet Band 7:00 – 7:45 am
<p>TUESDAY: November 29th Altar Servers: Nora, Zheous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ No Student Council✓ Codas 7:10 – 7:45 am in Room 109✓ Art Studio 3:00 – 4:00 pm✓ Battle of the Books
<p>WEDNESDAY: November 30th Altar Servers: Madison, Gail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Cadet Band 7:00 – 7:45 am✓ 8:30 all school liturgy✓ Battle of the Books✓ Report cards go home today
<p>THURSDAY: December 1st Altar Servers: Don, Sabrina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Concert Band 7:00 – 7:45 am✓ Cardinal Choir 3:00 – 4:00 pm✓ Super Soccer classes 3:10-3:50 in the gym
<p>FRIDAY: December 2nd Altar Servers: Marc, Christine L.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Family & School Association Christmas Party
<p>SATURDAY: December 3rd Altar Servers: 8:30 a.m. volunteers 5:00 p.m. Zachary, Marina</p>
<p>SUNDAY: December 4th Altar Servers: 8 am Thao, Tam, Phuc 10 am Jeryl, Isabella A., Toni 12 pm Gia, Camille, Diana F.</p>

Santa is coming to St. Hilary

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 * 6:30 TO 9 P.M.
ST. HILARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

\$20 PER FAMILY BEFORE NOV. 30 / \$25 PER FAMILY AT THE DOOR

Pictures with Santa + Letters to Santa

Pizza + Refreshments + Hot Cocoa Bar

Decorate cookies + Make ornaments & crafts

BINGO + Raffle

Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 30

Please cut and return this form with your payment by **Wednesday, Nov. 30**, 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!

SERVICE HOURS AVAILABLE

The Family & School Association is hosting the annual Family Christmas Party on **Friday, December 2**. Volunteers are needed to help with the festivities. This is a fun way to earn family service hours. Parents: If you have or know 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 beverages
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
Photographers	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.	Take photos of Santa with guests
Raffle	6:30 to 8 p.m.	Sell raffle tickets and run drawing
BINGO	8 to 9 p.m.	Run the BINGO games
Kitchen Help	8 to 9 p.m.	Wash any dishes, trays, etc. Keep kitchen tidy
Clean up	9 to 10 p.m.	Clean up after the party; take out trash

HOW TO VOLUNTEER

Sign up online at <http://signup.com/go/ncQWzT>

Contact Maria Hench by Nov. 30 at mariahench@gmail.com or 773-620-0642