

Saint Hilary School


Where faith, family, and academics thrive!

December 5, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we begin Advent, we light one candle in the midst of all the darkness in our lives and in the world. It symbolizes our longing, our desire, our hope. "Advent encourages us to reflect on the contrast between our daily routine and the unexpected coming of the Lord. The Gospel, the Pope said, is not trying to frighten us, but 'to open our horizons' to further dimensions, giving meaning even to everyday occurrences."

The beginning of Advent also means a flurry of activity at St. Hilary, here is a brief list of events and dates for you to keep in mind. There are many flyers regarding these events in today's envelope, please take a few minutes to look them over.

- Thurs. Dec. 6 – 1st Reconciliation 7:00 pm in church
- Fri. Dec. 7th – FSA Family Christmas Party
- Sat. Dec. 8 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Sat. Dec. 8th – Celebrity bartenders for our Queen of  raffle drawing 9:00 pm
- Sun. Dec. 9 – Holiday Family Service Day – Feed My Starving Children at Schaumburg Convention Center 9:00 - 11:00 am
- Tues. Dec. 11 – Student Council Hot Cocoa bar after school
- Wed. Dec. 12 – Cardinal choir and Codas to perform at Ogilvie Station 5:00-5:30 pm
- Thurs. Dec. 13 – St. Hilary School and Parish Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m. in the church.
- Fri. Dec. 14th - Advent donations due
- Fri. Dec. 14th – Christmas Fund contributions are due!
- Sun. Dec. 16 – Cub Scouts Pancake Breakfast
- Tues. Dec. 18th – Wear your ugly Christmas sweater day!
- Fri. Dec. 21 – Advent Prayer Service 10:00 am - All are welcome!!
- Fri. Dec. 21 – Full Day of School – 3:00 dismissal Christmas vacation begins. School resumes on Monday, January 7, 2019.
- Wed. Dec. 22 – St. Hilary Simbang Gabi celebration 5 pm mass – all are welcome!
- **Mon. Dec. 24th – 5:00 Christmas Eve family mass**

On Thursday, December 6th our 2nd graders will be making their First Reconciliation. Please keep them in your prayers as they receive this important sacrament.

Christmas is a very special time of year for many reasons. Each year on Christmas Eve we ask our children to participate in a Christmas pageant at the 5:00 mass. This pageant is a very special St. Hilary tradition that would not be possible without our children participating. I ask that you please consider attending this mass and allowing your child to be an important part of the telling of the story of Jesus' birth. Enclosed in today's envelope is a flyer for you to complete and return to school so that we can prepare the costumes, assign parts, and take some time to practice with the children.

Reminders:

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Annual Teachers' Christmas Fund. I appreciate your help in showing our deepest gratitude for their dedication to our children. All donations are due by Friday, December 14th.

Advent Service Project:

For our annual Advent service project this year, the students of St. Hilary will be assisting the Lions Club with a coat, jacket and comforter drive. Please see the flyer for more information.

Holiday Family Service Day

Each year around the holidays we participate in a community service project. This year, once again, we are going to offer a family service opportunity to you. We are partnering with Feed My Starving Children, a non-profit organization that coordinates the packaging and distribution of food to people in developing nations. We are very excited about this opportunity and hope that you are able to join us. There are only **45** spots left. Ms. Montemurro and I have already signed up and we hope that many of our families will be there as well. This unique experience will be a special time for you and your child. Please see the flyer in today's envelope for more details. This year our choir has also been asked to sing Christmas carols after our shift to welcome the volunteers for the afternoon shift.

Queen of Hearts Raffle

Come and enjoy our Queen of Hearts Raffle with two special celebrity bartenders: Ms. Mia Montemurro and Mr. John Jennings. This progressive jackpot has been rolling over for a few weeks and the pot is estimated to be \$17,000.00 for this Saturday's drawing. If you have a friend, neighbor, or family member who is interested in purchasing tickets, they are always welcome to do so. Tickets are available for purchase in the main school office, after all weekend masses and at The Claddagh Ring Pub at 2306 W. Foster.

Mark your Calendars:

All are invited to the Simbang Gabi Filipino traditional mass on Saturday, December 22 at 5:00 p.m. This year the mass will be officiated by Bishop Bartosik. There will be a reception in the gym immediately following the mass.

The Annual Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the church. All are welcome to join us as we welcome in the holidays. This is not your typical school Christmas concert, you don't want to miss it. Tell your family and friends and help them to feel Christmas.

Contents of this Wednesday's envelope:

- Feed My Starving Children service day
- Celebrity Bartender - Queen of Hearts flyer
- FSA flyers
- Christmas Concert flyer
- Scouts Pancake Breakfast flyer
- Student Council Hot Cocoa flyer
- 1st Trimester Honor Roll
- Christmas Fund letter
- Alderman O'Connor's Christmas party flyer
- Advent Service Project
- Christmas Eve Children's pageant flyer
- iReady information letter (for K-2nd grade parents)

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.**

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



Congratulations to Ms. Skukan on her Meemic Foundation Grant!

**NEXT DRAWING SAT. DEC. 8th
ESTIMATED POT APPROX. \$17,000.00**



There is only
ONE in a deck...
MINUTEMAN
Will YOU be the one to find her?
St. Hilary School
Queen of Hearts 50/50 Raffle
You're quest, if you choose to accept it, begins August 11th at
THE CLADDAGH RING PUB

A Peek at the Week

WEEK OF Dec. 10 - 14



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

MONDAY: December 10th

Altar Servers: Marc, Don

- ✓ Concert Band 7:00 – 7:45 am
- ✓ Cadet Band 3:00 – 4:00 pm
- ✓ Battle of the Books (6th – 8th grades)

TUESDAY: December 11th

Altar Servers: Sara, Isabella

- ✓ CODAS 7:00 – 7:45 am
- ✓ Student Council meeting – council
- ✓ Student Council Hot Cocoa bar

WEDNESDAY: December 12th

Altar Servers: Melody, Abigail

- ✓ 2:00 dismissal
- ✓ 8:30 all school liturgy
- ✓ Cadet Band 7:00 – 7:45 am
- ✓ The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- ✓ Choir performance at Ogilvie Station for Big Shoulders 5:00-5:30 pm

THURSDAY: December 13th

Altar Servers: Melody, Ariam

- ✓ Concert Band 7:00 – 7:45 am
- ✓ Cardinal Choir 3:00 – 4:00 pm
- ✓ Art Studio – 6th, 7th, & 8th graders
- ✓ Christmas Concert 7:00 pm in the church – student arrive by 6:30 pm

FRIDAY: December 14th

Altar Servers: Claire, Nora

- ✓ Battle of the Books (3rd – 5th grades)
- ✓ FSA hosts St. Hilary Christmas Party

SATURDAY: December 15th

- ✓ Queen of **Hearts** drawing at **The Claddagh Ring Pub** 9:00 pm

SUNDAY: December 16th

- ✓ Scouts Pancake Breakfast – Please support our scout troops!!!



St. Hilary School

Queen of Hearts 50/50 Raffle

Tickets ONLY available at

THE CLADDAGH RING PUB

2306 W. Foster Ave., Chicago, IL

Sales begin 1 hour after pub opens.

Drawings will be held each Saturday at 9:00pm starting August 25th.
Prize amount rolls over each week until the Queen of Hearts is revealed.

Tickets are 6/\$5.00 ** CASH ONLY **

No single tickets will be sold

Dear Students and Parents,

ARE YOU EXCITED??? It's that time of year again, where we show off the hard work we've put into our music classes and extracurricular studies, and put on a brilliant and awe-inspiring Christmas Concert—"Bring Us Light", which will be on...

Thursday December 13th @ 7:00 PM in the St. Hilary Church

I wanted to send out a couple of reminders for everyone as we begin our final preparations...

Concert/Performance Expectations/Requirements:

1. Make sure that you are **ON TIME!** The Call time for all student performers is **6:30 PM**, and we will meet in the church. Students should find their teacher when they arrive and find their seat. *(The Sacristy, the room behind the altar, is where band members should keep their instrument cases during the concert)*
2. **ATTIRE!** (Concert Clothing) should be *school-appropriate formal wear
 - BOYS—Dress shirts, dress pants, nice shoes (Ties, vests, dress jackets or blazers optional)
 - GIRLS—Knee-length or longer dresses, dress pants, sweaters, closed-toes shoes for girls (Bows, necklaces, optional)
 - *Think Sunday-Best, and remember that school policy for appearance applies to concerts as well. Also, please NO santa hats or light-up accessories.
 - Please wear **Christmas Colors!** (White, Green, Gold, and lots of RED!)
3. **PREPARE!** Please make sure any instrument needs, song lyrics, props, preparation materials are taken care of ahead of time. Mr. Clark will not be able to help you minutes before the concert starts!!!
4. **PARKING!** Parking is available in the main lot next to the gymnasium.
5. **PLAN AHEAD!** Know who will be getting rides to and from the event.
6. Every part of the concert is a **PERFORMANCE!** That includes students singing and playing instruments on stage, students watching from the audience, and everything in between. Walking to and from the stage, behaving in between songs, being patient if there are any delays or technical difficulties, or in-house emergencies. Make every part of our night something special, by having everyone fulfill their role.

Thank you everyone for all of your help and effort. Let's make this the greatest Christmas Concert ever!

With gratitude,

-Mr. Mitchell Clark





Are teaming up for **HOPE** FILLED HOLIDAYS!

St. Hilary School and Feed My Starving Children are inviting you to a **FAMILY HOLIDAY SERVICE PROJECT EVENT!**

On **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2018 FROM 9:00AM-11:00AM**, join teachers, staff, and other volunteers from the community in packing meals for starving children. In an effort to teach our children the importance of lending a hand and helping others this holiday season, we hope that you will consider joining us.

Feed My Starving Children is a Christian non-profit organization that provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. Their mission, like ours at St. Hilary, is to follow in Jesus' footsteps and answer the call to serve those in need.

This event gives our students the opportunity to follow that call to serve and put their hands to work. They, and you, will prepare the packages of food that will be sent to children in need. We have been asked if our choir would sing Christmas carols after our session; more information to follow for choir members joining in the service day.

If you are interested in joining us, please register for this event **ASAP!** There are only 124 spots left!! They will fill quickly!

You can register at fmsc.org Click on [Get Involved](#) and select [Volunteer](#). Scroll down until you see the box that says [Looking for a Specific Group?](#)

From there, you can enter our group code, [K22YVK](#), and register. Both you and your child need to register! This is a school sponsored event, but parents must attend and help. I will receive an email notification when you are registered. THANK YOU in advance for your consideration!

Any family that attends will receive **SPECIAL RECOGNITION!**



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 Friday, December 10th.



Santa is coming to St. Hilary

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 * 6:30 TO 9 PM

ST. HILARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

\$8 PER CHILD / \$5 PER ADULT WITH RSVP

\$10 PER CHILD / \$8 PER ADULT AT THE DOOR

RSVP by Wednesday, December 5

Pictures with Santa

Pizza + Refreshments

Hot Cocoa Bar

Decorate cookies

Make ornaments & crafts

BINGO + Raffle



Please cut and return this form with your payment by **Wednesday, Dec. 5**, to let us know that you are coming. This will help us make it a great evening. Make checks payable to ST. HILARY FSA. Thank you!

Yes! My family is planning to attend the Christmas Party on Dec. 7.

Family name: _____

_____ children (x \$8) + _____ adults (x \$5) will be there. A total of \$_____ is enclosed.



Calling all volunteers!

SERVICE HOURS AVAILABLE

The Family & School Association is hosting the annual Family Christmas Party on **Friday, December 7**. 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.

Party Help 6:30 to 9 p.m.

- Greeters
- Servers
- Craft table
- Cookie decorating
- Raffle ticket sales
- BINGO help
- Kitchen help

Clean up 9 to 10 p.m.

HOW TO VOLUNTEER

View shifts and sign up online at <http://signup.com/go/LLsPSvt>

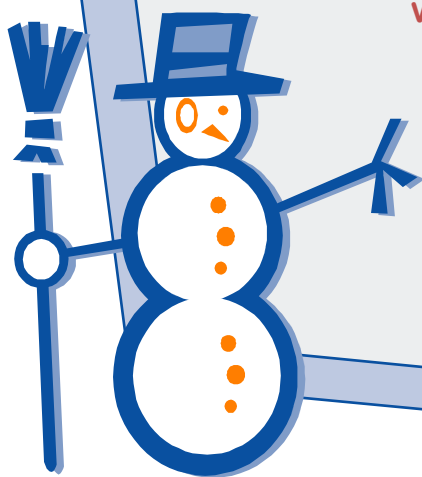
Contact Maria at mariahench@gmail.com or 773-620-0642



Family & School Association Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 12
7 to 8 p.m.
School Cafeteria

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!





Saturday, December 8th

CELEBRITY BARTENDERS

Mia Montemurro

&

John Jennings



**WILL BE SERVING YOUR BEVERAGES FROM 8:00PM TO 11:00PM.
ALL TIPS COLLECTED DURING THAT TIME WILL BE DONATED TO THE
SCHOOL OR WHY NOT PURCHASE MORE RAFFLE TICKETS INSTEAD?**

**Queen of Hearts Raffle
drawing at 9:00pm**

**Estimated pot over \$17,000.00*



See you at the

CLADDAGH RING PUB

2306 W. Foster Ave., Chicago, IL



Christmas Cocoa

Hosted by St. Hilary's Student Council

Tuesday, December 11
after school on the
parking lot



**Toppings are 50
cents!
There will be
marshmallows,
cookie straws,
sprinkles, and
more!**





Dear Parents and Guardians,

Over the last year, the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools underwent a project to discuss the feasibility of system-wide curricular assessment of our early elementary grade students. As you may be aware, the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools currently only evaluates students in grades 3-8 through the use of the ACT ASPIRE assessment package. The Archdiocese of Chicago in its systematic review of academic performance has seen the need for additional information on the progress of our Kindergarten through 2nd grade students. The Office of Catholic Schools through a series of meetings with Archdiocese of Chicago Principals, provided the opportunity to provide feedback on several assessment packages. From those meetings, the Office of Catholic Schools selected one of the assessment packages to be used in a pilot of 15 schools; that package was the *I-Ready Assessment*, supported by the educational group, Curriculum Associates.

I-Ready is an interactive online program that is designed to not only provide an assessment of student progress, but also an individualized instructional plan for each student.. I-Ready starts the process with an adaptive diagnostic test that identifies the students' current academic level. Adaptive assessments are frequently chosen for their high precision and efficiency, allowing educators to pinpoint student needs more accurately and in less time than with traditional fixed-form assessments. I-Ready with its sophisticated adaptive logic and bank of thousands of test items will be key in pinpointing students' needs in reading and math down to the domain and sub-skill levels. In a recent independent study, I-Ready was found to have strong correlations with common-core based assessments and we believe that this should result in a strong academic gains for all students.

As a result of the I-Ready process, teachers gain real-time access to reports that identify the needs of your child and is given additional curricular resources to continue and accelerate student growth on select assessed standards. Parents also receive detailed reports of where their children are performing including a target score for the next assessment, as well as their child's lexile range used for selecting the correct reading level for your child. I-Ready also provides students a digital instruction supplement where students are able to work independently on targeted activities based on your students' needs.. I-Ready lessons consist of a tutorial, guided practice and then an independent activity where feedback is given directly to the student. Students receive real-time comments as well as motivational messages and "credits" that are displayed so children can see their progress.

Schools have started to administer the program and the diagnostic started in November and will continue through mid-December. After this period, schools will have students spend a maximum of one hour per week on the I-Ready instructional program and then another diagnostic assessment in late February or early March. Testing should only take 30-45 minutes per subject and should not be a disrupting impact on a normal school day. The Office of Catholic Schools will continue to monitor the progress of the program. Schools are scheduled for additional professional development meetings for teachers in November and February for further support. Due to these significant benefits for our students, the Office of Catholic Schools is excited about the pilot and the opportunity for principals share feedback on how students are progressing.

For more information on the I-Ready package, please access the following link: <http://i-readycentral.com/familycenter/>

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Hedi Belkaoui
Director of School Improvement and Accreditation
hedi.belkaoui@archchicago.org
(312) 802-5755

HONOR ROLL 1st TRIMESTER 2018 - 2019

Honor Roll is considered a recognition of academic **excellence**. Students must earn A's or B' that they have mastered or exceeded curriculum standards. This distinction honors students for standards. In order to achieve Honor Roll status, students must consistently turn in work on behavior/social growth section of the report card.

FOURTH GRADE

Cassandra Dela Cruz-Oribello
Isabella Holliday
Allison Kilroy

Tina Le
Jonathan Medina

FIFTH GRADE

Aelaika Abalos
Liam Alexander
Jaelyn Coleman
Kaleigh Cordero
Hayden Cortez
Crystal Duong

Joy Marie Giyo
Grace Harris
Josephine Hensch
Ariam Kefle
Abigail Machuca

SIXTH GRADE

Madison Czuba
Matthew De Leon
Nicolas De Leon
Jackson Duong
Sophia Duong

Tyler Isaacson
Andy Kieu
Kaulie Ly
Claire Murphy

SEVENTH GRADE

Nicholas Czuba
Joshua Harris
Rianne Julio

Marina Martinez
Don Pham

EIGHTH GRADE

Christine Ho
Claire Larson

Christine Lichauco
Nora McNabb

s in all subject areas, which designates
r going above and beyond the minimum
n time, and have only 3's or 4's in the

Kelly Medina
Vivian Pham

Vivian Mitchell
Sara Murphy
Ella Nelson
Jason Nguyen
Haley Vigan

Alessandra Palos
Scott Phan
Jeryl Tabernero
Maliah Wood

Jack Stevenson
Thomas Tames

Phuc Tran

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 Friday, DECEMBER 14)

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 _____



**PLEASE HELP SUPPORT ST. HILARY CUB/BOY
SCOUT PACK 3827**

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH
9 AM-2 PM**

\$8.00-ADULTS

\$5.00-KIDS 3-12

KIDS 2 & UNDER FREE

**SHOP FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND DECORATIONS HANDMADE BY
ST. HILARY GIRL SCOUTS**





St. Hilary Families -

Please help the needy this Christmas Season by donating new or gently used jackets, coats and comforters. We will be collecting these items AND/OR money donations (suggested donation \$2-\$5 per child). This collection will begin Thurs., Dec. 6. Please bring money by **Fri., Dec. 14** (cash, or checks made out to St. Hilary School). Please donate coats and comforters no later than **Wed., Dec. 19**. Donated items and/or money donations should be sent to your child's homeroom. Room parents will be assisting the teachers.

ST HILARY SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT



LIONS CLUB ADVENT COAT, JACKET AND COMFORTER DRIVE

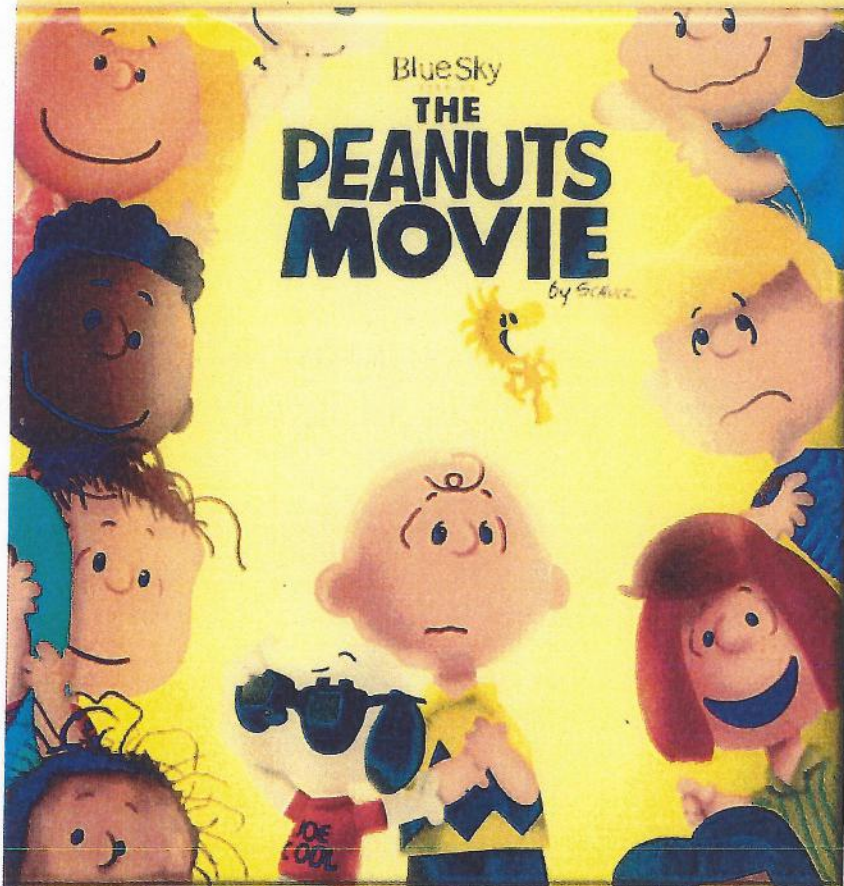
For an Advent service project this year, the students of St. Hilary will be assisting the Lions Club with a coat, jacket and comforter drive.

40th Ward Children's

Sponsored
by

Holiday Movie!

Alderman Pat O'Connor



Saturday, December 8, 2018

Davis Theater
4614 N. Lincoln
Chicago, IL 60625

Doors open 9:00 am
Movie begins 9:30 am

Free Admission
Rated G 1h 28m

Popcorn, Pop & Candy provided

Raffles for 2 bicycles (girl & boy) and 1 wagon to be held

NOTE: For children 12 years & under
Only 2 adults per family

Must R.S.V.P. to 773-769-1140 by Thursday, December 6, 4pm
Debe R.S.V.P. a 773-769-1140 para el Jueves, 6 de Diciembre, 4pm