



# SAINT RAPHAEL PRESCHOOL

*Weekly Memo | December 5, 2017*



*Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint.  
The Lord never lets us down.*

Pope Francis

## **Important Upcoming Dates**

### *December 15: 4s & 5s Christmas Program*

The Owls, Dolphins, Eagles, Pandas, and Otters will perform Christmas music for families at 11:30am in the Church. Hope you can join us!

### *December 20: No Extended Day or Lunch Bunch*

ALL Preschool students will dismiss at noon on this last day before Christmas break.

### *December 21 - January 3: Preschool Closed for Christmas*

The Preschool will be closed 12/21 - 1/3 for Christmas break.

*Dear Parents,*

*What an exciting, busy month December is! Evidence of the upcoming holiday can be seen all around the Preschool. We have a lovely Christmas tree near the entrance thanks to Boy Scout Troop 314, and many classes have created their own Christmas decorations. In the classrooms, children are busy making gifts for their families, reading stories about Jesus' birth, acting out the Nativity, and doing service projects to help those less fortunate. Our Extended Day students recently made beautiful Christmas trees that will be given to our homebound parishioners. The 4s and 5s classes are preparing their costumes for the music program next week and can be heard practicing their songs as they walk through the hallways. What joyful noise! Many of our Preschool families enjoyed the parish Advent Festival last Saturday and lots of children have shared stories of decorating for the holiday at home. No matter how you prepare for Christmas, I hope your heart is filled with love and the true spirit of the season!*

*Many blessings,  
Molly DeAngelo*

## Preschool News and Announcements

### **Thank You!**

Thank you so much for your generosity with our Holiday Gift Bag Outreach! Preschool families donated more than 80 filled bags, which will go to those in need in our parish, Catholic Parish Outreach, and area foster children. Thank you for making Christmas a more joyous time these families!

### **Christmas Story Time for Prospective Students**

As we gear up for next school year's registration in January, we are offering free Creative Movement and Music classes in November and December for prospective students. We have also scheduled a Christmas Story Time with a book and craft with Ms. Sarah and singing with Ms. Susan for December 13th at 10:15am. Younger siblings of current students who will be preschool aged next year are welcome to attend. If you have a friend or neighbor who is looking for a preschool, please have them call or email Ms. Sarah (919-865-5725 or [srapp@saintraphael.org](mailto:srapp@saintraphael.org)) to schedule a visit! You will be entered in a raffle to win a St. Raphael Preschool sweatshirt.

### **2018-19 Preschool Registration**

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year will begin in January. Current Preschool students and their siblings will have first priority for choosing classes for next year. Parent-Teacher conferences will be held in mid-January and will offer an opportunity to discuss your child's placement for the upcoming year. Child care will be available for a nominal fee during conferences.

### **Important Safety Reminders**

Please be very careful when pulling in and backing out of parking spaces at arrival and dismissal. The lot is crowded with children, who can be hard to see because they are small. Check out [www.buckleupnc.org](http://www.buckleupnc.org) to be sure you are securing your child in the safest way when you drive. Thanks for helping us keep our students safe!

### **Searching for a Grandparent Gift?**

Are you having a tough time thinking of a Christmas gift for your child's grandparents? Consider a donation to the Ignatius Fund in their honor! They will receive a letter informing them of the donation and will be listed in the 2017-18 Ignatius Fund Year in Review next fall. A current Preschool parent suggested this creative idea, so we wanted to pass it on to other families who might be interested!

### **Alumni Family in Need of Childcare**

A former Preschool family is looking for childcare on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am - 4pm for their 1 year old starting in January. If you are interested in this opportunity or have a referral of someone who would be, please contact Rasha Nadour ([rasha-isa@live.com](mailto:rasha-isa@live.com) or 919-272-7499).

### **Ignatius Fund Update**

Thank you to all who have already contributed to the Ignatius Fund! By making a tax deductible donation, you are directly impacting the lives of St. Raphael Catholic School and Preschool students and faculty while pledging your support to Catholic education. Learn more about the Ignatius Fund and donate on-line through our website: <http://straphaelpreschool.org/ignatius-fund/>

**Goal:** \$80,000 with 100% participation

**Raised to date:** \$24,422

*An anonymous donor will match all donations up to \$4,000 that are contributed between now and December 31st!*

## News from St. Raphael Catholic School



**Story time at Saint Raphael Catholic School** is coming up **Wednesday, December 6 at 9:30am** in the school library! *Please note the time change from the original schedule.* All are welcome! RSVP to Mary Morgan at [919-865-5754](tel:919-865-5754) or [mmorgan@saintraphael.org](mailto:mmorgan@saintraphael.org)

### **SRCS Kindergarten Registration for 2018-19**

Attention parents of rising kindergartners! Applications for kindergarten at SRCS are available now. The deadline to apply for kindergarten is January 31, 2018. Contact Mary Morgan at [919-865-5754](tel:919-865-5754) or [mmorgan@saintraphael.org](mailto:mmorgan@saintraphael.org) for more information and to receive your kindergarten application packet.

## News from Around our Parish



### **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day, is this Friday, December 8th. Masses will be held at 7am, 9am, and 12:10pm in English with a bilingual Mass at 7pm.

### **An Invitation from Mothers in Faith**

Come join moms of all ages in community, faith and service. Take some time out for you while connecting to other moms and learning more about our Catholic faith.

**Our next meeting is Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon in Room 112.** Childcare is available in the nursery for \$5/child.

December Meeting: Spreading Love

Do you ever tell yourself you are going to volunteer but can never seem to make the time? Giving back is important to our faith and comes in many forms and opportunities. Learn about two ministries at St. Raphael that are finding unique ways of giving back through Prayer Shawls and Quilts for Hospice. Members will get a hands on experience on how to make a prayer shawl and a quilt for those in Hospice. No previous experience is required. Enjoy our Holiday Pot Luck as well! Contact Debbie at [mothersinfaithsr@yahoo.com](mailto:mothersinfaithsr@yahoo.com) with any questions or for more information.