

### ***Mission Statement***

***OUR MISSION is to provide the highest quality academic and faith formation program where each student develops spiritually, intellectually, and socially.***

***Rooted in the person of Jesus Christ and in the Catholic tradition, we strive to prepare our students to live a faith-filled life.***



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### **Calendar Updates**

<b>Sunday, December 12</b>	Third Week of Advent
<b>Tuesday, December 14</b>	8:30 am Mass Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Adoration
<b>Thursday, December 16</b>	Confessions @ 1:00 pm
<b>Sunday, December 19</b>	Fourth Sunday of Advent
<b>Tuesday, December 21</b>	8:30 am Mass and Adoration
<b>Wednesday, December 22</b>	Early Dismissal 11:30 am-All School Christmas Trivia
<b>Tuesday, January 4</b>	Classes Resume
<b>Friday, January 14</b>	Early Dismissal 11:30 am/ End of 2nd Quarter
<b>Monday, January 17</b>	No School/ Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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### **News:**

#### **Cold Weather Reminder**

Please remind students to bring coats to school now that we are in the winter season. Girls can wear sweatpants or pajama pants at recess time. Also, the Lost and Found still has many unclaimed items looking for their home.

#### **Christmas Photo Cards**

If your family sends out family Christmas photo cards, we would love to have one to hang up in the main office. We love seeing all the cards and families' faces without masks. Thank you

#### **From Father Chris:**

We are looking for people who are optimistic, energetic, fun-loving, who enjoy teenagers, who are passionate about our faith, and passionate about our youth. Persons need to be responsible, committed, have a desire to grow spiritually, some organizational and creative skills and a sense of humor. Must be willing to commit on average to 4 hrs. per week to prepare and meet with youth. Our focus is 8th Graders and High School youth. *Please contact Fr. Chris if you fit this description or with any names of potential people who fit this description (314) 353-7629 x116 or [fatherchris@stjpsl.org](mailto:fatherchris@stjpsl.org).*

***"Those that hope in the Lord will renew their strength" Isaiah 40***

## Advent:

This year, our theme for Advent is “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”. During the first two weeks of Advent, our focus is on the meaning and history of the Advent wreath. During the last two weeks of Advent, the focus will be the O Antiphons.



## What are the O'Antiphons?

The O Antiphons refer to the seven antiphons that are recited (or chanted) preceding the Magnificat during Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours. They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, Dec. 17-23, with Dec. 24 being Christmas Eve and Vespers for that evening being for the Christmas Vigil.

The importance of O Antiphons is twofold: Each one highlights a title for the Messiah: O Sapientia (O Wisdom), O Adonai (O Lord), O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse), O Clavis David (O Key of David), O Oriens (O Rising Sun), O Rex Gentium (O King of the Nations), and O Emmanuel. Also, each one refers to the prophecy of Isaiah of the coming of the Messiah. <https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/culture/catholic-contributions/what-are-the.html>

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**REMINDER! All collections are due by Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**This year, HCPA will be helping to facilitate a centralized gift collection for HCA staff. HCPA representatives previously sent out emails for a collection for the following funds:**

- 1. All HCA Academy specialty teachers (music, gym, art, STREAM, Catechesis of Good Shepherd, learning consultants, bus drivers, school nurses, etc.)**
- 2. Collections for each campus' administrative staff (principals, secretaries, custodial staff, K-8 teacher assistants, etc.)**

**Please note this does not include homeroom teachers, Early Childhood teachers or early childhood classroom assistants.**

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## Attachment:

**Diva Dash**-Saturday, January 15th, at Seven Holy Founders-Doors open @ 6:30

**Hearing and Speech Screening** Wednesday, January 5th

*"Those that hope in the Lord will renew their strength" Isaiah 40*