



Holy Trinity

Catholic School

A Ministry of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish

From the desk of Mrs. Luzzo: December 12, 2022 – It's finally here... the week before Christmas break! This is going to be a very busy and exciting week for our students, so please say an extra prayer for all our teachers as they try to rein in the excitement and continue their instruction for five more days.

- **Attendance** – Please note, as per our Parent-Student Handbook, **“If a student is going to be absent from school, a parent MUST call the front office (843-390-4108) or send an e-mail to the homeroom teacher, Administrative Assistant in the front office (Ms. P - spaterchak@charlestandiocese.org), and Director of Student Services (Mrs. Hines - ehines@charlestandiocese.org) (ALL three (3) people) by 8:00 AM each day of the absence.”** Thank you for your support of this important school policy.
- **Homework Help** – There is no homework help for K-4th grade this week. 5th graders are still welcome to utilize homework help (until 3:30 PM) through Thursday. Students are always welcome to attend after care as needed, or they can be picked up in car line by 3:05 PM.
- **Christmas Show** – Please join us in the multipurpose room on **Thursday, December 15**, for our annual Christmas show – *Straight Outta Bethlehem*. Parents, please bring your children to the front office at **5:30 PM**. They will be directed to the appropriate classroom while you head to the multipurpose room to wait for the show to begin promptly at **6 PM**. Students should come dressed in their assigned clothing as per previous weekly communications (which can be found on our school website).
- **PTO Christmas Party** – Students will enjoy a Christmas party sponsored by the PTO from 9-11 AM on **Friday, December 16**. Parents who have completed the volunteer packet and background screening are needed to help at this party. Please contact Mrs. Marisa Slawiak at mslawiak@charlestandiocese.org for more information and/or to sign up to volunteer.
- **Friday, 12/16** – Students may choose to wear spirit wear or their favorite Christmas clothing this Friday.
- **Christmas break** – The school will be closed **Monday, December 19** through **Friday, December 30**. School will reopen on **Monday, January 2**. We hope you all have a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Catholic Faith Formation: Third Week of Advent: Otherwise known as the Shepherd Candle, this candle reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation he has gifted us. Christians may wonder why the church decided to make this particular candle a different color than the others. Although Christians have presented several reasons for the pinkish nature of the candle, from a tradition where priests would wear pink vestments to parents eagerly awaiting the joy of a child's arrival by painting the room pink, the rosy candle has its roots in something known as [Gaudete Sunday](#). During this third week of advent, this Sunday celebrates the passage [Philippians 4:4-5](#), its verses extolling readers to “rejoice” for “indeed the Lord is near.” In other words, this week celebrates the joy of Christ's coming to earth. <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/holidays/what-is-the-candle-of-joy-for-advent-week-3.html>

HTCS Mission: *Holy Trinity Catholic School, a ministry of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, offers to early childhood and elementary school students of diverse ethnic, economic, and religious backgrounds a superior academic program based on Gospel values. Within a family atmosphere, the school strives to develop the spiritual, academic, personal, creative, and physical growth of each student.*