



Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph Newsletter

www.boscocatholic.org

December 7, 2017

The Bosco Catholic School System provides students and families with academic, spiritual, moral, and sacramental formation so that they are prepared to be faithful disciples who are the light of Christ in the world.

Tomorrow, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is a holy day of obligation. **K-1 students need to start their day in Gilbertville.** We will attend Mass at 7:45. K-1 students will be bused to Raymond after Mass.

Congratulations FIRST LEGO League Team

Congratulations to Immaculate Conception's FIRST LEGO League team. They attended the Cedar Falls Regional Qualifier on December 3 and earned a State Qualifying Award. They will advance to the Championship event at Iowa State University January 14. During the tournaments, teams have three rounds on the Robot Game competition tables to get the best score possible. When not competing with their robots, teams give their research presentations, are interviewed about the technical design of their robots, and how they work as teams. Team members: Ryan McFadden, JJ McManus, Koen Bovy, Ryan Hayes, and Sam Willey. Coaches: Karen Thoma and Marita Schroeder

Waterloo Public School buses will not be running Monday, December 11, 2017.

A Bosco System bus will run the transfer to and from Raymond.

Christmas Concert

Our MS Band and HS Band along with the HS Choir will perform Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00pm in the Don Bosco gym.

Wet Wipes

We are asking that each K-5 student bring in a package of wet wipes (80ct. or more). Thank you to the families that have sent in wet wipes.

K-8 Christmas Concert

Mark your calendar for the K-8 Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00pm in the High School Gym.



The following homerooms met their Box Tops goal and earned a jean day with their spirit or uniform shirt Wednesday, December 13. Mrs. Bolick, Ms. McMaster, Mrs. Olson, Mrs. Schoeder.

Absent Requests

Parents should call the school office before 7:30am if your child will be absent. If you call before 7:00am, please leave a message.

If you have a **planned absence**, the Absence Request form may be found at <http://www.boscocatholic.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/55dcc0d507de3/Absence%20Request%20form.pdf>. **Students should show the note to his/her teachers; the note must then be turned in to the office.**

Colder Weather

All students will spend some time outdoors unless the air temperature or wind chill is below 0, so please be sure they have coats, hats, and mittens. A reminder to please label your child's hat, mittens, lunch box, etc.

Tuition Statements

Tuition statements will be emailed on December 8, 2017. Thank you to all that have made tuition payments as scheduled. Tuition tax credit letters will be mailed after the start of the new year. If you would like your payment to be credited to the 2017 calendar year, please have payments to the high school office by December 22.

Nurse's Notes

Plan ahead for a healthy holiday season. Make sure that you are spending some time taking care of yourself. Try to maintain your healthy habits. Eat well. Don't skip healthy choices trying to make up for "unhealthy" choices. Include lean proteins, fruits and vegetables in your meal plan. Consider making meals ahead for those busy nights. Be active. Even doing a little is better than nothing. Get enough sleep. Give yourself some down time. Marianne Hickey RN

Please send all newsletter items to icsnewsletter@boscocatholic.org by 3:00pm on Wednesday, December 13.

Paper Collection Trailer

Remember when recycling Christmas packaging - NO styrofoam, no pizza boxes, no plastic bags. Please do not leave packing styrofoam or plastic in boxes. PLEASE NO GARBAGE.

Mason City Recycling pays us for collecting paper or cardboard that they use to produce insulation products. (They want mostly paper. If you do bring cardboard, be sure it's broken down.) A semi trailer is parked in the north end of the Gilbertville campus parking lot. We ask that you walk up the stairs and take your paper as far back into the trailer as possible. The better we pack the truck, the more money we'll get! Thank you to everyone who contributes to this successful fundraiser for our school.

A big thank you to Kay Delagardelle for the countless hours she spends in the recycling trailer making sure it is full to its capacity. By doing this she increase our profit tremendously.

What is STO all about?

Still not sure about this "STO" thing? It's simple. If you file an Iowa income tax return, your contributions to the Our Faith STO receive a 65% tax credit. That means for every \$1000 you donate, you receive an Iowa income tax credit of \$650. Thus, a \$1000 contribution reduces your Iowa tax liability by a whopping \$650 AND the entire amount of your gift qualifies for federal deductibility. And that gift you made? It helps makes a Catholic education affordable for every child. The available Iowa tax credits are filling up fast so visit www.OurFaithSto.org or call the Archdiocese of Dubuque at 800-876- 3546 ext. 219 or 307 to learn more.

Bosco Booster Club Help Needed

The Don Bosco Club Kids Wrestling Tournament is being held on Saturday, December 30, 2017, and we need help filling spots for the concession stand. Please contact Christi Larson if you can help. Christi's cell phone is: 319-296-9301 or email is larsonc@waterlooschools.org.

The Don Bosco Volleyball Tournament is being held on Saturday, January 20 and Sunday, January 21. We need help filling spots for the concession stands. Shift times are two hour shifts.

Catholic Order of Foresters News

The COF youth members Christmas party will be held Sunday, December 17 in St. Mary Center from 6:00pm to 6:30pm. Santa will arrive around 6:10. Each child will receive a bag of goodies and can visit with Santa.

Vacation Bible School

We have a group interested in hosting a week-long IC/St. Joseph Vacation Bible School this summer for students going into PK4 through 5th grade. This would take place at the IC center. We are looking for middle school and high school students to help as well as adults. We would ask you to complete the survey at this link <https://goo.gl/forms/wzHEuHzQoIRzFL8c2> if you are interested in your children participating in Bible School or your older children would like to help.



Sunday's Word - Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 10

Synopsis

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'" John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me."

One-Minute-Homily

- When something goes wrong, we often say, "I'll straighten this out" or "I'll make this right." It's our way of acknowledging that something needs to change.
- John the Baptist calls the people of Jesus's time to change (to "repent," he says). He is calling them, as he calls us, to be prepared for a new understanding of God which will be revealed to them by "one mightier" than himself.
- The God Jesus reveals to us is so amazing, so loving, so merciful, so determined to redeem humankind that we must regularly stop to correct our inadequate impressions of God so as to live in right-relationship with him.
- The Eucharist is naturally an experience of repentance, an experience of being changed, of being made right, in our relationship to God and to one another.

For Discussion or Reflection

Question for Children: What are some things you could change that would make you a better person?

Question for Youth: Young people face so many options; are you choosing those which reveal a God of love and forgiveness?

Question for Adults, Families and Faith Communities: What are the inadequate impressions of God which we give people, and what do we need to do to change them?