

Dear STM Families,

As we reach this time in the school year, I always wonder how the first semester flew by so quickly. It is hard to believe that it is December already and our middle and junior high students are preparing for quarter and semester tests. It is even harder to believe that our 8th graders are discerning high school options!

Also as we are eagerly counting the days to Christmas and many of us have too few hours in the day to prepare do all that we want, we are challenged to slow down and reflect on the real meaning of Advent and Christmas, patiently awaiting the birth of Christ. With this season comes reflection regarding our faith as well as spending quality time with family and friends.

Please join us tonight at 6:30 at STM Church for the first in a series of Advent reflections, "Our Advent Readings: A Call to Reflect on Place, Space and Grace in Our Lives", presented by Sr. Janelle Sevier. A reception will follow in the Activity Center.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Judy

Classroom Activities

The computer applications classes started using ArcGIS. This is a geographic information system for working with maps and geographic information. It is used for creating and using maps, compiling geographic data, analyzing mapped information, sharing and discovering geographic information, using maps and geographic information in a range of applications, and managing geographic information in a database.

In the Spanish Classes 5th grade is learning number 1-29 and played "Ve a pescar" Go fish, with flashcards we made in class; 6th grade is learning to use the verb To Be "SER" to talk about occupations; 7th grade is learning to use the verb "ESTAR" and locations; 8th grade is learning to conjugate "AR" verbs and building sentences using those verbs.

Sixth grade science conducted two lab explorations. One lab plotted the depth of the ocean floor and the other modeled atoll formation.

Fourth grade had a wonderful time in retreat learning about advent and the Road to Bethlehem. Check out the Facebook page for highlights of our day!

As part of our Colonial Unit, third grade is using our Chromebooks to do a Webquest. They are exploring the Mayflower and experiencing life during Colonial times.

Co-Curricular Activities

The Beta Club prepared a meal and served it to the women and children at Sweet Dreams Women and Children Shelter on Tuesday, December 1.

The Student Council elves will be helping St. Nicholas place treats in the shoes of the kindergartners and first graders Wednesday, December 6.

Calendar Items:

Monday, December 4	K field trip: Moosetoe the Moosical at the Shaw Center 6:30 Advent Reflection at STM Church
Tuesday, December 5	Band/Choir Concert, STM Gym
Thursday, December 7	2:40 MathCounts
Friday, December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception 8:45 Mass for grades 4 – 8 Noon Mass for grades K - 3