



St. Vincent de Paul

Catholic Church and Academy News

December 2023

All Saints Day

The Franciscan Sisters and grade 7 - 12 grade girls sponsored an All Saints Party for the children of the parish on November 1 at the Tracy Campus. Children grades 2 - 3 needed to know two facts about their saint, and children grades 4 - 6 needed to be able to give a brief description of their saint.

Fathers Graves and Trummer judged the costumes and each child's knowledge of their saint.

Winners were:

- Liam Miller as St. Maximilian Kolbe
- Colette Bennett as St. Cecilia
- Rosalie Waliser as St. Philomena
- Johnathan Hall as St. Sebastian
- Charlotte Greene as St. Winifred
- James Waliser as St. Thomas the Apostle



Priors' Corner

Newsletter – December 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Whatever the darkness of our world, we find hope and strength in the celebration of Our Savior's Birth.

*"God's finger points us far;
The way is His who is the Way"*

The words cited come from a mystery play written by Fr. Charles O'Donnell. It is Joseph who speaks, as he flees with Mary and the Christ Child from King Herod.

Despite the uncertainty of that journey in the night, Joseph was serene, and the Child's mother equally so: with them was the Savior who knew the way that must be tread. The Child was entrusted to their care, but they were not alone, nor on their own: all of heaven surrounded them and looked after their every step.

Whatever the sorrows of mankind since the time of Our Savior's birth, the essential mission of every Christian has mirrored that of Mary and Joseph: to care for the Divine Life entrusted to them, while following the path of Providence. "God's finger points us far" indeed, for we are made for heaven, and "He who is the Way" has traced the way for us. "Fear not, for I am with thee: turn not aside, for I am thy God."
– Isaias 41:10

Our world has lost its way: it desperately needs souls of noble resolve who will bring to the world the light of Christ by their faith and fidelity. May we be such souls!

Thank you for the generosity that allows us to continue our work here at St. Vincent de Paul Church and Academy. May you and yours be greatly blessed this Christmas and always!

Yours, in the Child Christ,

Fr. Gerard Beck

Prior



Academy News

Flora Campus



The St. Gregory the Wonderworker Intramural Volleyball Tournament was won by the Solid Bumps (6 on 6) and the Lucky Pals (4 on 4).



Chess Tournaments

On Saturday, November 11 fifteen members of the St. Vincent's chess team competed at a tournament at Jay Shideler school in Topeka, Kansas. The K-8 team won second place, and the K-12 team won third place.

Chesterton Academy's chess team met at the Tracy campus on Wednesday, November 15 for a chess match with St. Vincent's team. Teams of six students each competed. St. Vincent's won five of the six games.



Alumni Gabriel Spencer and two classmates from the Naval Academy gave a presentation to the Flora students about the Academy.

Tracy Campus



Domestic Arts Program Fund Raiser

The girls in grades 6 - 12 baked pies as a fundraiser for the Domestic Arts program at the Tracy campus. They raised about \$1,800.00 to benefit the program. Thank you to all who supported the sale.

Upcoming Events

- Dec. 1 First Friday evening Mass and Benediction
- Dec. 3 Franciscan Sisters' craft sale and ARS bake sale
- Dec. 7 Book Club
- Dec. 8 No school - Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Dec. 9 Day of Recollection for Women (Adult Catechism Canceled)
- Dec. 9 Legion of Mary New Parishioner Open House
- Dec. 10 HNS Meeting
- Dec. 15 Academy Christmas Concert
- Dec. 20 Third Order of St. Pius X Meeting
- Dec. 23 Decorate the Church
- Dec. 22 - Jan. 5 Academy Christmas Vacation

2023 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 24 - Vigil of the Nativity

- 7:30 a.m. Low Mass & Confessions
- 9:30 a.m. High Mass & Confessions
- 10:00 - 11:50 p.m. Confessions
- Shortly after 11:00 p.m. Christmas concert and carol singing

Monday, December 25 - The Nativity of Our Lord

- Midnight. High Mass
- 9:30 a.m. High Mass

Tuesday, December 26 - St. Stephen

- 7:15 a.m. Low Mass

Sunday, December 31 - Day in the Octave of Christmas

- 7:30 a.m. Low Mass & Confessions
- 9:30 a.m. High Mass & Confessions
- 11:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. Holy Hour

Monday, January 1, 2024 - Octave Day of the Nativity

- 7:30 a.m. Low Mass & Confessions
- 9:30 a.m. High Mass & Confessions

Saturday, January 6, 2024 - Epiphany

- 8:00 a.m. Solemn High Mass