



# St. Gregory the Great Catholic School

## GUARDIAN NEWS



Phone: (858) 397-1290

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### Virtue of the Week: *Joyfulness*

#### Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

This week, we light the pink candle on the Advent Wreath; the Candle of Joy.



Gaudette Sunday, as the third Sunday of Advent is named, sees us beyond the midpoint of Advent. The priest wears rose color vestments, signifying the spirit of joy and elation as the time of Jesus' birth draws near. The change in color provides us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation.

This is a very busy time of year, and our school is no exceptions. On behalf of our students I would like to express gratitude to: Kathy Maisano and the Jolly Gift Boutique team, for providing such a fun "secret shopping" experience; The PTSG Executive Board, parent volunteers, the Filipino-American Carolers, and our fabulous teachers who made the Barnes and Noble Book Fair event a huge success; parent volunteer drivers who transported children back to school after our Christmas program practice on December 8; parent volunteer coaches of our peewee soccer teams, for their gracious gift of time and expertise in support of our after-school soccer program.

During this third week of Advent, as we celebrate JOY, we look forward, with great anticipation to our Christmas Program on Thursday night. The most meaningful Christmas gifts are often intangible, and I know you will be both impressed and moved, as our students retell the Nativity Story in song and word. A Christmas Program playbill is included in your Monday Messenger today as a keepsake of this memorable event. Gentle reminder: children should join their teacher **in the parish hall, on the night of December 15, no later than 6:40 P.M.** After dropping your child off at the hall you are welcome to find a seat in the church for the performance. A festive reception in the hall will follow the Christmas program. Students will be reunited with their parents in the hall at that time.

On behalf of the faculty and staff I wish you a very blessed and holy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Blessings,  
Mrs. O'Connell



May the  
Love & Light  
of Christmas  
fill your heart

#### PTSG News

The PTSG Executive Board would like to wish our families a very Merry Christmas and blessed New Year. We hope you have a restful and joyous holiday break. Please note the first PTSG General Meeting for 2012 will take place on January 19 at 6:30 P.M.

#### SAVE THE DATE!

### St. Gregory the Great Catholic School OPEN HOUSE & BOOK FAIR

Sunday, January 29, 2012

Our OPEN HOUSE begins a nationwide celebration of Catholic Schools Week. This year's theme is: Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service. The theme expresses Catholic schools' focus on learning about faith, maintaining high academic standards, and serving the community. Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors!

#### Student Council

Student Council would like to thank the St. Gregory the Great Catholic School community for enthusiastic support of projects and events this year. Our Hot Chocolate morning was a great success. On that chilly morning we raised \$120 which is designated towards student activities during Catholic Schools Week. We also thank you for your support of the Clothing Drive in support of Rady Children's Hospital Emergency Room.

Student Council looks forward to serving our school and local community in 2012. We wish you much joy and happiness during the Christmas season!



#### What I Love about

### St. Gregory the Great Catholic School...

During the September PTSG meeting, parents were asked to respond to this prompt. Check this space each week to read their comments:

"I love all the faith - based topics the kids bring up in conversations since moving to the school. It has brought renewed Catholic focus to our family."

\*\*\*Articles for the "Guardian News" must be sent to [newsletter@stggcs.org](mailto:newsletter@stggcs.org) no later than 12:30 P.M. on the Wednesday prior to the week of publication.



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## Sports Center

Peewee soccer practices are in full swing. The season begins January 7<sup>th</sup> and runs for approximately nine weeks. Games will be held on Saturdays at other Catholic Schools in the San Diego Diocese. There are no make-ups for games cancelled by rain. Jerseys will be distributed after Christmas.

Contact our Athletic Director, Mr. Swan, with any questions regarding after school sports at [mewan@stggcs.org](mailto:mewan@stggcs.org). Visit Mr. Swan's website at [www.classroomwebsites.com/mewan](http://www.classroomwebsites.com/mewan). The password is available in your classroom handbook.

## Parish Connect

Penance service tonight, Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> at the church starting at 7pm. There will be 10 priests present to hear confessions in preparation for Christmas.

Adoration- Spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration times start December 15<sup>th</sup> after the 8 am mass and continue for 24 hours to December 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:30. Contact the office for available times.

RCIA has begun but it is not too late. If you are interested in RCIA contact Deacon Ron at the parish office.

Adopt a family- there is still time to participate this season. If interested please contact Julie Breslau- 858-693-8170 and she will assign a family to you. They will be delivering the gifts on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup>.

### St. Gregory Christmas Tree Ornament

Stop by the school office to pick up a Limited Edition 2011 ornament ~ only \$10. What wonderful opportunity to begin a tradition of collecting a school ornament each year!



### Earn FREE CASH for STGGCS!

#### Shop with Scrip!

Order your scrip gift cards online each week by 8 A.M. on Tuesday at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). The school office finalizes your order and gift cards are available for pick-up on Friday afternoon of that week. A percentage of each gift card purchase comes to our school. Gift cards are same as cash. A complete listing of vendors is available [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). Payment at pick-up. Checks payable to STGGCS please. Write "Scrip" on memo. **Scrip gift cards are also available in the school office.**



## Week-at-a-Glance

Monday-	Dec. 12	Third Week of Advent 7 P.M. Parish Penance Service
Tuesday-	Dec. 13	Pajama Day!
Wednesday-	Dec. 14	Gr. 1 Field trip to Old Globe Theater
Thursday-	Dec. 15	Movie Afternoon Third Annual Christmas Program (Students in parish hall by 6:40 PM Program begins in the Church at 7 PM)
Friday-	Dec. 16	Minimum Day- 11:45 Dismissal No Extended Daycare

## Coming Soon!

Jan. 2	Happy New Year School Re-Opens	
Jan. 3	Sr. Aurora visits from the Diocesan Office for Vocations	
Jan. 6	Minimum Day- 11:45 Dismissal	
Jan. 9	Progress Report II	
Jan. 11	PTSG Executive Board Meeting	
Jan. 12	10:30 Liturgy @ School	
Jan. 13	Spaghetti Dinner	

## Volunteer at STGGCS

Check out numerous opportunities to share your gifts of time and talent in support of STGGCS.

Sign up to volunteer at [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com).

Access the Sign Up Genius site directly by clicking on the button at [www.stggcs.org](http://www.stggcs.org) Home Page.

## Register for eScrip!

Click on the eScrip icon on the Support Your School page on the school website. Follow the prompts and insert the **School ID 136559297**. This one-time registration of your Vons card and credit card(s) ensures that a percentage of your purchases at participating merchants goes directly to our school.



## Clip Box Tops!

Check your cereal, cake mix, ziplock baggies, and many more products and clip the box tops. Your child is a box top detective and will check with you before clipping. Send your box tops to school. Each box top is worth 10 cents.