

WEEK of 16 DECEMBER 2018

Saint Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, instructs them to always rejoice; to have joy. This is not a forced happiness which often depends on circumstances. Paul wants them to rejoice in the fact that they' loved by God whose care surrounds them. Such joy will bring a peace (shalom) which this world cannot provide.



*“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” (PHL 4:4-7).*

Some of us approach the Christmas season as if therapy. If we only give the right gift, then our family issues will be settled. If I only get the perfect present, then I'll be happy. Paul's point is that only faith in the message of Jesus will bring the peace which evades us. Trust in God and not in material goods. Believe that our invaluable worth is a gift from God and not from possessions. The peace comes from the confidence and comfort of knowing that God, the Incarnate, is always at our side regardless of our circumstances.

May we come to know that peace this week and always.

PRAYERS REQUESTED for:

- The Holy Spirit's grace during the third week of Advent;
- Our students and staff during semester exams this week;
- Our young alumni as they finish up exams and travel home;
- Ongoing rehabilitation of Aaron Cobos;
- In thanksgiving for our generous benefactors;
- Our young men to consider a life of service as a Brother, priest or deacon;
- All those traveling during the holidays;
- Our seniors as they apply for university and scholarships;
- Those serving in the armed services here and around the world;
- For peoples migrating around the world – especially those arriving in the borderland;
- For the ongoing healing of Ulli Reichenbach;
- Those in need of healing: the mother of Jeannette Peterson; our injured students; those fighting cancer (Homero Silva, Brother Robb Wallace, alumnus John Armendariz, Mima Sofia Higuera, Rosa Maria Sosa, alumnus Javier Olmos); those dealing with addiction; and for those struggling with mental illness;
- The repose of the soul of Mary Vallejo, grandmother of Thaddeus Davis '18 and mother of Yvonne Davis, and the consolation of her family;
- Families in mourning; especially the Woznicki, Keogh, Avila, and Hill families.



Students offer flower to Our Lady of Guadalupe

KUDOS and THANKS:

Kudos to the **Spanish-language students, Mrs. Hernandez, and Ms. Garibay** for enhancing our celebration for **Our Lady of Guadalupe** with their singing and offering of flowers before Mass. It was an impressive sight. We're grateful to our **music group** and **Ms. Montoya** for leading our student body in singing *Las Mañanitas* to our Lady. Thank you to the **sophomore class** and **Brother Rafael** for organizing the Mass and to our celebrant **Father Miguel**.

Congratulations to senior **Stephen Stresow** for being admitted early decision to his dream school **Cornell University** in Ithaca, NY.

Congratulations to senior **Mario Gonzalez** on earning the rank of **Eagle Scout** this weekend. Mario's project was to paint the backstage area of the Guereca Auditorium. Congratulations to his family and him.

We're grateful to **Mrs. Hernandez** at **Saint Joseph's School** for their boundless hospitality in hosting the Diocesan Principals meeting last Friday.

Thank you to the **students, staff and parents** volunteered to help serve a meal at the Pastoral Center to immigrants seeking asylum. We're also so grateful to **Miss Blanca** of Cafeteria Concepts for cooking the exceptional meal! We appreciate **Mr. Lopez** for organizing the event. Be on the lookout for our next dinner.

The Religion Department, Foreign Language Department, and the administration sponsored the **annual menudo feast** for the **school staff** to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe. Thank you to **Mrs. Morales** for her hospitality.

Kudos goes to **Ms. Martinez, Mr. Jacques, and Mr. Estrada** for preparing the Guereca Auditorium for CHS to host the diocesan principals, diocesan Board of Education and members of various school boards on Monday afternoon and evening.

Congratulations to the **Varsity Basketball Team** for winning first place in the **Midland Basketball Tournament** over the weekend.

We give thanks to God for those who celebrate their **birthdays**:

- Sunday, 16 December: **Javier Perez**
- Tuesday, 18 December: **Hampden Hurt**, football coach



CHS volunteers serving a meal to immigrants seeking asylum

- Wednesday, 19 December: **Gael Bunsow, Devon Viscarra, Anthony Yanez, Diego Montes**
- Thursday, 20 December: **Evan Reyes, Nico Maes**
- Saturday, 22 December: **Leonardo Vallardes, Carlos Solis, Jose Lara** – PE teacher
- Monday, 24 December: **Jaylen Purvis, Isaiah Flores**
- Wednesday, 26 December: **Dylan Whitfield**
- Thursday, 27 December: **Ever Jurado, Isaiah Chavez, Erasto Chavez**
- Friday, 28 December: **Carlos Acosta**
- Monday, 31 December: **Juan Vargas**

NEWS YOU NEED:

**Monday** and **Tuesday** will follow our regular schedule with dismissal at 3:00 pm. **Uniform dress code** is in effect all week.

**First semester exams** will be Wednesday through Friday, December 19-21. The **ninety-minute exams** will be **comprehensive**. It is very important that your son is present and on time for exams. There will be a short break between exams. Students are encouraged to bring snacks and pizza/donuts will be on sale. **Please note the dismissal times.**

Wednesday, 19 December:

- **Period 1: 8:05 - 9:35 AM**
- **Period 2: 9:50 – 11:20 AM**
- **Period 3: 11:35 – 1:05 PM**

Thursday, 20 December:

- **Period 7: 8:05 - 9:35 AM**
- **Period 8: 9:50 – 11:20 AM**

Friday, 21 December: Period 4/5, 6

- **Period 4 or 5: 8:05 - 9:35 AM**
- **Period 6: 9:50 – 11:20 AM.**



Eagle Scout Mario Gonzalez

There will be a **faculty Christmas lunch** on **Thursday** in the Vandenburg Library after the final exam. The Science Club will be providing the meal. Faculty are encouraged to sign up for drinks and desserts.

The **Winter Writing Workshop** is an all-volunteer effort to assist our students in **writing essays for scholarship and college applications**. Editors will be available in the school library to assist students. We encourage parents of seniors to push their sons to take advantage of this. It will be from:

- **December 26** (12:00 to 3:00 PM)
- **December 27-28** (9:00 AM to 3:00 PM)
- **January 2-4** (9:00 AM to 3:00 PM).

We are continuing our partnership with **Saint Mary's College of California**, a Lasallian university in the Bay Area, and they will provide two volunteer students for a month. We will welcome **Gerardo Reyes** and **Nathaniel Panis** on December 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Grades will be due** by Thursday, 03 January at 8:00 AM.

**Faculty** will return on Monday, 07 January, for a **retreat**. There are no classes.

**Students** will return for **classes** on Tuesday, **08 January**. This will be the beginning of the second semester.

ALUMNI and DEVELOPMENT:

The Cathedral High Alumni Association will have their January general meeting on Saturday, **05 January**. **Ruben Escandon, Jr. '56** will be the speaker. The Escandon family has been involved with **Mt. Cristo Rey** for generations. He will speak on this religious and cultural borderland landmark. Breakfast begins being served at 8:30 AM for a \$6.00 donation. The meeting begins at 9:00 AM.

**CHS Alumni Scholarship applications** will be available to download in January 2019

#### MEN OF IRON/MEN OF GOLD



Mr. Lopez and some of our volunteers at the Pastoral Center