

WEEK of 02 DECEMBER 2018



The season of Advent has begun.

We are encouraged to slow down and to practice patience. Indeed, to ache for God as we await his birth. We are asked to reflect on God's boundless love for us. Such love is not and cannot be earned. God loves us because of who God is. What a gift! What a treasure!

This is contrary to our culture's emphasis on earning love. This is the time of year where we measure people's worth based on what they've done for us. The size of the gift is in direct proportion to how they make us feel. We also seek to fill the emptiness in our lives with objects. This is not how God thinks!

Let us pray for the grace to realize the depth of God's love for each of us. Let us pray that such an awareness leads us to attempt to imitate God's love for others.

PRAYERS REQUESTED for:

- The grace needed to begin the Advent season with hearts determined to wait for Jesus;
- The needs of our staff, students, and families this week;
- In thanksgiving for the life-long service of President Bush, the repose of his soul and the consolation of his family;
- For peoples migrating around the world – especially those arriving in the borderland;
- For the ongoing healing of Adriana Zavala and Ulli Reichenbach;
- Our young men to consider a life of service as a Brother, priest or deacon;
- In thanksgiving for the Jesuits who celebrated 125 years of service at Sacred Heart Parish;
- Our seniors as they apply for university and scholarships;
- Those families undergoing the pain of separation and divorce;
- Those in need of healing: the mother of Martha Garibay; the mother of Jeannette Peterson; our injured students; Mary Vallejo (mother of Yvonne Davis); those fighting cancer (Homero Silva, Brother Robb Wallace, alumnus John Armendariz, Mima Sofia Higuera, CHS mother Rosa Maria Sosa, alumnus Javier Olmos); those dealing with addiction; and for those struggling with mental illness;
- The repose of the soul of the Teodoro Espinoza, father of Brandon Arellano, and the consolation of his family;
- The repose of the soul of Duane Thompson, longtime finance director of CHS, and the consolation of his family;
- Those in mourning; especially the Gonzalez and Talamantes families.

KUDOS and THANKS:

The **Irish Football Boosters** hosted their annual banquet to honor the student-athletes and parents. The evening was a thoughtful tribute to the grit and commitment demonstrated by the team members. UT El Paso quarterback, **Ryan Metz**, shared a thoughtful reflection on the importance of hope and perseverance. Thank you to the **Hospitals of Providence** and the **Deitch family** for sponsoring the meal. We thank **Coach Durkes** for his faith-fueled leadership this year. His care for each player and his sincere desire that they grow to be men of faith was very evident at the banquet.

Kudos to our **El Otro Lado Program** which was awarded a grant from the Christian Brothers Conference (<https://www.lasallian.info/>) to further develop the program over the next three years. This is the regional response to the challenge to *go beyond borders*. They are also funding border immersion programs at Lasallian schools in Tucson and Tijuana. The annual grant for \$40,000 is renewable for the next three years.

Thank you to **Father Ron** Gonzales, SJ, and **Father Miguel** Briseno, OFM, for hearing our students' confessions last Thursday. We're grateful to **Brother Rafael** for making the arrangements and our **Religion Department** for facilitating the event.

Congratulations to the **Irish Basketball team** for winning all of their games at the Cathedral Invitational Tournament.

Thank you to the students and parents who contributed to the **toiletries and clothing drive** to benefit the immigrants arriving in the borderland. Your contributions help to enhance the quality of life for those who have endured great hardship.

NEWS YOU NEED:

Please remember that the season of Advent has begun.

Remind students of this in your **reflections and prayer** before class. There are online resources from the Christian Brothers Conference (<https://www.lasallian.info/2018/11/resources-for-the-2018-advent-season/>) and from the Franciscan University at Stuebenville (https://weare.franciscan.university/advent-2018/?utm_source=conferences&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Advent2018).

The Cathedral High School community has volunteered to feed **dinner to approximately 200 immigrants** housed at the Diocesan Pastoral Center on **Tuesday, 11 December**. Mr. Lopez will be inviting parents to contribute to and/or volunteer to prepare and/or serve the meal. He will be sending out an email regarding the needs for the meal.



Students preparing for the Christmas concert

The **annual Christmas Concert** will be on **Thursday**, 06 December, at 6:30 PM in the Guereca Auditorium. Mr. Barba, Ms. Montoya and their **band/choir** students have been working very diligently to prepare for this performance. Admission is free. Everyone is welcome!



Thursday is the feast of **Saint Nicholas**. This saint was a role model for our Founder. Delasalle wrote to the first teachers on this feast: *“Because you are under the obligation to instruct the children of the poor, you must, consequently, cultivate a very special tenderness for them and procure their spiritual welfare as far as you will be able... The faith that must inspire you ought to make you honor Jesus Christ in their person... because they are the living images of Jesus Christ, our divine Master. By the care you have for them, show how truly dear they are to you, and ask Saint Nicholas, their patron, to obtain for you from God some share in his love for the poor, especially a great zeal to procure purity for them, a virtue that is so difficult to preserve in an age as corrupt as ours.”*

Saturday is the Feast of the **Immaculate Conception**, Patroness of the United States.

Looking ahead:

The **Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe** will be on Wednesday, 12 December, at 10:20 AM at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral. Students will be in **Irish Standard**. Families are invited to join us for the Eucharist.

Community service hours are due on Friday, 14 December.

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.

- Wednesday, 19 December: **Period 1, 2, 3**
- Thursday, 20 December: **Period 7, 8**
- Friday, 21 December: **Period 4/5, 6**

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

ALUMNI and DEVELOPMENT:

Traditionally, the December general meeting of the **CHS Alumni Association** is a complimentary menudo breakfast to kick off the holiday season. Thank you to the many alumni who come to share an hour together. It was pointed out that we have much for which to be thankful – the group was very successful at fundraising this year. All proceeds go to the fund the 20 Alumni scholarships provided by the group.



Choir students rehearsing for the Christmas concert

MEN OF IRON/MEN OF GOLD



Football seniors give a gift to the school.