



From the Desk of
Maria Cahill
Principal
December 16, 2020

The wait is nearly over!
I came across this Tiny Advent Poem that I think everyone can relate to:

**Christmas Eve:
Text message.
Just Says:
On My Way**

#Tiny Advent Poems-Amy Scott Robinson

What a very simple, yet incredibly beautiful message of hope, when put into the context of Advent. He *is* on his way, and, when we really take some time to reflect, especially in this crazy year, isn't this what we are truly about?

The Diocese of Rochester Department of Catholic Schools is sharing a series of reflections for each of the four weeks of Advent. If you have not already seen them, I encourage you to click on the following links for the reflections from the first three weeks:

Week 1 – Hope, Sr. Laurie Orman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvvZivWomAA>

Week 2 – Love, Rev. Tom Mull

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR0ht68XCdhhkzn1-uEEWGsgIpqzHeRB7JQvMjkJ4mxR3UWyHVyzScLoD74&v=po-6U9csovE&feature=youtu.be>

Week 3 – Joy, Sr. Kay Lurz

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ygC_FB7l6o&feature=youtu.be

CALLING ALL FAMILIES:

We have a small yet very important ask for all of our families. If you could take some time over the Christmas Recess, we would love it if you could help us by preparing a very short (30 to 40 seconds) video of your students (families and St. Pius alum included would be great!) telling folks why you love Saint Pius Tenth School. We will be putting the recordings together to create a promotional video montage, as we prepare for registration for the 2021-22 school year. I ask that all videos be emailed to me at maria.cahill@dor.org by Friday, January 8, 2021. Please know that videos sent will be posted on our website and FB page, as well as the potential of some still shots being captured and put into print. THANK YOU!

School Health Updates:

We continue to do very well on the health side of things. Our families continue to exercise tremendous judgment in keeping students home if they are presenting with any COVID related symptoms. This is incredibly important, even though the majority of instances are not COVID related.

We also know that the Department of Health is working incredibly hard, and they are understandably behind in follow up phone calls and contact tracing.

We ask for your continued diligence and patience, as the number of cases in the community is expected to rise over the coming weeks.

PLEASE, if Christmas plans are to travel or attend gatherings, follow the guidance and quarantining protocol set by our local and state health agencies to ensure that we remain safe and healthy well into the New Year.

Progress Reports

Reports are scheduled to be available on the MSP Parent Portal by the end of day on Friday. If you do not see your students' report, please be patient and know that we will have them published as soon as they are ready.

Virtual Club Challenges

Thank you to all of the students and families who participated in our virtual clubs for the month of November.

The winners of the Scholastic Gift Cards are:

Art Club - Theo Manos, Grade 1

Service Club - Brendan VanBlargan, Grade 4

Our winners are chosen at random from all entries for a specific challenge.

Congratulations, Theo and Brendan!

Don't forget about December's Building Club Challenge.

Christmas Carol Challenge

Thank you to everyone who submitted a Christmas carol to Miss Virgil. As soon as the final video is produced, we will be sure to share it with you.

Christmas Recess

Our Christmas Recess this year is from Thursday, December 24, 2020 - Friday, January 1, 2021. School will reopen on Monday, January 4, 2021.

School Closure Information

In the event that the school is forced to close for one day due to inclement weather, it will be taken as a "snow day." Closures will be posted on the local television stations and will be sent via email and text messaging through MSP.

If it is necessary to close for two or more days, a determination will be made, on a case by case basis, as to whether we will utilize a virtual learning scenario.

Have a wonderful rest of the week!



**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET
PROJECT**

DECEMBER 9 – DECEMBER 18

**NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS CAN BE
DROPPED OFF IN THE BOXES IN THE
MAIN HALL.**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.**





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Scan your receipt on the Box Tops app for a chance to win 10,000 Bonus Box Tops for your school and a Betty Crocker Cookies Cookbook for you. 5 schools will win!

Sweepstakes begins 11/30/2020 and ends 12/20/2020.



NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Sweepstakes begins on 11/30/20 at 12:00am CST, and ends 12/20/20 at 11:59 pm CST. Open only to legal residents of the US who are 18 years or older at time of entry who are members of the BTFE program. To join, download the free Box Tops App and support an eligible, enrolled school. To enter, scan a receipt containing at least one eligible Box Tops product within 14 days of purchase by 12/20/20 at 11:59pm. Standard data rates may apply. For official rules and alternate method of entry, visit: <https://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/sweepstakes/2020/bakingschoolsbetter/official-rules>. Sponsor: General Mills Sales, Inc. One General Mills Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55440 © General Mills

TAKETHE CHALLENGE

December Building Challenge for Grades K-5

Build a Nativity Scene

Saint Pius Tenth School building challenge for December is to build a nativity scene. You can use any building materials you'd like.... Legos, playdough, popsicle sticks, construction paper...be creative! Email a picture of your finished nativity scene to JJ at JJCalnon@gmail.com. All pictures are due by **Friday, December 18th**. One entry will be randomly selected to win a \$5 certificate for Scholastic Books.

Photos may be posted on the school's Facebook page and/or website. Please indicate in your email if you do NOT want your child's picture shared