

November 29, 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! This weekend begins the Advent season and a new liturgical calendar. There are a variety of activities coming up to support your family in celebrating this special time. Advent wreaths and candles are still available for purchase through the parish office. The Advent Family Faith Night is this Saturday. More details can be found on the flyer on the website's weekly info page. Students will participate in weekly prayer services the next three Mondays. Since we are not in session on the fourth Sunday of Advent, the prayer service will be posted online and you have the option of completing it via distance learning as a family. Also, in preparation for Christ's coming, students in grades 3-8 will have the sacrament of Reconciliation next Wednesday after school Mass. Make ready the way!

As December rolls through, we will also make ready for a new teacher. Mrs. Lazas will be leaving us at Christmas break to join her husband who has been transferred to Atlanta. We will certainly miss her in 5th grade and thank her for everything she's done at St. Aloysius over the last twelve years. We wish her all the best in her new adventure. Mrs. Lazas leaves quite a legacy to follow, but I believe I've found the perfect person to join us in January. Please welcome Mrs. Katie Jordan to our St. Aloysius family! Mrs. Jordan has an introduction letter posted on the weekly info page for parents. Students will recognize her since she's been an active substitute with us over the last two years. Mrs. Jordan is highly qualified academically and also brings a passionate commitment to Catholic social justice concerns. Thank you Holy Spirit for letting our paths cross again with Mrs. Jordan!

One final Advent plug—through the Friday letters, morning announcements, bulletin boards, etc. I've often shared daily inspirations from Dynamic Catholic. Last year, "The Best Lent Ever" program provided prayers and meditations that we are still talking about today. "The Best Advent Ever" is now getting ready to start. I highly recommend this simple yet effective means of keeping a faith focused approach to your every day duties. There is no fee or obligation. You simply sign up at <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>, give your email address, and you'll receive a message every morning to start your day off right. Miss a day or two? No worries, you'll just open the emails as you have time. They are usually on target for our modern lives and quite thought provoking if you give them the time. The Holy Spirit is always ready to whisper in your ear and apparently, He might even send you an email.

Wishing you a blessed Advent season,

Mrs. Hayslip