



The Messenger

Annunciation-Our Lady of Fatima Religious Education Newsletter

Dear Religious Education Families,

Welcome to our first monthly newsletter. Our goal is to keep you informed about all the events and happenings of both the Annunciation – Our Lady of Fatima Parish and the Religious Education classes. There are so many ways to be a part of this wonderful community. We hope you will find this to be a helpful resource!



On Wednesday, December 13th, the Religious Ed program will celebrate Christmas with a special **Christmas Carol Sing-Along** at Annunciation Church at 7pm. Our 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade classes will lead us in traditional Christmas carols. **There are no Religious Education classes on this day**, so it's a great opportunity for all families to spend time together in preparation for Jesus' birth. Please join us!

The **Children's Liturgy** will be celebrated at the 10am Mass at Annunciation Church on Dec 10 and Dec 17. This is an opportunity for our 3-9 year old children to leave Sunday Mass and go the lower church for a children's version of the readings and to participate in a relevant craft. The children return to their families after the homily.



Join our parish on Sunday December 10th at 2:30 for **Lessons and Carols**. It will be a great way to start the Advent Season. The adult choir, children's choir and members of the St. Francis de Chantal adult choir will lead us in song and prayer. All are welcome. It is sure to be a

wonderful event.

There are **2 special events** on Sunday, December 3rd:

1) Confirmation Inscription Mass held in the Annunciation lower church at 10am for all Confirmation candidates and their families. Reception in the Gym afterwards.

2) Special Needs Mass held at Our Lady of Fatima Church at 2:30pm. This mass has accommodations for people with special needs. All are welcome. Reception in Breen Hall afterwards.



Upcoming Events

December 3

Advent Begins

Confirmation Mass- Annunciation Lower Church @ 10am for Candidates and their families

December 6

Confessions Grades 5-8

December 8

Mustard Seed Sacred Theater – Annunciation Church @7pm

December 10

Children's Liturgy –Annunciation @ 10am

Lessons and Carols- Annunciation @ 2:30pm

December 12

Advent Holy Hour- Annunciation @ 7:30pm

December 13

No Religious Ed classes

Christmas Carol Sing-Along- Annunciation @7pm

December 17

Children's Liturgy –Annunciation @ 10am

Breakfast with Santa –Annunciation following the 10am Mass

December 20

Last Religious Ed classes before the Christmas break

Advent Holy Hour- Our Lady of Fatima @ 7:30pm

December 24

The children of the parish will perform The Living Nativity at Annunciation Church at 3pm, prior to the 4pm Family Mass on Christmas Eve. Angels and Shepherds will be visiting the homebound after Mass.

January 3

First Religious Ed Class for 2018



Santa is coming to our town and parish!

Sunday December 17 in the Annunciation Gym following 10 am Mass. Face painting, magic show, ornament making and pictures with Santa! \$10per child/\$30 max per family. Check the parish website for details next week. (www.annunciation-fatima.com)

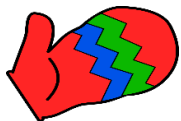
Calling all **3rd graders** to participate as *Christmas Angels and Shepherds* in the Christmas Eve Living Nativity at Annunciation Church at 3 pm prior to the 4pm Family Mass. Following the Mass on Christmas Eve, the angels and shepherds will go out and visit the homebound of the parish. For sign up information, contact Mary Rose at mary.rose@annunciation-fatima.com.

It's not too late for your **3rd-7th graders** to participate in the Living Nativity. Attend the next meeting on Friday December 1st at 4 pm at Annunciation Church to sign up.

It's a time for giving as well as receiving

Consider donating **hats, gloves and scarves** this holiday season. The Cub Scouts from Pack 6 Crestwood are collecting and organizing these donations for Midnight Run. Midnight Run is an outreach program for homeless NYC adults.

As it gets colder, the Martha and Mary Network will also be collecting new socks, hats, gloves, scarves, infant hats and booties for the Franciscan **Sisters** of the Renewal. Look for the **MITTEN TREE** in the vestibule of Our Lady of Fatima Church. The collection will be from November 25 until December 10, 2017.



We can also be a part of the giving by picking up a tag from **THE GIVING TREE**. Beginning with the 5pm Mass on Saturday, December 3rd, tags will be available at the St. Joseph's Altar at Annunciation. These tags will have the names and ages of young boys and girls. You are then asked to buy a gift for these children, who come from organizations in Westchester, the South Bronx and Manhattan. The wrapped gift should be returned with the original tag to the Giving Tree by December 10th.

Just as we all prepare during Advent for the coming of the baby Jesus, our parish is also preparing! Come and join in some or all the fun! If you need more information or have questions, please consult our website at www.annunciation-fatima.com/religious-education. You can also contact Mary Rose at mary.rose@annunciation-fatima.com.



In the Community

Christmas Wreaths

The Boy Scouts from Troop 1 will be selling Christmas Wreaths after all Masses on December 2nd & 3rd

Tree Lighting

The parish community along with the Annunciation Girl Scouts will usher in the Christmas Season on Tuesday December 5th at 7 pm by lighting the Crestwood Christmas Tree at American Legion Plaza(Vermont Terrace near the Crestwood Train Station)

Mustard Seed Sacred Theater

There will be a presentation of three short Advent plays on December 8th at 7pm at Annunciation Church. It will be a great *Family Event* performed by our parish youth group. For more information, please contact Jeannie Sweeney @jeanannesweeney@yahoo.com

Luminaria Candles

Pick up candles at Breakfast with Santa or following the 10am Mass at Annunciation on 12/17. These candles are to be placed along the streets in front of your house on Christmas Eve to help be a beacon of light in welcoming the Christ Child into our homes and community.