

Important Dates

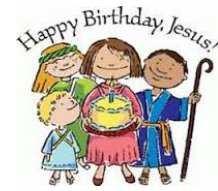
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**FACULTY INSERVICE
JANUARY 3**



**THIRD GRADING
PERIOD BEGINS
JANUARY 4**



**CHRISTMAS EVE
MASS
6:00 PM**

FAMILY BULLETIN



Merry Christmas

St. Benilde School’s purpose is to form children in the Catholic faith. Central to that faith is the experience of Christ personally present to our children. That is what makes Christianity different from the other religions... the PERSON of Christ. Christ’s personhood begins with His Incarnation... with Christmas. Each of the Christmas narratives in Scripture insist upon this. Jesus is part of a family. He has a mother and father who raise him. He is part of a family

tree. His family faces adversity. They are poor. They become refugees. They must flee persecution and resettle in a foreign land. Yet while in Egypt, they still form Him in His Jewish faith. They return home and teach Him a trade, and reintegrate with their community.

Today the encounter of Christ occurs in the community of the Church and in particular in our families. Yes, the Church and our families are far from perfect. Conflict and frustration are there, people can feel alienated, and families are often broken in some way or another. The Holy Family we celebrate in Christmas understands that. Life is not easy, but it is in the uneasiness that the Spirit moves and the Christ is born.

So between the parties, the shopping, the eating, and the hustle and bustle of the secular holiday, make sure you take a moment to quiet yourself, turn to God, and reflect on the great blessing of your family - however imperfect it may be. And ask that this Christmas, Christ make Himself present to your family and in particular to your children. When you go to Mass, be sure to give thanks to God for the many blessings you and your family have received.

And until we meet again, may God continue to hold you and your loved ones in the Palm of His Hand!

Save the Date! Safe Environment Training

The Office of Safe Environment for the Archdiocese of New Orleans will be having a mandatory training for all people wanting to work or volunteer in an Archdiocese of New Orleans ministry, including Catholic Schools. The training is the first of three steps that must be completed if a person would like to work for St. Benilde or volunteer their services leading an activity. The training will be in the cafeteria on January 19, 2017 starting at 6:30 PM.

For a Family in Need...

It is the time of year where many of us want to help others in need and often times don't know where to start...I would like to respectfully request the St. Benilde Community to please consider making a meal for the Monistere Family (Christopher 4th).

If you're not a cook - there are many places that do "take-out".

There is an online meal calendar (every other day) for people to sign up to provide a dinner for the family during this overwhelming time as they nurse Christopher back to health. It is an overwhelming time and a mom not having to worry about "what's for dinner" for her kids helps tremendously.

Please know that the meals have been very humbly received! If you're able to sign up for any date...it is greatly appreciated!

This site will email any participants reminders the day before their "dinner date". Participants are able to put what meal they are delivering so others don't duplicate the same meals during the same week.

If you know of anyone interested in sharing a blessing with the Monistere Family by sending a meal - below is the link to sign up on the "Meal Train" account - here you will find specific instructions like where/when to deliver, allergies, etc.

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/onwzdv>

Please continue to pray for Christopher Monsitere!

Questions? Please contact Amanda Reed @ 504-982-1220 at areedmustangs@aol.com.

Upcoming Calendar

December 20: End of Second Grading Period

December 20: Advisory Board Meeting, 7:00 PM

December 21 - January 3: Christmas Break

December 24: Christmas Eve Liturgy, 6:00 PM, Church

January 3: Faculty Inservice Meeting Day

January 3: Boys Basketball vs. St. Phillip, 4:00 PM, St. Phillip Neri

January 4: School Resumes, Start of Third Grading Period

January 4: School Liturgy, 8:15 AM, Church

January 5: Faculty/Staff Business Meeting, 3:30 PM, Teen Center

January 6: SBS Soccer HOME vs. St. Elizabeth, 4:00 PM, Field

January 6: Boys Basketball vs. Kehoe France @ Kehoe France, 4:00 PM

Athletics Jackets

Effective January 4, 2017, children who have purchased official St. Benilde School athletics jackets may wear them in classrooms as part of the regular uniform. Athletics jackets may not be worn into Church on Mass days if worn with the regular school uniform. This policy change will be reviewed at the end of the school year before a determination is made regarding making the policy change permanent.

Spring Gala Tickets on Sale Now

Please join us for this year's *Luck of the Irish Spring Gala* April 8, 2016 at the Landmark Hotel here in Metairie. Long time school assistant teacher Mrs. Lynne Pilie will be honored during the gala. Get your tickets at 501auctions.com/sbsgala or stop by the school office. Reduced price tickets are on sale through December 31.