

Portae

THE NEWSLETTER FOR
JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Tuesday Round-up for 17 November 2009

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS AND DECORATIONS

Please review the letter from two weeks ago – posted now on RenWeb – and do what you can to participate in this tradition!

LASER QUEST

The Student Government group is organizing a class trip to Laser Quest (Loop 410 and Ingram) on Monday, 23 November. This is a time for students to gather, spend time together, and have fun. The school will run a bus that afternoon and return to campus around 8 p.m.; teachers will not assign homework. A sign-up sheet was posted today, with the hopes of getting as close to full participation as possible. The cost will be \$15 per student, with the school covering the cost of the bus and food. (If any parent is interested in sponsoring a larger portion of the event, that would be appreciated. All students should attend; money – the \$15 – should not keep a student from attending.)

MID-QUARTER

Friday, 13 November was the mid-quarter for the second quarter. Grades will be posted by Tuesday, 17 November.

PARENTS GROUP UPDATE

(This is a follow-up to an email sent to all parents on Wednesday, 11 November.) The vision for the Parent Group is to be "one in all we do," and we would like to pursue this vision through: 1.) Catholic Catechesis for our children and ourselves; 2.) Community building; and 3.) Welcoming one another with love and joy.

Remember the parents group is still looking for a name to reflect its mission and vision.

The group has formed 5 teams to help accomplish some specific goals for the school:

- Marketing (spreading word about school to attract new students)
- Fundraising (single fund-raising event per year for all school activities)
- School Events (Advent breakfast, Catholic School Week event, Lenten event, etc)
- Family Catechesis (Building knowledge of Catholicism in our families)
- Core Leadership (Establishing the foundation for how the Parent Group will work)

If you did not sign up at the close of the first Family Night, and have an interest in helping on one or more of these teams, please contact Bill Mueller at b1bill@att.net and he will add you to the group.

Thanks to all who have volunteered so far! We need more parents to step forward please!

BASKETBALL TEAM

Congratulations to the basketball team for their opening win vs. New Braunfels Christian Academy. It was a great comeback from an early deficit, to win 34-31. Tonight, the team travels to Boerne to play Geneva School at 5:30 p.m.

Reminder that the first fan bus trip is Thursday, 19 Nov. to the Atonement game. We will leave right after school, the game starts at 6 p.m., and we will arrive back at the school just before 8 p.m.



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ADVENT ANGEL TREE

One of our Solidarity Teams is running an Angel Tree through the DePaul Family Center. Their tree (and the gift tag 'ornaments' for members of the receiving family) will be set up in the school office area. Community members are invited to participate, starting 23 November. Gifts need to be returned no later than Friday, 11 December, and can be placed back under the tree. The tree will also contain ten gift tags for baskets for the elderly, also through the DePaul Family Center. There will be a flyer available to explain the program, especially the gift baskets.



ADVENT BRUNCH - RSVP PLEASE!

Just a reminder - the final Wednesday school Mass of 2009 is Wednesday, 9 December. The Mass will start at 8:35 a.m., with a brunch to follow in our school wing. The Parents Group - Event Committee is working on getting a list together of what is needed that morning. Look for that in the near future. We need to know how many people to expect. Please email the school (lsullivan@johnpaul2chs.org) to RSVP.



MASS ON 8 DECEMBER - HOLY DAY

We will have Mass in the morning on Tuesday, 8 December for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Initially, we were having difficulty scheduling a priest that morning due to area priests' responsibilities at their parishes on a Holy Day of Obligation. We are able to have Msgr. O'Callaghan celebrate this Mass, now that he's back in the area. Mass will be at the regular time, 9:15 a.m.



CATHOLIC LIFE RAFFLE SALES

As of this morning, we are at 38% participation. A reminder that we are using the raffle to fund the service projects our students have taken on in Solidarity groups. We do have extra tickets if needed. See Mrs. Sullivan in the office.



AMBASSADORS NEWS

Below is a list of upcoming events. Contact Dr. Kenney if you have any questions or you would like to volunteer for an Ambassador event.

Sts. Peter and Paul Donor Info Night, New Braunfels - 18 Nov 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (2 students and parents, students in uniform)

High School Placement Test - JP II - 5 Dec 8 a.m. - Noon

OLPH Donor Info Night, Selma - 25 Jan 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (2 students and parents, students in uniform)

St. Monica Donor Info Night, Converse - 3 Feb 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (2 students and parents, students in uniform)