



*Dear Families,*

*'Twas the week before Christmas; and what an exciting week it has been in the primary and intermediate grades! This past Sunday we lit the pink candle, the candle of joy; and so, it is no surprise that all through our hallway and in our classrooms the smiles, giggles, and pure joy of the season have echoed throughout our days! What brings more joy than being surrounded by family and friends; and we have been blessed to share the season with them. Here are just a few highlights of our week...*

*The Kinders hosted their 6th grade buddies and enjoyed making crafts, reading Christmas stories and singing carols!! They also had a wonderful Christmas party later in the day with plenty of games and an Advent angel exchange!! Our first and second graders were dressed for the night before Christmas and sugarplums dancing in their heads when they arrived at school in their cozy PJ's on Thursday! While the first graders heard stories by the fireplace and crafted snowmen from candles; our second graders enjoyed the afternoon with their families. They loved the books they picked from their book swap!*

*While they wait for the visit from Santa, our third graders had a visit from their seventh grade buddies for an ornament exchange. They also have been busy working on writing fairy tales; and their seventh grade buddies made a return visit to help! Our fourth graders spent the week as elves, and true to the elf spirit kept busy with holiday preparations, making all kinds of Christmas surprises! One of their favorite activities from the week was creating their own slide shows to share their family Christmas traditions with their classmates! After an exciting performance at our concert on Tuesday evening; our fifth graders continued to sing their way through the week while they awaited their Christmas celebration on Thursday afternoon! They shared their beautiful voices once again today as we celebrated our Christmas Mass.*

*What we are most grateful for is that all through the weeks of preparation and celebration, Christ was at the center and we could openly pray and tell the story of the Holy Family. There is no doubt, that while our students are ready for Santa and presents on Tuesday, they all hold in their hearts the true meaning of Christmas and we couldn't be prouder of how they lived the kindness and joy of the Advent Season.*

*We could go on for pages and pages about the joy your children have brought to us throughout this Advent Season; but, we know pictures tell the story best, so follow this link and join us in our hallways and classrooms as we see the Christmas spirit fill our days!*

*[Click On the Link in the School Newsletter to Take a Peek at K-5 Christmas Joy](#)*

We want to thank all our parents for your support and help during December; we all join together and send a big thank you to our room parents for coordinating many tasks in the past few weeks. Our children were especially excited to bring in the items for the Adopt-a-Family; a well loved tradition at St. Rose School. As you open your presents on Christmas, please remember that it was your generosity and kindness that brought Christmas to families, who otherwise might not have had the merriest of Christmases! We keep these families in our prayers.



As we prepare to light the last candle on the Advent wreath, the candle representing love; we pray that the Love of the Season be found in your homes as you are surrounded by family and friends! Wishing you a joyous Christmas and a New Year filled with many blessings!

Mrs. Donna Rahtelli, Kindergarten

Ms. Claire Miksad, First Grade

Mrs. Laura Heyder, Second Grade

Mrs. Pam Zmek, Third Grade

Mrs. Mary Jo Bokuniewicz, Fourth Grade

Mrs. Anastasia Damalas, Fifth Grade

Merry Christmas to Our St. Rose Family!

