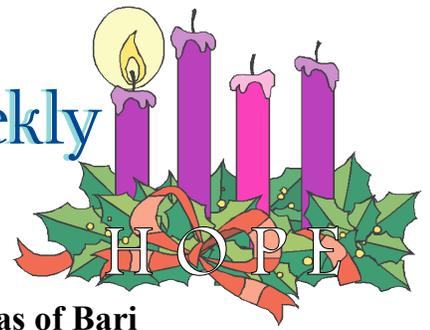




Mater Dei Academy Weekly

December 6th, 2019



Upcoming Events and Reminders:

Holy Mass will be *Tuesday, December 10th* at 8 AM. All are invited! Please let us know by that morning if you will attend, to ensure enough hosts for Holy Communion. Father will also hear Confessions. The servers will be Madison Hewitt and Xavier Mascari, and the reader will be Munro Hewitt.

Interims are being sent home today in Friday Folders. Please review, sign, and return by Monday.

Congratulations to Xavier Mascari for being the November Student of the Month, and to Munro Hewitt and Zita Storck are the runners up! All our students are doing a good job at demonstrating Christian character.

Please make sure your child(ren) comes to school with appropriate coats, hats, and gloves/mittens when needed. Also, if they are cold in the classrooms, our dress code permits a navy blue button down cardigan sweater for girls and a navy blue pull over cardigan sweater or sweater vest for boys. The sweaters may not have hoods. Girls may wear tights or leggings under their jumpers.

Dismissal is at noon on *Friday, December 20th*. The Christmas Program will be at 7 PM that night.

We are only two weeks away from our Christmas Program!!

- Need bottled water for refreshments. Please donate if able.
- There will be a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction.
- If you are donating to the silent auctions, please send your item to the school ASAP.
- Please RSVP, by Dec 16th, how many family members (immediate family, aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc.) will be attending so we know how many chairs to borrow from Faith Lutheran.

Feast Day: Saint Nicholas of Bari



Nicholas was born during the third century in Asia Minor. After his parents died of an epidemic, Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known for his generosity, love for children, and concern for sailors and ships.

Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, Bishop Nicholas was exiled and imprisoned with other clergy. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died in 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church. His relics were taken to Bari, Italy. Many stories developed about his miracles and generosity.

One story tells of his aid to a poor man with three daughters. They lacked dowries, something of value offered to prospective husbands, and were destined to be sold into slavery. Mysteriously, three bags of gold appeared in their home, tossed through an open window and landing in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. This led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas. Sometimes the story is told with gold balls instead of bags of gold, and oranges are one of the symbols for St. Nicholas. People give gifts and celebrate, helping preserve a Christmas Day focus on the Christ Child.

Have a safe and blessed weekend.

God, we thank You for Your servant, the good bishop Nicholas. In loving the poor, he showed us Your kindness; in caring for Your children, he revealed Your love. Make us thoughtful without need of reward so that we, too, may be good followers of Jesus.

A Christ-centered education in the Catholic Tradition

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