



Saint Denis – Saint Columba School

... A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

TO: PARENTS AND GUARDIANS
FROM: SR. KATHLEEN MARIE, CR
SUBJECT: WEEKLY HAPPENINGS
DATE: DECEMBER 12-22, 2016



*Jesus, I Trust in You
Make our Hearts like Yours!*

Half Day this Friday, December 16th

On Friday, December 16th the students will be dismissed after prayers at 11:55 a.m. If your child will be staying in the after school program, please remember to pack them a lunch.

SDSC Receives a Grant from Teaching Hudson Valley

St. Denis-St. Columba School recently received a grant from *Teaching Hudson Valley*, an education project of the National Park Service, Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Hudson River Estuary Program. Because of this grant our 7th grade students have the privileged of participating in an *outside the classroom learning experience* at Boscobel House, which will supplement their *in-classroom instruction* on the American Revolution and 18th Century American History. Thank you, Mrs. Sheridan and Mr. Krebs for making this possible for our students.

Symbol of GIFTS

One of the best things about Christmas for most people is getting and receiving gifts. **Giving one another presents is a ritual straight from the Bible.** Salvation is called in the New Testament "**a free gift.**" Jesus is God's gift to human beings. We give each other gifts because God set the precedent by giving so much to us in the form of His creation, His Son and Himself. When we see Christmas presents they remind us of the most precious gift God gave us –the way to Heaven through Jesus!



Advent Gift-Giving: Wrapping Day

Calling Santa's elves...Wrapping Day is Tuesday, December 13th after lunch. The students will buddy up with other classes to wrap Christmas gifts in the school gym. Volunteers are needed to oversee the children as they work together. Please bring scissors, and if you have leftover wrapping paper, we welcome that too! Volunteer spots are still available on the Gift SignUp. Please go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a4faca82eaa8-sdsc5> or click on [Advent Gift-Giving Project](#) to sign up. There are just a few children's gifts still needed. Thank you!

Share the Warmth: Hat and Mitten Drive

As cold weather arrives, check out our friendly Snow Man in the school lobby and Percy the Penguin near the St. Columba Office of Religious Education. They will be happy to accept donations of new hats, mittens, scarves, and warm socks. As part of our Advent Outreach Project, they will be shared with the children at Center for Prevention of Child Abuse, Astor Home, and His Table Ministries. The children are very grateful for these, as many must walk to school in frigid temperatures. Thank you for helping to warm little hands and hearts this winter!

Support SDSC While You Shop!

When you do your Christmas shopping this year, don't forget to use the **Amazon.com** link on our school website. St. Denis-St. Columba School earns up to 10% of every purchase made after clicking the link! If you are an Amazon Prime Member, you still enjoy all of your benefits and raise money for the school.

SDSC Private Screening – STAR WARS: Rogue One

Have you bought your tickets for the PSA private screening of the newest film in the STAR WARS anthology: **Rogue One**! The screening will take place next Saturday morning, December 17, 2016 - the morning after the film opens nationwide! Join your school friends at 10:00 a.m. at Carmel Cinema 8. Tickets are \$15 each and include popcorn and a drink. Tickets are strictly limited for this engagement. Only 300 seats are available. See the attached ticket form.

Annual Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas Pageant, including the Band concert, will take place this year on **Tuesday, December 20th at 6:00 p.m. in St. Columba Church**. All students in Grades K-8 are to be in their homerooms by 5:45 p.m. If you have family members arriving after 6:10 p.m. we ask that they enter through the ACME parking lot because the students will be walking from the school to the church for the pageant. We want to be sure that our children are safe from moving cars. The entrance of the school will be coned-off so that no one will be able to drive into the church parking lot. They will only be able to go into the parking lot behind the school.

Concert attire for **Girls in Grades K-7**

✓ Girls Dress Code

Holiday colored dresses, or skirts and blouses

(be sure they are appropriate for a young lady and not too short or too tight)

✓ Boys Dress Code

Black pants and a white shirt with a red or green tie.

- Closed-toe black/dark shoes. No sneakers. Girls may wear shoes with a small heel, but must be able to walk in them comfortably.
- Students are permitted to wear jewelry of their choosing, but should be tasteful and not distracting.
- Hair (for both girls & boys) should be pulled back or styled away from the face.

Lunch and Recess Volunteers **STILL NEEDED ON FRIDAYS**

We are still in need of volunteers to help with the supervision of our students during their recess time on Fridays *(between 12:00 p.m. and 12:50 p.m.)*. Our children need the fresh air, exercise, and time to run around and interact with one another each day. If you are able to help us so that we can ensure the safety of our children and that they are able to go outside for recess, both the children and I would be most grateful. For more information or to sign up, please call the school office at 227-7777.

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To Everything there is a Season and a Time for Every Purpose under Heaven

Let us continue to keep in our prayers the many among us who are sick and suffering.

A TIME TO HEAL

Anne Culkin (*mother of Cathy Martin and great grandmother of Michael O'Hearn*), Janice Prostack (*sister of Sr. Kathleen*), Michael Ferretti (*friend of Mrs. Senno*), Loretta DelliCarpini, Louis Pissani, Phyllis Dillon (*mother-in-law of Mrs. Dillon*), and the many who are sick and suffering in mind, body or spirit at this time

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December 22nd Christmas Parties and Christmas Vacation

On Thursday, December 22nd our Christmas Celebrations will take place from 12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. in the classrooms. There will be **No Hot Lunch** and **No After School Program** the last day before Christmas vacation.

We will have our first Walkathon NUT Award Day for all students. Be sure they are dressed neatly and appropriately. Because it is the Christmas season, I encourage the students

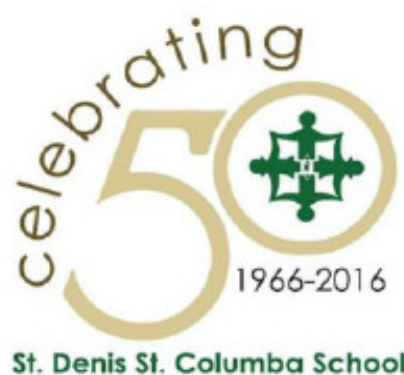
to wear **Christmas colors** for the day!

Christmas vacation begins on Thursday, December 22nd at our 2:50 p.m. dismissal. **School will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd**. During Christmas break our maintenance men, will "spruce up" the school building before the New Year. We are asking that the children *clean out their desks, throw out the extra "stuff" they've accumulated* over the last few months and *make sure all their books have good covers* on them so that when we come back in January we can begin anew. The children are also asked to bring home all their notebooks, folders, pencil cases, and any books they may want to use for review over the break.

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*Wishing you and your families a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy and Holy New Year!*





Anniversary Gala

St. Denis-St. Columba School has offered the finest education and character development in a loving Catholic tradition for over **50 Years!** We are planning a Gala event on April 22, 2017 as a tribute to our school's legacy of loving and learning. We also hope to raise funds to benefit current and future generations of students.

WE NEED YOUR PARTNERSHIP AS WE PREPARE FOR OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY GALA

Our families form the core of our school. SDSC exists because of the generosity and support of our families throughout these 50 years. This is why we are asking our families and alumni to help make our Gala a huge success!

OUR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOUR GENEROSITY AND THAT OF YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES.

Contributions can come in many forms and all are appreciated, whether your contribution is in the form of time, talent, money or merchandise. Currently we are seeking help with:

- **Ticket Sales and Event Promotion**
- **Silent Auction and Raffle Donations**
- **Seeking or Gathering Auction and Raffle Donations**
- **Advertising Sales for Program & Event Journal**
- **Creative Prize Packaging and Presentation**
- **Decorating and Highlighting Our Legacy**

Please Call or E-Mail our Gala Event Coordinators:

Brendan O'Brien – Mobile (212) 882-1047; bobrien@ur.com

Mary Ann Menuau – (914) 299-3077; maryann@mchoulfuneralhome.com

Thank YOU for your commitment to SDSC!



St. Denis – St. Columba School has 300 tickets to see STAR WARS, Rogue One!!!!
December 17th, 2016
Carmel Cinema 8
150 NY-52, Carmel, NY 10512

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- *Complete the form below and return it to the main office. Attention: **STAR WARS**
- *Tickets will be sold on a first come first served basis and available to families & friends of SDSC
 - *\$15 per person attending
 - *Make checks payable to St. Denis –St. Columba School
 - *The deadline for this event is December 9th
 - *Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian. No refunds.
- This movie is rated PG-13. Use your discretion when determining if this movie is appropriate for your child.*

Arrive between 9:15 a.m. – 9:30.a.m. The movie starts promptly at 10:00 a.m.
This event sold out last year! Please get your money in early!☺

Your ticket includes yummy popcorn and a small fountain drink.

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Attending: _____

Email address: _____

Amount enclosed: _____