



December 19, 2017

Dear FAW Families,

Although we are still in Advent, the excitement of Christmas and its many accompanying sights and sounds have been filling the hallways of Father Andrew White School!

Buddy classes made cards to be included in the blessing bags for those who will be at Camp Maria for the WARM program over Christmas. Your generous contributions of gifts to this Advent service project are evidence that you hold the true spirit of the season in your heart. I'm certain the donations of socks, hats and scarves, chapstick, candy, and other items will be greatly appreciated by those who receive them. The beautiful music and Gospel message at the annual Christmas concert along with the many examples of our students' creativity displayed in special arts and crafts projects have enabled us to experience the energy and enthusiasm associated with this special time of year!

My 7th grade English teacher was one of the most influential people in my life. She inspired me to become an educator and we kept in close touch over the years. The following poem is one she wrote and shared with me that I hold close to my heart, especially at Christmas. I hope you find its message as touching as I do.

The Road to Christmas

by Lucy Dollar

It's not a super highway or a street or path on earth,
but a journey back to Bethlehem and a humble stable birth.
The time seems long ago now as we measure history,
but that road was God the Father's plan from all eternity.

Now anyone may walk that road; the scriptures point the way.
God's prophets spoke of many signs foretelling of that day.
Then Jesus came and walked the road which led to Calvary.
That road from Christmas to the cross has set all people free.

In these remaining days of Advent, may God bless your family with hope, faith, and awe at the coming miracle of our Savior's birth! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

In Christ's love,
Heather Francisco