

FAW News
December 12, 2023



*"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."
Luke 2:14*

Dear Families of Father Andrew White School,

As we continue celebrating the season of Advent, the students learned that there is significance in each part of the Advent wreath. The wreath is a circle, symbolizing the never ending love of God for us. It is evergreen, noting that God is everlasting. The candles represent Jesus' light coming in darkness. Seed pods and pine cones symbolize new life. Each candle represents a different theme. The first candle represents hope, the second candle represents peace, the third candle represents joy and the fourth candle represents love. All of these qualities can be found within the person of Jesus Christ.

We also celebrated the Feast Day of St. Nicholas and Our Lady of Guadalupe. Students were overjoyed to find gold coins and other treats in the shoe that they placed outside of their classroom as St. Nicholas made a visit to our school! Ms. Skane explained Marian apparitions at morning prayer and also told the students that we each have a choice to invite Jesus into our hearts. She encouraged us to make that choice each day, by showing love and kindness in our actions and our words.

A huge thank you to Mrs. Cacko for directing our Christmas pageant, along with Mrs. Hinkle and Mrs. Tennant. It was a beautiful evening of song and reflection on what our Christmas season is all about. It was a great opportunity for students to exercise confidence when performing before such a large audience. They did an amazing job!!

Lastly, we are so proud of our students and staff for implementing several service projects during this season of Advent. Our SCA students were responsible for assisting with a book drive and helping to finish beds for *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* and our eighth grade students

initiated a Coat Drive. Fourth and fifth grade students will be caroling and bringing ornaments to our senior citizens and many students will share gifts with their buddy from the school, spreading a bit of Christmas love and cheer to others!

May you and your family find ways to invite Jesus more deeply into your heart this Christmas season and to share His love with others. Please take time to attend Mass to give your child the gift of faith so they too may share in His hope, peace, joy and love!

Sincerely,
Janet Szych
Principal