



# ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

November 30, 2018

[www.stmichaelschoolct.com](http://www.stmichaelschoolct.com)

## Important Dates

<b>Advent Begins</b>	12/2
<b>Band &amp; Chorus Christmas Concert St. Mary Church Hall 6:00 pm</b>	12/5
<b>No School Staff Development Day</b>	12/6
<b>Report Cards</b>	12/7
<b>Grade Three Nutcracker Ballet Garde Arts</b>	12/7
<b>St Nick's Closet</b>	12/10– 12/12
<b>Morning Prayer &amp; Benediction St. Mary Church 9:15 am</b>	12/14
<b>Lessons &amp; Carols St. Mary Church 9:30 am</b>	12/21



So here we are on the last day of November. Tomorrow we start December, and the Season of Advent and the new Liturgical year begins on Sunday. Christmas is only a few weeks away!

We have set up our Giving Tree in the hallway outside of first grade. We do this each year and collect toys and gifts to donate to the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center. A notice on this was sent out this morning. It is a way for all of our students to practice this month's virtue of generosity, which falls under the Cardinal Virtue of Justice.

Wednesday evening the St. Michael School Band and Chorus will perform their Christmas concert. I know this is going to be a wonderful evening of music, you will be surprised at what our young musicians can do! Please join us for a fun event.

That brings up one of my favorite events of the year. I say one of because Veteran's Day is right up there too! This is Lessons and Carols which will be held this year on Friday, December 21. The entire school participates in readings, hymns and carols and the Kindergarten class performs a Nativity pageant. It is a truly wonderful event and not to be missed. Please make every effort to join us. I do need to point out that we have had to change the time from what was originally scheduled on the liturgy calendar in out hand-

book. Because it is a half day for the Stonington Public Schools as well, our dismissal time on that day will be 11:00 am. So Lessons and Carols will begin at 9:30 so that we can get the students back to school for dismissal. We also ask, that even if you are attending the program, all students must return to school for dismissal. No students will be dismissed from Church. The students will come back to school and be dismissed in the usual way.

The first trimester of the year has officially ended. Grades are being finalized and the first report card will be coming home next Friday. Because we held our conferences at Progress Report time this year, there will be no conferences. If you would like to make an appointment to discuss any concerns you might have, please contact your child's teacher, or the office to set up a time for a conference.

Next Thursday there is no school. The teachers will be attending a Diocesan staff development day. As a result, Friday is a full day of school.

St. Nick's Closet begins on Monday, December 10. This is a long standing tradition at St. Michael School which allows the children to shop and purchase Christmas gifts for their family members. The

students have a great time selecting the presents and getting them wrapped, and you will certainly be thrilled and surprised by their choices! Although it is sometimes referred to as a fundraiser, it is really not about making money for the school, it is about giving the students the opportunity to get into the spirit of the season!

As we enter the season of Advent, let us keep the real reason for the season in our hearts, and teach our children to do the same. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of Our Lord, let's make ourselves ready, and help those less fortunate than ourselves.

God bless!

*Mrs. Messina*

### **From the Nurse's Desk**

Positive flu cases are being reported. Please consider getting a flu shot for you and your children. Please note: Flu vaccination is a requirement for Pre K students.

If you want your child to have cough drops at school, please send in a bag for your child with permission to have at school. All cough drops must be kept in the Nurse's office.