

FRIDAY NOTES — DECEMBER 12, 2025

Advent Wreath

Week 1: HOPE

Week 2: LOVE

Week 3: JOY



Congratulations to this week's SSP STARS—Holiday Edition!

Batting Lead-Off: The Pre-K Team: students and teachers, for jump-starting the Christmas spirit with their adorable Advent Concert last night.

On Deck: Third Grader, Seth Rataj, for constantly helping others by grabbing coats, jackets, and playground balls left behind. Quiet leadership at its finest.

Cleaning Up: The Dynamic Duo of Musical Merriment, Anne & David Borgmeyer. During this season of joy, they and their talented Choral Club are in high demand, keeping a packed dance card as they spread holiday cheer, year after year!

CHRISTMAS PARTIES — IMPORTANT DETAILS

From PTO's Stephanie Nigh:

Hello SSP Room Parents! In preparation for the classroom Christmas parties, *all* volunteers planning to attend must complete the [Google Form](#) by **Wednesday, December 17**. This ensures that all volunteers have completed the **Protecting God's Children** workshop. If you have any questions, please reach out. Thank you for all you do for SSP!

Stephanie Nigh — (314) 609-1458

Side Note from Mr. Sturgill:

There will be a sign-in table with pre-printed name tags for everyone in compliance. For the safety of all students, parents who have not completed this step will *not* be permitted to enter or participate in classroom festivities. Please know that from our perspective, it is both awkward & heartbreaking to turn away family members from these special events — but safety must always come first.

Cub Scout Pack 104 is selling live Christmas greens to raise money for the Pack. We have a few items left for sale and could use some help finding buyers. Please direct your questions to Steve Bernstetter at his email address: s.bernstetter@gmail.com or phone at (314)605-1169.

Here's the link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044DA4AD2BA2FCC43-60242119-extra#/>



Lost & Found

All these items will be donated to charity or the PTO closet if not retrieved by Noon on December 19th. Since this picture was taken, three more winter coats arrived in this collection. These are located outside the main school office.

WEEK IN REVIEW 12/14—12/19, 2025

SUNDAY 12/14 Sunset Youth Mass 4:30pm.

The Choral Club is leading Music at this Mass!

CLICK FOR FULL CALENDAR

MONDAY 12/15 Polar Express Day (Wear PJs)

Living Advent Wreath 8 am in the Parish Center (Gymnasium)

Choral Club practice @ 2:30 pm

Lunch: French Toast Sticks **Alternative:** Bagel with Cream Cheese or **Salad:** Spinach

TUESDAY 12/16

Grades 2 & 3 Mass Servers: JuJu Indelicato & Isa Tomas

Lunch: Chicken Nuggets **Alternative:** BLT Wrap or **Salad:** BLT

WEDNESDAY 12/17 PTO Dine-Around at Cecil Whitakers

Pizzeria from located at 6018 South Grand 10 am—11 pm

Lunch: (Grinch) Grilled Cheese **Alternative:** Chicken Caesar Wrap or **Salad:** Chicken Caesar

THURSDAY 12/18 Dragonflies Party 9am

Choral Club practice @ 2:30 pm

Chess Club 3-4 pm in the Art Room

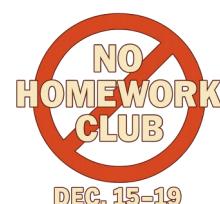
Lunch: Mini Corn Dogs **Alternative:** Taco Wrap or **Salad:** Taco

FRIDAY 12/19 St. Vincent DePaul Food Drive; *Students may "Dress Up" for All School Mass, Music Sharing & Christmas Parties*

Mass Servers: Maria Kim, Ashley Angulo-Pluma, & Theresa Zen
Christmas Music Sharing 10 AM; **Parties** 11 AM & Noon Dismissal

NJHS has been sponsoring a **Hygiene Product Drive**. Please see the list below for specific items. Please bring items to the classroom. Any class that brings in the same number of items as students in the class will receive a dress down day OR if we collect 300 items total, there will be an all-school dress down day reward. Please do not separate packaged items to make them count as more than one item. If you have any questions, please contact [Mrs. Anglo](#).

Body Wash	Body/Hand Lotion	Chapstick
Shampoo	Conditioner	Hair ties
Toothpaste	Toothbrushes	Dental floss
Brushes	Diapers	Baby Wipes
Hand/Bar Soap	Combs	Deodorant



Homework Club Will not be in Session next week: **December 15-19**. Sessions will start again in the new year. We're trying to give our volunteers teachers time off from their dedicated service!

NEW MASS Schedule

The Pastoral Council has adopted an experimental weekend Mass Schedule for the first quarter of 2026. From January 4th to April 5th (Easter) there will be the addition of an 8:30 am Mass at SSP Church to the regular weekend schedule, keeping all of the existing Mass times, so that

SSP weekend schedule will be 4 pm Saturday at SSP, 7 am Sunday at SJB, 8:30 am Sunday at SSP, 10 am Sunday at IHM, and 4:30 pm Sunday at SSP. In March, the Pastoral Council will evaluate whether the 8:30am Mass should be retained or the 4:30 pm Mass.

If you, your neighbors, and others you know have missed having an 8:30am Sunday morning mass at SSP Church, please come and join us beginning January 4th!

Tom Esswein, President of Pastoral Council

Below is the Mass schedule for this Holy Day for the remainder of this calendar year:

Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

- December 24: 4:00 PM @ SJB | 5:00 PM @ SSP | 10:00 PM @ IHM
- December 25: 8:00 AM @ SJB | 10:00 AM @ SSP

Mary, Mother of God

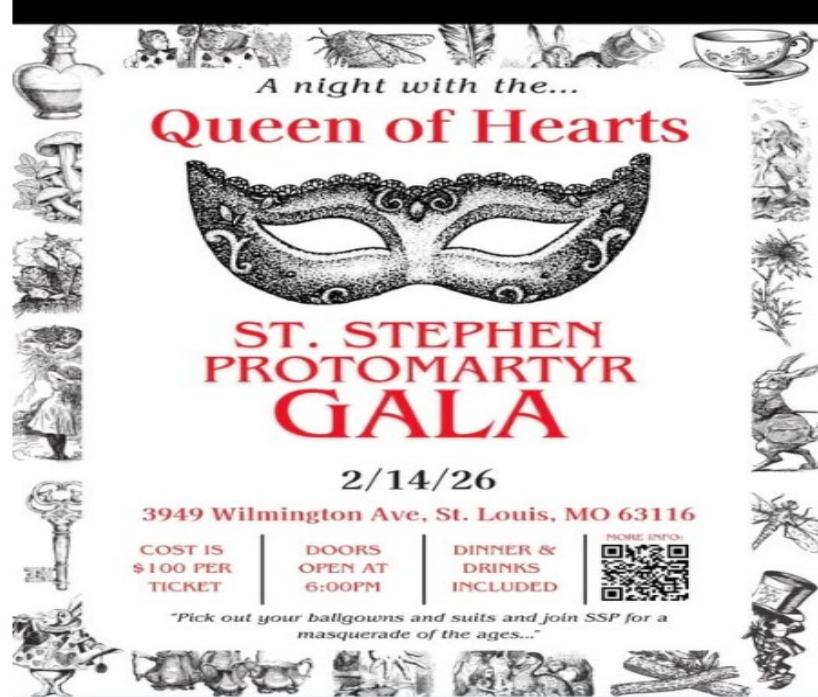
- December 31: 11:55 PM @ SSP • January 1: 8:00 AM @ IHM

Morning Care Sign Up Begins - Monday, January 5 @ 6:30am

Due to the inconsistency of morning care usage, we will now require parents to sign up if you are going to utilize the program. The sign up is intended to be completed by week, but understand that can't always happen for unforeseen circumstances. Please sign up no later than 6pm the night before needing morning care. The sign up sheet will be updated each Friday morning for the upcoming week. The link can always be found on this weekly communication at the end of the email. [Morning Care Sign Up](#)

2025 St. Stephen/Sam Crow Memorial 8th Grade Boys & Girls Holiday Hoopfest - December 26 —30

Both our boys and girls basketball teams will each be hosting an 8 team basketball tournament. Come out with your families and friends to support our 8th grade class as they hit the court in this long-standing SSP basketball tournament tradition. If you would like to lend your support and volunteer, please consider signing up to work at the [concession stand](#) or the [admissions table](#). If you have any questions, please contact [Phil Cervantes](#).



The [St. Stephen Protomartyr Gala](#) is just around the corner! Join us on Saturday February 14, 2026, for our [Queen of Hearts Masquerade](#), a night that brings our parish and school community together in support of Catholic education.

You can [purchase Gala tickets here](#) or browse our [SSP Gala FAQ](#) for everything you need to know.

We can't pull off a big event like this without the help of many amazing volunteers! Learn how you can get involved by reaching out to Gala Co-Chairs, [Kim Armstrong](#) or [Sara Danner](#).

Make Christmas a little more magical, surprise your Valentine with tickets to the SSP Gala and celebrate together on February 14!

