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Mrs. Debra R. Masiello, Principal

## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

**Thank you** to all those who generously gave to our Thanksgiving Food Drive! All the food collected will be delivered to the Yonkers Food Pantry.

**Congratulations** are in order. The Lutheran Schools Association sponsored a contest, "**I am thankful for . . .**" The top two winners of all the LSA schools that submitted art work were from St. Mark's. 7<sup>th</sup> grader, Olani Peters, won first place. 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, Iosa McMahon, came in second. **Well done, Olani and Iosa!**

**PLEASE! PLEASE!** Let's park within the lines in the parking lot. If you are walking your child to the door, please park in a designated parking spot. Only stop in the turn-a-round if you are dropping off your child and you are staying in the car. Please do not hold up the line!

**Tuition** - Tuition is due on the first of the month. You have a grace period until the 10th. If the 10th falls on the weekend, you have until the next school day. Tuition that is sent in after that is considered late and will be assessed a late fee of \$45. Please include the late fee in your payment or a letter will go home reminding you of the late fee.

**Christmas Boutique** - Sponsored by the PTL, Mrs. Masiello and Mrs. Coogan.  
Thursday, Dec. 5 - The children shop between 8:30 and 3:30 with their classes.  
Friday, Dec. 6 - The Boutique continues - Vendors, a Visit from Santa, Activities for the children, Refreshments, Raffles. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM.  
Volunteers are still needed to help with the shopping on Thursday. Sign-up sheets went home last Tuesday. There is still time to sign up.

The annual **Amish Trip** is Friday, December 13 for students in grades 3-8. This year the children will be going to Bethlehem. A letter will go home the Monday before with final reminders.

**Radio City Christmas Spectacular** for Kindergarten through Grade 2 is Thursday, December 12.

**Carol Sing** - Wednesday, Dec. 18.

The Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 service will begin at 4:00 PM.

The Kindergarten through Grade 8 service will begin at 5:30 PM.

PTL will host a reception between the two services.

All children are expected to be in attendance.

***THERE IS NO AFTERCARE ON DECEMBER 18!***

In order to maximize the parental enjoyment of the Carol Sing and to minimize the anxieties of the children, photographs may only be taken from your seats in the pews. Do not come forward to take pictures or record. It is disruptive to our Christmas service and to the children. It blocks the view of the children and other parents and the confusion easily upsets the younger children.

**Friday, December 20** - Last day of school before Christmas vacation. THIS IS A FULL DAY OF SCHOOL. Chapel is at 8:30 followed by a Christmas Assembly. The children will have their Christmas party at some point during the day. The children do not exchange gifts in school.

December 20 is also **Spirit Day**. Children may wear holiday green and red or Christmas clothing or accessories.

**Midquarter** is December 13. Midquarter progress reports will be sent home with your child on Friday, December 20.

Saturday, December 7, is the day for **decorating St. Mark's Church**. If you would like to come to help us set up the three trees in the chancel and put the wreaths on the walls and in the windows, we begin at 9:00 AM. The more hands we have, the quicker it gets done!

**Box Tops for Education Contest**

Our Box Top Contest ends on December 17!

We will have Toys' R Us gift certificates of varying amounts for the top 3 collectors. Box Tops must be attached to one of the Box Tops collection sheets. Include your child's name and grade on each sheet.

As of right now, we have 2 kindergarteners in first and second place and a 7<sup>th</sup> grader in third place. Others are close behind!

Keep collecting! We receive .10 for each Box Top collected and all monies will be used to buy materials for our art program.

