



# Saint Michael School

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Teaching Children Their Value  
as Children of God

November 30, 2011

**REMINDER:** TONIGHT IS MCDONALD'S NIGHT, 5:00-8:00 PM. Come and support our school.

Sunday began the first day of Advent, the day when the Church begins a new year. For these four Sundays, we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ at Christmas. What can I do to prepare for this great feast? What can we do as a family to reach out to those less fortunate? How can we fill the hearts of those around us by acts of kindness?

A few years ago The Oprah Winfrey Show was about "Paying it Forward". It showed how women in the audience were given \$1,000 to give away and what great work they did to make a difference in the lives of others. I don't have \$1,000 to give to you, but we can do during this season is to make this time of the year brighter for someone by lending a helping hand, greeting them warmly, sharing our homemade cookies and breads, sending a card, purchasing a gift for someone on the Giving Tree in Church. If each one of us did one thing for another and they in turn did something how many lives would be touched by our initial act of kindness. Let us make a difference in the lives of others this Advent season.

As we light the first candle on our Advent Wreath let us pray:

Come Lord Jesus!  
Fill us with your light,  
So that we may live in  
Peace with one another.  
Help us to follow in your ways  
So that we may be ready  
To welcome you at Christmas.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Penance Meeting** for parents and students who preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance in March are required to attend the meeting tomorrow night, Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria.

**NO AFTERCARE on December 22<sup>nd</sup>** - There will be NO AFTERCARE on Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> due to the early dismissal at 11:30 AM and the Christmas break.

**Chess Club** - St. Michael School is happy to announce it will form a Chess Club after the first of the new year for chess-playing 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. The club will meet bi-weekly (twice a month) beginning January 12<sup>th</sup> through the end of the school year from 3:00-4:15 PM in the All Purpose Room. The bi-weekly meetings will allow time for a snack, strategy demonstration, and almost an hour of quiet playing time. There will be an annual fee of \$15 per student to participate. Fees will cover start-up and replacement costs. We ask club members be familiar with the game and knowledgeable of the rules, however, we can accommodate a handful of beginners. There are many free on-line tutorials to get your child experienced with the rules before the Club starts in January. We have one parent moderator with limited playing experience volunteering so far. If you have strategy experience and could join Kelly Dobrydney as a moderator, we would welcome it! Please let Kelly know if your child is interested in joining the Chess Club in 2012 and/or if you can help moderate. We look forward to seeing you. Kelly can be reached at [dobrydneyk@yahoo.com](mailto:dobrydneyk@yahoo.com) or 703-354-0679.

**Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** the children will be allowed to wear jeans, they are asked to bring in a minimum donation of \$2 in order to wear jeans that day. This is to support Catholic Charities.

**Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>** the children will be attending Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception at 8:30 AM. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please join us.

**McDonalds After School Snack Packs** are great stocking stuffers for the children. They are now available in the school office. They are \$1 each for a pack of 12. (each treat pack includes 3 of each; Free bag of Apple Dippers or Small Fry, Free Small Apple Juice or Milk, Free Small Cone and Free Hamburger). Please send your money in to the main office in an envelope marked with "McDonalds Snack Pack" and your child's name and we will send it home to you.

**Bishop O'Connell** Get in the holiday spirit by revisiting the classic "It's a Wonderful Life" at Bishop O'Connell H.S. the weekend of Dec. 9. Showtimes are Friday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 pm, Saturday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 pm, and a Sunday matinee on Dec. 11th at 2 pm. St. Mike's alum Veronica Fernandez will play the lead female role as George Bailey's wife Mary.

**Mark your Calendar - Dates to Remember:**

December 1 - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade High School Placement Test at St. Michael's

December 1 - Penance Meeting, 7:00 PM, Cafeteria

December 6 - St. Nicholas Day

December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Mass 8:30 AM

December 14 - Progress Reports

December 15 - Christmas Choir & Band Concert, 7:00 PM, Cafeteria