#GETCONNECTED FALL/ WINTER 2019

PSR Newsletter

Annunciation Catholic Church



October Celebrates the Rosary

PSR students prayed the Rosary in the Annunciation gym together, holding the life-size rope rosary parishioners made. Mrs. Kelly began the evening by thanking parents for joining their children, emphasizing the importance of family prayer. "We pray with the students here in PSR to encourage and help support your prayer at home, as you are the domestic church," she said. Mrs. Kelly spoke about Jesus and Mary, then invited everyone to think of a prayer intention. She said, "Think of someone you know, and place them in your heart, since that's where Jesus lives. Keep them in prayer as you pray the Rosary and meditate on the mysteries." Mrs. Kelly also reminded families to pray for a world-view intention, like praying for peace in our community, the needs of the homeless, and for reparation of sin and the conversion of sinners. It was a great turnout with over 100 people praying together.







November, A Season of Gratitude

In November, PSR activities were filled with thanksgiving and gratitude. We celebrated a Thanksgiving "teaching" Mass, with Fr. Mike offering explanations of the parts of the Mass. It was wonderful that so many parents and grandparents could join us to give thanks to God and offer children support as they served in various liturgical roles, such as readers, servers, gift bearers, and choir. Families also donated canned goods for St. Vincent de Paul.

Thank you to all who donated cleaning supplies to St. Anthony of Padua. Families were incredibly grateful, as Sr. Marie expressed in a thank you note to PSR: "Our families value a clean home; but they don't have the money for supplies because they need their money for medicine and food."

Classroom: Our first graders decorated placemats with the names of people they were thankful for. They took the placemats home to use on Thanksgiving, reminding them of who they can thank God for and that Jesus is thankful for them.





Feed the Hungry

On November 6, PSR families gathered in the cafeteria for a night of service. The evening began with a slide-show highlighting ways St. Anthony's of Padua food pantry helps those in need and offers volunteer opportunities. Mrs. Kelly spoke about the importance of service and how Jesus calls us to take care of our homes, families, parish family, and surrounding communities. Before leading everyone in the Hail Mary, she said, "prayer and service go together so let's write down the name of someone we want to pray for, and let's also pray for those receiving the sandwiches".

Families donated bread, turkey, and cheese to make 400-500 hearty sandwiches. Around 85 families were served the very next day. 1st and



2nd grade children made cards with messages of God's love to send along with the sandwiches. **Did you Know?** The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and ends on the 'Baptism of the Lord', *celebrated on January 12*.

Advent Reflections

by Ann Kelly

Advent is a gift the Church gives us to spend time in reflective prayer, make a good reconciliation, and renew our perspective so we can more fully celebrate Christmas.

Jesus invites us into quiet time with him this busy season because that's who we are preparing for. With the meaning of Advent being 'coming', we can reflect on when Jesus came to us in the Incarnation, how his peaceful presence comes to us now, and how we can best prepare for when he will come again. Imagine your heart being a room, like the one at the inn where Jesus was born. Today he's born into our hearts when we receive him at Communion. We can prepare his room by filling it with prayer, joy, kindness, virtues, and through daily Mass. Likewise, we can rid it of sin, hurt, anger, and unforgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Through the gifts of Jesus' Church, we can begin to experience Heaven on Earth now in our hearts, beginning with our love of Jesus in the Eucharist. I pray your Advent is full of opportunities to share God's love with others.

First graders made Advent wreaths in class to take home.



Our Parish Mission

Our Mission, as the prayerful community of Annunciation, is to announce the good news of Jesus Christ by living and sharing our Catholic faith.