

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Marc Martinez

Greetings of peace and joy!

1. Well, the time is getting closer ..... Christmas vacation! We have one week to go! However you choose to spend this time, I pray you are careful and able to find time to relax and enjoy your family. I feel blessed to be a part of the True Cross Family and will think of you all while I am away. In your child's folder is a 13 month calendar for your family, as a small Christmas gift from True Cross School.

2. I want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and pray that you are able to celebrate Christmas with loved ones. Next week begins the third week of Advent. As you pray around the Advent wreath with your family, please add a prayer for the True Cross Community. May this Christmas season bring many blessings of peace and joy to you and your family. I look forward to celebrating Mass next week and look forward to seeing you in the New Year! God bless!

3. I want to congratulate the TC Band for their wonderful performance at their Annual True Cross/Pine Drive School Bands Christmas Concert on Tuesday evening. I want to thank Mr. Rangel, Band Director, for his hard work and efforts in preparing the students for this event.

4. I would like to thank the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Room Moms for all of their hard work and efforts at the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, last week. Thank you, also, to everyone who helped watch the classes so that all of the teachers could enjoy a special time with one another for lunch.

5. I want to thank all of the families and classes for their participation in the annual "Adopt a Family" Christmas program. The 10 families will receive the gifts, cash donations or gift cards from our TC families tomorrow. Without your help, these families would probably not have as nice a Christmas. Thank you for your gift of sharing.

6. In the right column, you will find the Mass times for Christmas at Shrine of the True Cross Church. I have included the Archbishops statement regarding the celebration of Christmas (Nativity of the Lord) when celebrated on Monday.

## Upcoming events

### December

- ✠ 14 BB Game at Abundant Life (away) 4:30/5:30
- ✠ 18 NJHS Induction at 1:10 PM
- ✠ 19 HSA Meeting & Christmas Cookie Decorating at 6:15
- ✠ 20 School Liturgy (K-8) 8:15  
Class Christmas Parties at 10:00 AM  
Early Dismissal at 11:00

- ✠ 21-Jan. 2 Christmas Holidays

### January

- ✠ 3 Classes Resume

### Volunteer Appreciation!

I would like to acknowledge all of the parents who assisted Ms. Hegman with the Vision and Hearing Screening. I especially want to thank Darlene Whelton, Laurie Balliew, Briana Etie, Connie Rankin, Brenda Amador and Becky Manney for their help. A lot of time and effort was put in to make sure each child was examined thoroughly and efficiently. Thank you for all you do for our school!

### "Arts & Crafts Sale"

Need an inexpensive gift idea for Christmas? The 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes will be selling inexpensive accessories for cell phones, backpacks, etc. next week during lunch. All gift items are under \$5 each.

### INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE!!!

Parker School Uniforms is having an inventory reduction sale from Nov. 28 to December 31. Families will receive 20% discount off all in stock items! You can also order online using the school **Web ID Code: LC341131** or in person at their location in League City.

### IRIS!

Thank you for returning the requested information for the IRIS database. Some families have yet to return the form. These families will not be included in the IRIS database until a later time.

**A Special 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-Shirt Sale!**  
Anniversary t-shirts are on sale now for \$10. If you buy your shirts now, students can wear them each Friday during the spring semester!  
*Please see the Front Office for more information.*

### Indoor Soccer!

TCS will participate in indoor soccer, again! The season will begin right after Spring Break. There will be tryouts sometime after the Christmas break. A note will go home with complete information after the holidays!

### Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

Following are the Mass times for Shrine of the True Cross Church:

#### **Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) Vigil Masses**

- 7:00 am English
- 8:30 am Spanish
- 10:00 am English
- 5:30 pm Children's Christmas Vigil
- 7:30 pm Christmas Vigil (English)

#### **Christmas Day (Dec. 25)**

- 12:00 am Christmas Midnight Mass
- 8:30 am Christmas Mass (Spanish)
- 10:00 am Christmas Mass (English)

#### **New Year's eve (Dec. 31)**

Regular Sunday Mass. There are NO Vigil Masses.

#### **New Year's Day (Jan. 1)**

- 8:30 am Mass (English)
- 10:00 am Mass (Spanish)

### CHRISTMAS

In 2006, the celebration of Christmas (Nativity of the Lord) is celebrated on Monday. Catholics are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on Sundays of the year. The Nativity of the Lord also obliges the faithful to participate in the Eucharist. A person who participates in the Mass on Sunday evening, December 24, may fulfill the obligation to participate in the Eucharistic liturgy on Sunday **OR** the obligation to participate in the Eucharistic liturgy on Christmas (Nativity of the Lord) **BUT** such participation does not fulfill **BOTH** obligations.

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Sunday, December 31 is the Feast of the Holy Family. Because January 1 falls on a Monday, the obligation for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is dispensed. Parishes are encouraged to maintain their normal Sunday schedule. The evening Mass on December 31 will be for the Sunday. A sufficient number of Masses should be scheduled in observation of the solemnity on January 1 to allow the faithful to participate in the Eucharistic liturgy.

***Pre K 3 is in need of baby food jars. If you have any to be used for various crafts, please send to PK3! Thank you!***

Debbie Kraft would like to thank everyone who had a part in making the **Elvis show** a success. Cathryn Andrews made wonderful centerpieces, 8th graders were a huge help, parents sent terrific desserts, and special thanks go to Sally Quinonez, Theresa Roberts, Kim Johnson, Diane Duron, Rebecca Roberts, Krissy Johnson and Anna Kraft. Joanna Roberts and Christly Guidry entertained everyone with their beautiful voices. It was a magical evening.