



St. Angela Merici Catholic School

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Friendly Friday Update # 15: Dec. 18th - Dec. 22nd



ADVENT PRAYER

During this third week of Advent, we light the pink or rose candle on the Advent wreath. This candle symbolizes the Advent rose, a time to pause in this season to give joy to others. This candle is also called the “joy” candle. Throughout this third week of Advent, we reflect on joy.



God of joy,
We praise you during this Advent season and always.
Fill us with gladness throughout the journey.
May we follow in the joyful steps of the shepherds,
May we share in the jubilant song of the angels.
May our joy grow with each passing moment.
We ask this through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Week at a Glance

Monday 18th	Tuesday 19th	Wednesday 20th	Thursday 21st	Friday 22nd
Festive Colours - Wear Red & Green	Christmas Sweaters & Movie Day with your Class	Christmas Pajama Day	Holiday Headgear - Christmas Hats/Headbands	Christmas Sweaters - Christmas Class Party Staff vs Students volleyball game

Looking Ahead:

- December 18th - 22nd - Christmas Spirit Week
- December 22nd - Last Day Before Christmas Break
- January 8th - Welcome Back, First Day of School, 2024
- January 19th - PA Day
- January 26th - Civvies Day
- January 26th - St. Angela Merici Feast Day Mass, 10:30 am.

Safe and Caring School Environments

Lost and Found Bin: The items of clothing in our Lost and Found Bin have been emptied and sorted. Monday to Wednesday this coming week, Parents/Guardians are invited to look through the displayed items and claim anything that may belong to you. Our hope is that all items find their original home.

Field Conditions and Change in Footwear: As weather conditions have been fluctuating recently, the state of our outdoor grass areas can turn into soft, muddy fields. To that end, in order to maintain a safe learning and play environment for our students, and to prevent excessive sediment from being trekked indoors causing a number of safety hazards in our classrooms and schools, at times we may need to close all or part of the grassed areas/field. All students are reminded to have a set of indoor and outdoor shoes. Students will be reminded to change their shoes when going outside and then again upon reentering the school to support our safe school practices. Thank you for your continued support.

Safe Arrival Routines: Morning supervision at St. Angela Merici CES begins at 8:35 am, and the entry bell rings at 8:50 am. To ensure the safety of all, students who do not enter with their class at 8:50 am. **must** be signed in by parents/guardians at the office. Please refrain from entering the driveway at the front of the school, as this is reserved for buses and emergency vehicles. Thank you for your cooperation.

Continuous Improvement of Student Learning / Achievement

No Homework Weekend - In support of the SAM Catholic School Council Fun Week, please know that students will have no homework this weekend. Thank you again for supporting the CSC Christmas Chocolate Fundraiser, it was a great success.

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

Christmas Food and Toy Drive: Thank you for the overwhelming support in our Christmas Food and Toy Drive. Please know that donations are still being accepted, the bins are scheduled to be picked up Wednesday, December 20, 2023.

School Advent Mass: Thank you to the many Parents/Guardians and extended family for joining our **Advent Mass** Mass this afternoon. It was absolutely wonderful to have such a large gathering participate in Mass. I know the staff and students truly appreciated the tremendous support and engagement from all guests. **Please mark your calendars, our next school Mass is January 26, 2023, which is to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Angela Merici.**

December's Virtue of the Month: Hope

Week Three: Joy

[What is Advent \(video\)](#)

This Year's 2023-24 Catholic Education Theme and Faith Day 2023 Theme:

Catholic Education: We are Called to Love