



St. Angela Merici Catholic School

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Friendly Friday Update # 14: Dec. 8th - Dec. 12th



Advent Week 2-PEACE

God of Love,

We praise you during this Advent season and always. Fill us with love as we journey to Christmas. May we adore you and praise Your name. May our love grow with each passing moment. We ask this through your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen

Week at a Glance

Monday 8th	Tuesday 9th	Wednesday 10th	Thursday 11th	Friday 12th
Computer Science Week and Hour of AI	Happy Tuesday	Catholic School Council Mtg, 6:45	Happy Thursday	Toy Drive Ends

Looking Ahead:

- December 14th - Third Sunday of Advent
- December 18th - Advent Mass, 10:40 am.
- December 15th - 19th - Christmas Spirit Week
- December 19th - Rosary Apostolate
- December 22 - January 2nd - Christmas Holidays
- January 5th - Happy New Year! Welcome Back
- January 16th - PA Day
- January 19th - Jr. Boys Volleyball @ SAM
- January 20th - Jr. Girls Volleyball @ St. Clement CES
- January 21st - Civvies Day, Rosary Apostolate
- January 30th - PA Day

Hot Lunch Update, 3rd Notice:

We have been informed that Ricci Pizza and Brettone Pasta will not be available during the last week of December before the Christmas Break. Please note the following make-up dates:

- Ricci's Pizza originally scheduled for Monday, December 15 will be served on Monday, January 5.
- Brettone's Pasta originally scheduled for Friday, December 19 will be served on Friday, January 9.

Hot Lunch Session Three will begin the week of January 12. Additional information will be shared once ordering for the next session opens.

Spirit Wear Update: Our St. Angela Merici Spirit Wear Store has been recently upgraded to make it easier for parents to place their orders. Note the new website link: [SAM Spirit Wear Store](#) Please ensure any new orders are no longer placed on the previous link as they will not be processed. As a reminder, the last day to place an order is December 7th.

Safe and Caring School Environments

Policy 701 – Access to School and Board Premises

Please review Policy 701 – Access to School and Board Premises, which outlines who is permitted on school property and under what conditions. Kindly note that, in accordance with this policy, **pets are not permitted on school grounds**. Thank you for your cooperation.

PARKING LOT

Parents, if and when using the school parking lot, you cannot double park. This is a safety concern.

Also, only those drivers with a valid accessible parking permit are permitted to park in our handicap parking spaces. Please do not park in these spaces if you do not have a valid handicap parking permit.

Thank you for respecting these parking safety rules.

BUS LOOP/FIRE ROUTE

We respectfully remind our community not to park or idle in our bus route, entry or exit. **Absolutely no parking or drop off in our bus loop**. This area is for buses and emergency vehicles. If your child is late, then please use the Kiss and Ride and your child will walk to the front doors or park on Martin Grove Road and they can use the walkway/pathway to the front doors.

Safe Arrival: Please continue to use our Safe Arrival System to report absences and lates. Before bell time for the current day, please call 1-855-856-7862 or online at: [go/schoolmessenger.ca](https://go.schoolmessenger.ca). As well, you may choose to use the SchoolMessenger App (blue icon) from the Apple App Store or Google Play store.

Continuous Improvement of Student Learning / Achievement

Computer Science Week and Hour of AI: The **week of December 8th** is Computer Science Education Week, which includes the Hour of AI (formerly Hour of Code). This annual event encourages K-12 students to explore computer science, promotes equity in CS education, and celebrates the work of students, educators, and partners within the field.

Catholic School Council Our next Catholic School Council meeting will be held Wednesday, December 10th at 6:45 pm. Please see the attached agenda for this upcoming meeting. All members of our school community are always welcome to join.

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

December “Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness” Bulletin:

We are happy to share with you the OCSTA Catholic Education Week Committee’s “Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness” bulletin for the month of December. This month’s bulletin highlights Advent as a Season of Pilgrimage. The bulletin includes many ideas, prayers (including a sample Advent Lectio Divina), activities and reflections for schools, homes and parishes as well as a variety of other materials to deepen our understanding of the holy Season of Advent.

As we journey through Advent, we are invited once again to prepare our hearts in expectation for the coming of Christ. This sacred time calls us to deepen our acts of Christian service—concrete expressions of love that reflect the Lord’s own words, “dilexi te”—“I have loved you.”

Let our hope be renewed as we journey together as Pilgrims of Hope, letting Christ’s love shine through each of us.

Click [here](#) for access to the bulletin.

December Virtue of the Month: HOPE

As Catholics, we know that December is about slowing down and preparing our hearts and souls for the coming of Christ. Ironically, it can sometimes be one of the most frantic times of the year. As we ready ourselves for the holidays, prayers and reflections can perhaps guide us away from hectic and materialistic preparations and toward the joyful expectations and simplicity of the season.

Prayer for the Month of December:

December Prayer for Advent

God’s hope to direct me.
 God’s love to surround me.
 God’s joy to warm me.
 God’s peace to comfort me.
 Bless our Advent journey to Christmas with
 light and patience.
 Amen.



