



AHS PARENT CONNECTION

KEEPING YOU INFORMED December 13, 2019



Mission: *To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition*
Vision: *A community of academic excellence, Catholic in spirit and culture, nurturing integrity and respect.*

Dates to remember:

Dec. 13: BBB vs Edgar 5:45 / 7:15
 Dec. 17: BBB vs Newman 5:45 / 7:15
 Dec. 18—20: Semester Exams
 Dec. 20: Golden Mass 12:30
 All Invited!
 GBB & BBB @ Chequamegon
 5:45/7:15
 Dec 23-Jan 1: Christmas Break
 Enjoy.
 January 2: SCHOOL RESUMES



Rudolph Country
 Christmas
 Saturday
 Dec. 14
 9:00-11:00
 St. Philips Church
 Basement

All you can eat pancakes with sausage, eggs, cheese, applesauce, coffee, milk & juice.
 Cost \$7.00 per plate / \$3.00 ages 6 & under
 FREE photo opportunities with Santa & Mrs. Claus
 Be like one of Santa's reindeers at the antler making Station, complete with a red nose, just like Rudolph.

Homemade ornaments for Sale/Christmas Cut-Out
 Cookies for Sale.
 Sponsored by: Assumption Catholic Schools
 Royal Parents Association



*Please join us on Friday,
 Dec. 20th at 12:30 pm as
 we celebrate our
 Traditional "Golden Mass"
 A beautiful way to begin our
 Christmas break.*



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER BECKER: Ecstatic Joy!

Last month I had to chuckle over the phone at my younger brother (age 13). He called to wish me a happy birthday, or so I thought. He said, "Happy Birthday", and then immediately proceeded listing off the things he wanted for Christmas. I laughed and said, "Joel that's not how this is supposed to work. You're supposed to give me presents on my birthday, not the other way around." It occurred to me that my brother just couldn't wait for Christmas because he loves getting gifts. He just couldn't wait to get the ball rolling. Just about every child I know is enthralled with receiving Christmas presents. They can't wait to raid the underbelly of the Christmas tree come Christmas morning. Adults on the other hand are a bit more reserved in their enthusiasm, yet deep down they too are excited to receive Christmas presents.

Observing the contrast between adults and children on Christmas morning is an interesting phenomenon. Children have no problem whatsoever outwardly expressing their exuberance and joy as they open up their gifts. Adults seem to feel a bit more uncomfortable revealing their joy elicited from the reception of a Christmas gift. In the name of "maturity" we temper the visible manifestation of our invisible jubilation. I think there can be lots of reasons for this, but I think fundamentally adults consciously grasp what gifts are and the meaning they possess. A gift is something freely given and completely underserved. Because of the nature of a gift, a gift carries a priceless meaning that goes far beyond its price tag. A gift expresses unmerited and unconditional love. It's a love freely given. It's a love entirely genuine. The natural response to such a love is unequivocal joy.

Both children and adults grasp the nature and meaning of a gift consciously or subconsciously, yet there is a marked reservedness that adults sometimes exhibit. It's so difficult to imagine someone world or could have such a love for us as an individual. Coupled with the sentiment of false humility, the reception of a gift can be difficult for adults. I am reminded of Jesus' exhortation to become like little children (cf. Mt. 18:3). Jesus does not encourage us to be childlike, but to receive the world like a child. A child has no difficulties in receiving authentic love, and has no inhibitions in expressing pure joy. For whatever reason(s) as adults we doubt that such an unadulterated love can exist, and much less than that, that love can be directed toward us. It seems inconceivable that someone could have a genuine love for us just as we are.

Isn't this exactly what we celebrate at Christmas? Each year we see manger scenes with a little child laying in a manger surrounded by animals. That little baby is Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, Wonder Consoler, Light of the World, Father forever, Desire of All Nations. He is Emmanuel, God with us (cf. Is. 9:1-6; Lk. 1:30-35). Jesus is born a baby boy in a manger as gift to the entire world, a gift from God to His people. His birth expresses God's ineffable love for you and me. It's a Love completely undeserved and a Love entirely genuine. On Christmas we celebrate the truest and most authentic Love there is, a priceless Gift.

"Joel that's not how this is supposed to work. You're supposed to give me presents on my birthday, not the other way around." Actually that's exactly how it's supposed to go on Christmas. We celebrate Jesus's birth and He gives us gifts, the gift of Himself. Allow yourself to be like a child in receiving the gift of the baby Jesus and let your ecstatic joy shine burst forth at receiving this tremendous Gift.

Merry Christmas!!!





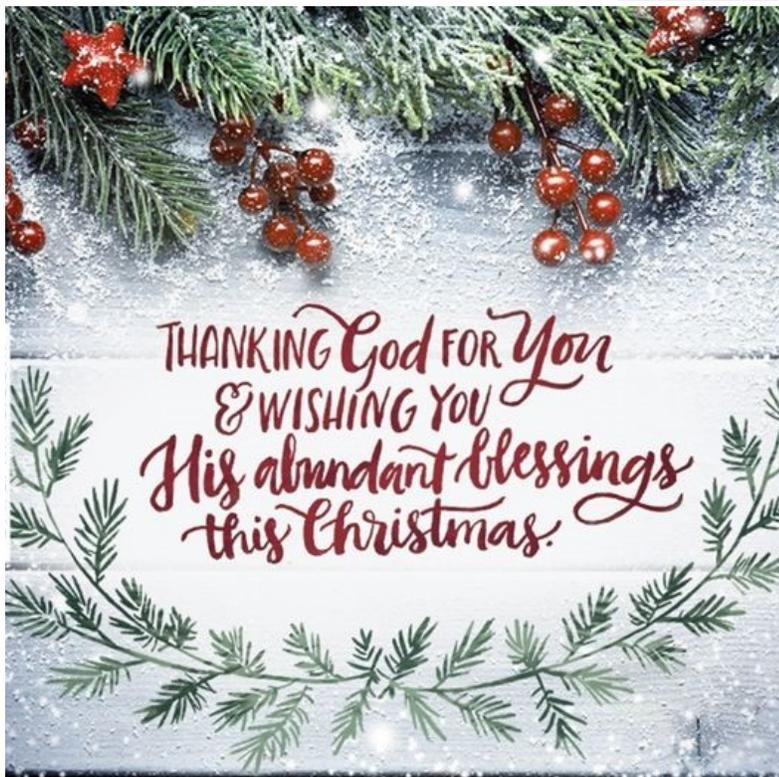
Thank you Mrs. Baker, Miss Thomas and our Choir and Band students for the awesome Music provided at the Christmas concerts.



Our students at Assumption are blessed with many Talents. Pictured here are Anthony Arias, Andrew Blied, Elyse Hartman and Maribelle Miller as they do a Suzuki Violin performance at the Atrium.



*Thank you so much for your support of our Christmas project to support a family at the family center and our ACS families in need. With your help we raised over \$650 dollars to help the families have a special Christmas this year!
We hope you have a Merry Christmas and may God bless your families.
-The AHS National Honor Society*



*God give us eyes this Christmas
to see the Christmas Star.
And give us ears to hear the song of
angels from afar.
And, with our eyes attuned
for a message from above,
let Christmas angels speak to us
of hope and faith and love.
Hope to light our pathway,
when the way ahead is dark,
Hope to sing through stormy days,
with the sweetness of a lark,
Faith to trust in things unseen
and know beyond all seeing
that it is in our Father's love
we live and have our being.
And love to break down barriers
of color, race and creed.
Love to see and understand
and help all those in need.
We wish you all a safe and blessed Christmas
Assumption High School Faculty & Staff*