

Our Lady of Grace Catholic School

Expanding Minds•Growing Faith•Inspiring Service



www.olgcs.org



Advent – Prepare the Way

Advent is such a joyous time. As children of God, we eagerly await the coming of Christmas for so many reasons, but mostly because we're excited to be with those we love, exchange greetings, listen to Christmas music, and yes, receive presents. As we get older, our excitement often comes with the anticipation of seeing family or friends and watching our kids or grandkids open their gifts with a sense of wonder in their eyes.

But young or old, it's good for us to return to the true reason for our anticipation and our joy. At Christmas, we celebrate the coming of Jesus, our Blessed Savior, who brought with Him the hope of salvation for all the world. "A thrill of hope," the old hymn recounts, "The weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn."

If "the weary world" describes the way you feel as you look around this holiday season, a good idea would be to spend the next three weeks sharing some reflections that may help you recapture the *thrill of hope*.

Here are some thoughts to reflect upon and intertwine with your prayers in the coming week. Think of them as small goals to strive for as we move together through Advent toward the joyous celebration of Christmas. Here are three for this week.

1. "To focus on beauty in the little things of life, as well as being deliberate about the great beauties of art, literature, music, and nature."

Beauty is all around you. Pray that God will open your eyes to the beauty in your everyday life, and to remind you of the magnificent beauty waiting to be rediscovered in the pages of a book, in a lovely melody, in a work of art or in the exquisite natural world all around us.

2. "To be present to one's own small space of life, while stretching to the wide world beyond it."

What is distracting each of us from being in the moment? Are we so busy worrying about what we may be missing that we're missing the magic of where we are right now? And how can we also see beyond ourselves, perhaps to offer comfort to those in need?

3. "To taste life to the fullest, and not take any part of it for granted."

A grateful heart is a joyful heart. And gratitude begins when we truly savor all that is before us. So, during this happy time, embrace the hectic days, and find gratitude for every moment, every meal, every hug, and being with family.

A good prayer for now, though, is that you enjoy health and happiness, and that reflecting on these thoughts brings you a renewed focus on the true beauty of this special season.

Blessings, Mark Friedman CRE /OLG



www.olgcs.org



Our Lady of Grace School will follow Northwest Local District plans for any weather related school closings or delays. School closings and delays will be communicated by phone using the telephone number you reported to Option C. Any changes to your phone number should be changed by the parent in Option C and updated with your new information. OLG will not announce an early

dismissal for snow. No students will be released to district transportation operating on an early dismissal for fear there will be no supervision at home when they arrive.

2 HOUR DELAY

There will be no AM buses to OLG from any district opening on time when OLG is on a 2 hour delay. In this situation, parents will have to provide their own transportation to school to accommodate the 10:00 a.m. start time.

- There will be AM buses to OLG from any district also opening on a 2 HOUR DELAY.
- There will be PM busing from all districts who are open (regardless of their start time)
- There will be no AM or PM busing from any district that is CLOSED.

Please contact your child care provider (including YMCA) to determine their policies and procedures for inclement weather.

CLOSED

• No school and no child care.

* Parents and guardians are the determinants of whether or not it is safe to transport students in their charge. Please exercise your own good judgment when determining if, when or how students will be transported in the event of inclement weather.

EAGLE WALK SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE Needs your help:

The Eagle Walk Sponsorship committee assists in locating potential Corporate Monetary Donations for the upcoming Eagle Walk. The goal is to reduce burden on families by involving our Corporate friends / neighbors in support of the students and our goals for next year! The Sponsors will have the option to advertise on the School's Eagle Walk shirt!!! It's a win win! Plus we will do our best to continue to support those in our community that support our school. Know a business that may be interested or Own a business? Let us know! We hope to mail sponsorship requests by end of December!



CLICK HERE to Volunteer