

# TIGER TALES

St. Joseph School providing Catholic Education for 125 years  
Written by a tale-telling teacher

Advent has officially started! This past Sunday began the new church year and the new Advent season. Advent marks the 4 Sundays before Christmas and is a time of preparation and anticipation as we await the coming - the birth - of Jesus. Our homes are decorated, inside and out. Parties are scheduled, booking every Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the Advent season. Other nights are filled with wrapping gifts or buying gifts, sports practices and candy-making and grocery shopping and other seasonal obligations... So my question is, what are you doing to prepare your hearts, minds and souls? Perhaps you have big Advent plans and you have joined a book-club or prayer group focusing on the season. Maybe your family is committed to reading passages from the Bible every night during Advent or saying the Rosary together, daily. If you are struggling to even take a breath during this busy time of year, maybe you can simply set your alarm clock for 10 minutes earlier and have just 10 minutes of uninterrupted, intentional prayer time.

Monday morning started our traditional Advent Wreath Services here at SJS. Each class, per floor, meets together in prayer around an Advent Wreath, learning a little more each day about the importance of Advent. This week classes are focusing on Hope at hearing the good news that our Savior is COMING! Monday afternoon, our 7th grade class walked to the DeWitt/Lavaca Co-op to help wrap gifts for students in need. Today, Wednesday, SJS Jr. High students are traveling to St. Mary's in Hallettsville where they will be participating in a Teen's for Life Retreat reflecting on respect. A special thanks to the Sacred Heart Principal, Mr. Kevin Haas and to Ms. Alyson Klimitchek for the invitation to join you! Our 4th grade students also traveled to the Assisted Living home in the neighborhood to sing Christmas carols. Thursday, our basketball teams travel to Victoria as we face Trinity on the court. Friday, December 8, we invite you to join us for 8:05 Mass, celebrating the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. Immediately following Mass, SJS will hold its annual Jesse Tree service in the church. Also, Friday evening, our Jr. High students will enjoy a Winter Wonderland Dance, completely planned by Mrs. Barrera's 7th grade Life Class.

Keep your SJS events calendar updated with our annual Christmas program on Thursday, December 14, (Please note this is tentative based on Bulldog Nation advancing to State! Go Dogs!) starting at 7 pm in the YHS Auditorium. And SJS officially releases students for Christmas break at 12 noon, Friday, December 15!

Happy Advent season, Merry Christmas and God Bless from St. Joseph School to your home!