

# Grade 7 and 8 Religious Education

Mr. Rossano

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[www.stachurchbloomfield.com/MrR2016](http://www.stachurchbloomfield.com/MrR2016)

# Start of Class Activity & Opening Prayer

Please see the hand out

Reconciliation Next Week – Meet here, but we will be heading to the church immediately.

Class 12/12 and 12/19, then we are off for Christmas break until 1/9.

# Liturgical Year

Advent

Christmas

Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time

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|----------------------|---|
| <b>Advent</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duration: 4 weeks</li> <li>• Celebrating Jesus' birth and we anticipate His Second Coming</li> <li>• It starts the Liturgical Year</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Christmas</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duration: 2-3 weeks</li> <li>• Celebrating Jesus' birth, the Holy Family, the Epiphany and His Baptism</li> <li>• We celebrate God being with us, salvation to all, and giving gifts.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Ordinary Time</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duration: 33-34 weeks</li> <li>• Celebrating Jesus' parables, miracles and teachings.</li> <li>• It is in two parts</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Lent</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duration: 40 days, not including Sundays</li> <li>• Celebrating Jesus' fasting for 40 days that begins His Ministry and His Journey to Jerusalem that end with the Paschal Mystery.</li> <li>• It is a time for us to reflection on our lives and things we need to change.</li> </ul>           |
| <b>Triduum</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duration: 3 days</li> <li>• Celebrating the Last Supper, Jesus' arrest, trial, crucifixion and burial.</li> <li>• It is a time of quiet reflection on the Sacrifice Jesus made for us.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Easter</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duration: 50 Days, From the Easter Vigil to Pentecost</li> <li>• Celebrating the Resurrection and Him defeating Sin, Death and the Devil.</li> <li>• It is a time of Joyful Celebration and a time to become aware of our Baptism and Baptismal vows that save us from Death and Sin.</li> </ul> |

Easter

Triduum

Lent

# Dates in the Seasons of Advent and Christmas

- December 6<sup>th</sup> – Feast of Saint Nicholas
- December 8<sup>th</sup> – Immaculate Conception of Mary. Mary is conceived without sin. (One of Eight Holy Days of Obligation in the U.S. Liturgical Year)
- December 12<sup>th</sup> – Our Lady of Guadalupe  
– Patroness of the Americas
- December 17<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> – O Antiphons  
– Old Testament verses about Jesus leading up to Christmas
- December 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas

# Dates in the Seasons of Advent and Christmas

Sunday after Christmas – Feast of the Holy  
Family

January 1<sup>st</sup> - Solemnity of Mary

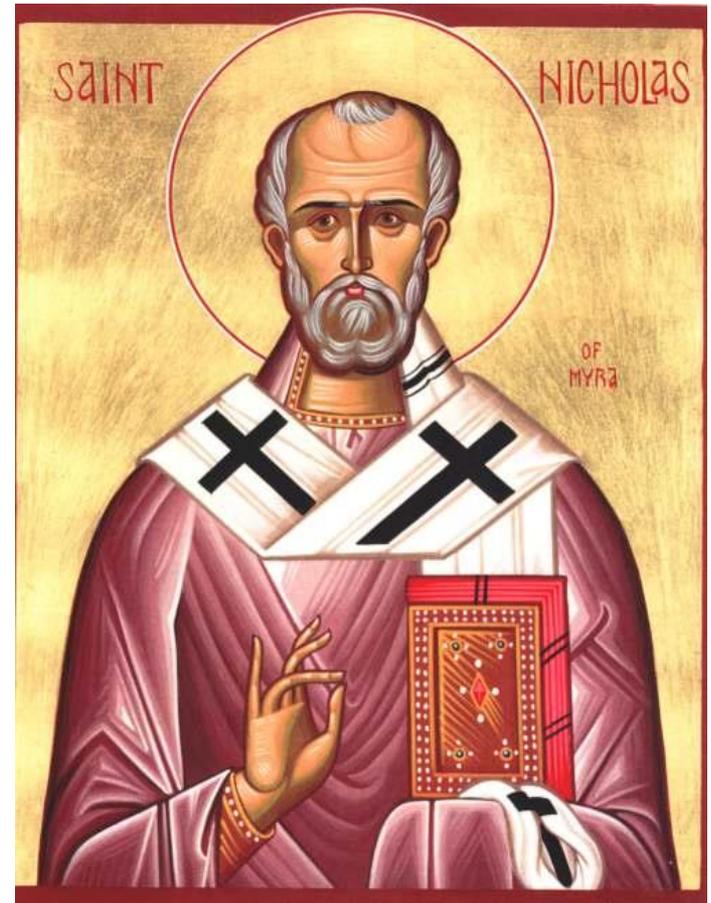
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas – Epiphany

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Christmas – Baptism of the  
Lord – Final Day of the Christmas Season

Christmas, Epiphany and Baptism celebrate of the Lord are  
the three manifestations of God.

# Saint Nicholas

- Lived 270-343AD
- Bishop of Myra, in modern day Turkey
- Defender of the Faith
- Gave secret gifts to people (coins in shoes)
- Miracle Worker



# Immaculate Conception

- This is a pane on Mary Queen of the Universe Window.
- It is St. Joachim and St. Anne, the Parents of Mary.
- Mary was conceived in the womb of St. Anne without original sin. This is what we celebrate December 8th.



# Immaculate Conception

- Conception is the first moment of life of all human beings.
- Immaculate means ‘without stain’ or without ‘sin’.
- From the very beginning of Mary’s life, she was without original sin. We get this scripture from the angel Gabriel saying “Hail, full of grace” (Luke 1:28). This was a gift from God that helped Mary be the Mother of God.
- Mary is the new Eve. Mary remains sinless, becoming what Eve should have been. She follows the will of God, accepting to bear God within herself.

# Our Lady of Guadalupe – Feast Day December 12th.

- Patroness of the Americas
- She came to Juan Diego in a vision in Guadalupe, Mexico.
- He proved the vision was real by collecting roses in his poncho and an image of Mary was found on his poncho.



# O Antiphons

- O Wisdom (Isaiah 28:29)
- O Lord (Isaiah 33:22)
- O Root of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1)
- O Key of David (Isaiah 22:22)
- O Rising Sun (Isaiah 9:2)
- O King of the Nations (Isaiah 9:6)
- O Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:14)

# Advent Wreath

- It is made out of branches from an evergreen tree, as a symbol of having eternal life in God.
- The wreath is a circle because a circle has neither a beginning nor end. Much like the wedding rings between a man and woman, it symbolizes unending love between God and humans.



- 4 Candles for the 4 weeks of Advent.
  - We use dark blue candles at St. Thomas to symbolize a joyful expectation.
  - You may see some wreaths with 3 purple candles and 1 pink. The pink candle is used to mark Gaudete Sunday.

# Advent

- Advent is the time when we prepare for the ‘arrival’ of Jesus at Christmas, both His *first* arrival and His *second* coming.
- It is a season of desire – Desiring God to be with us and preparing for Him.
- This begins the Church Year and starts 4 Sundays prior to Christmas.
- We celebrate both the fact that Jesus was born on Christmas day and also the belief that Christ will come again. We also do works of charity to help us prepare for both of these events.

# Advent

- Advent occurs in the Northern Hemisphere (Bethlehem is north of the Equator) as the days grow shorter (more darkness) and ends at Christmas as the days begin to get longer.
- This symbolizes the light of God is overcoming the darkness. The winter solstice is around Dec 22rd, where we get about 9 hours of sunlight and 15 hours of darkness.
- The word “Emmanuel” means “God With Us”.

# Process of Reconciliation

- 1) We must be truly sorry for our sins.
- 2) We ask for forgiveness by confessing our sins to a priest. (**John 20:19-23, Matthew 16:18-20**)
- 3) We accept and agree to do penance (Prayers or Good Deeds).
- 4) We make a firm decision not to do the same sin again.
- 5) The priest prays the prayer of *absolution*.

# This is what you say to start Reconciliation

Bless me Father, for I have sinned. It has been \_\_\_\_\_ years/months since my last confession. My sins are...

[

*Say what you did, and if you remember the frequency you did them (i.e. I stole bubble gum from my sister 5 different times).*

]

You can keep it simple – Say the ways you haven't followed the two greatest commandments: to love God, neighbor and yourself.

I usually ask for forgiveness of sins that I may not remember at this time. If you do recall them at a later point, and they are serious, you will need to go to reconciliation.

# Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His Name, my God, have mercy.

# Things to keep in mind

- Jesus already paid the price for all of your sins. You only need to ask for forgiveness.
- In this sacrament we CELEBRATE that our sins are actually forgiven by God.
- By confessing our sins, we also restore our relationship with God and the Church community.
- Priests cannot say anything to anyone about your sins (i.e. they cannot tell your parents that you did any of the sins you tell him).
- A goal of reconciliation is to transform ourselves to be more accepting of God's will. We want to move from being self-centered to God-centered. The penance you receive is to help in this process.

# Adoration



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a devotion to Jesus present in the Eucharist.