

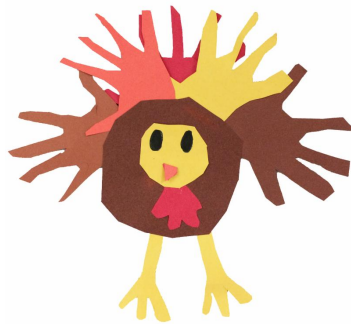
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# St. Pius X / St. Leo School

Newsletter

November 20, 2015



## A BLESSED THANKSGIVING TO YOU!

During this Thanksgiving season, we are reminded of the many blessings we have received from our students, their parents, alumni, parents of former students, parishioners, faculty and staff and the many priests and sisters that have served our school community for nearly sixty years. We have been blessed because these people have been very generous with their time, their many talents, and their treasures that have helped us so much over the years.

We hope that all of you experience a Thanksgiving filled with blessings, including time with your family and friends. We would like to share with you the following "Thanksgiving Prayer" written by Helen Steiner Rice.

### A Thanksgiving Prayer

*Thank You, God, for everything ...  
The big things and the small,  
For "every good gift comes from God" ...  
The Giver of them all.  
And all too often we accept  
Without any thanks or praise,*



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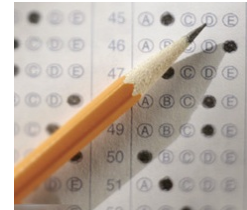
*The gifts You send as blessings  
 Each day in many ways.  
 And so at this Thanksgiving time,  
 We offer up a prayer;  
 To thank You, God, for giving us  
 A lot more than our share.  
 First, thank You for the little things  
 That often come our way;  
 The things we take for granted  
 And don't mention when we pray.  
 The unexpected courtesy,  
 The thoughtful, kindly deed,  
 A hand reached out to help us ...  
 In the time of sudden need.  
 Oh, make us more aware, dear God,  
 Of little daily graces,  
 That come to us with "sweet surprise,"  
 From never-dreamed-of places.  
 Then, thank You for the "miracles"  
 We are much too blind to see,  
 And give us new awareness  
 Of our many gifts from Thee.  
 And help us to remember  
 That the "key" to "life" and "living,"  
 Is to make each prayer a "prayer of thanks,"  
 And every day THANKSGIVING.*

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### TERRA NOVA

The results from the Terra Nova tests were mailed to parents of grades 3 to 8 students on Wednesday, November 18th. If you do not receive your child's results in the next few days please call the school office.

## SOCIAL SKILLS NEWS

Jenny and Shane decided to join their friends at the local health food restaurant, Ronko's, before their team basketball practice. On the way, Shane asked Jenny if he could borrow money to add matsutake mushrooms to his meal deal. Jenny told him she didn't have any money that he could borrow. Shane knew he was going to be Accepting No For An Answer. He looked at Jenny and said, "Okay." He realized that he should not argue, whine or pout because he could always calmly ask for a reason later if he didn't understand why she refused to loan him money.



When Jenny began to say that Shane was "always" asking her for money, he knew How To Disagree Appropriately. He looked at her. Using a pleasant tone of voice, he said "I understand that it may seem like I am always asking you for money, but I respectfully disagree. I am not always asking for money; I have not asked to borrow money from you for

six months, not since the end of the last school year when we went on the field trip. Thanks for listening to me." Jenny smiled because inside she appreciated Shane for not getting upset with her harsh words and she knew he was right. "What a great friend!" she thought to herself.



### THANK YOU

Thank you for your help in following the new morning drop off procedures for the south parking lot. Your help and patience have been greatly appreciated. The safety of our students is of utmost importance. If you have any questions about the new procedure, please contact the school office at (402) 551-6667.

Later, as Jenny and Shane joined their classmates for pita chips and avocado salsa, they saw John and Catherine, some friends from another school, with a group of their school friends. They were older students and were behaving very inappropriately; they were throwing avocado salsa and dirty napkins all over the floor. Jenny and Shane knew that it was time for Ignoring Behaviors. They tried not to look at the group, and they stayed focused on eating their meal even when John, Catherine and their friends encouraged them to throw salsa and napkins on the floor. Jenny and Shane knew they should report the behavior to a nearby adult.

Suddenly, Shane laughed and began to throw his pita chips and napkins on the floor. He sometimes found it difficult to control his behavior in stressful situations even when he knew he should. Shane quickly noticed that the other students at the table, including Jenny, were not happy with his behavior. They told him to stop. Then, Shane told himself to stop and think about what he was doing, a strategy which helped him correct the behavior that appeared to make his classmates uncomfortable. When Shane began to clean up the mess that he made, he noticed that his new behavior made the other students in his group smile. "What a great friend!" the group thought to themselves, because Shane was Self-Correcting his Own Behavior.

Jenny and Shane's group behaved so well that the people from Ronko's called the school to tell the principal that the students were excellent role models. John and Catherine's group behaved so poorly that the people from Ronko's called their parents! When Jenny and Shane heard that news, they were very happy that their social skills worked outside school as well as at school. The rest of their meals at Ronko's were very enjoyable.



### UNO HONOR CHOIR

Congratulations to the following students who were recently accepted into the UNO Middle School Honor Choir:

7th graders: Jenna Abbott and Audrey Saucier.

The girls will be with other 7th and 8th grade students throughout the metro area on Friday, January 8th at UNO Strauss Performing Arts Center. They will work with a guest clinician and then give a concert at the end of the day. Congratulations to Jenna and Audrey!



### DRESS DOWN DAY

**There will be a Dress Down Day on Tuesday, November 24th.** "Dress Down" means casual attire including t-shirts, jeans, sweatpants, sweatshirts and blouses. We ask that the t-shirts are in good taste without offensive language / graphics. They may not display musical groups, advertise drugs/alcohol or display guns, weapons or violence. Sleeveless shirts and bare midriffs are not allowed. Jeans and sweatpants must be without holes and tears. Girls may wear leggings, but they must be accompanied with an extra long sweater, blouse or skirt. Flannel pants and/or pajama pants may NOT be worn. We recommend that students not wear any clothing that is too tight or too short. **Shorts are not "In Season" so may NOT be worn.** As with any school day, the sock, shoe and jewelry code are in effect, except that the students are allowed to wear any color of socks and any



### CULVER'S NIGHT

Tuesday, **December 8**, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. is our Culver's Night at the **120th and Miami Streets** location. Join us on the second Tuesday of each month at the Culver's at 120th and Miami. You can support our school while enjoying a ButterBurger and frozen custard!

shoes that have the heels and toes closed. The jewelry code stays exactly the same. Please check the Family Handbook posted on the school website ([www.spsl.net](http://www.spsl.net)) if you have questions regarding these policies.

## EVENTS

November 24 - Thanksgiving Masses - Gr K-4 at 8:30 a.m.  
and Gr 5-8 at 10:00 a.m.  
November 24 - Last day for food drive  
November 24 - *Dress Down Day*  
November 25 - **NO SCHOOL FOR ALL**  
November 26 - **NO SCHOOL FOR ALL** - Happy Thanksgiving!  
November 27 - **NO SCHOOL FOR ALL**

December 1 - Gr 1, 2 & 3 Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
December 2 - Gr 7 & 8 Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
December 2 - Picture Re-Take Day at 8:15 a.m.  
December 3 - Gr 4, 5 & 6 Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
December 4 - **NOON DISMISSAL** for students - No lunch served  
December 4 - **No Pre-K classes**  
December 6 - Gr 8 Confirmation practice - 1:45 p.m. - St. Pius X  
December 6 - Gr 8 Confirmation practice - 2:00 p.m. - St. Leo  
December 6 - Gr 8 Confirmation Mass 3:00 p.m. both St. Pius X & St. Leo  
December 6 - Music in Catholic Schools Christmas Concert at  
St. Margaret Mary's Raynor Center - 5:30 p.m.  
December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception Masses  
Gr K-4 at 8:30 a.m. Gr 5-8 at 10:00 a.m.  
December 8 - Culver's Night at 120th & Miami from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
December 10 - Gr 7 & 8 Girls Chorus and Gr 2 & 4 Musical  
7:00 p.m. in the gym  
December 11 - Gr 5 Wax Museum - 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. - Parish Center  
December 13 - SPSL Church Choir at St. Pius X - 9:30 a.m.  
December 14- Last day (by 9:00 a.m.) to pre-order C.A.R.E.  
for Christmas (C.A.R.E. that is not kept in-stock)  
December 15 - Gr 1, 2 & 3 Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
December 16 - Gr 7 & 8 Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
December 16 - Pre-K Christmas Program (all classes) - 8:45 a.m.  
in the Parish Center  
December 16 - Fazoli Night - 80th & Cass - 5:00-8:00 p.m.  
December 17 - Dress Down Day  
December 17 - Gr 4, 5 & 6 Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
December 17 - Gr K Christmas Program in the gym at 2:45 p.m.  
December 17 - Christmas vacation begins at dismissal for students  
December 18 - Staff Development Day for teachers  
December 19 - January 4 - **NO SCHOOL FOR ALL** - Merry Christmas!

**Tuesday, January 5, 2016 - School resumes at 8:15 a.m.**

**PICTURE RE-TAKE DAY**  
**December 2, 2015 - 8:15 a.m.**

If your child was absent on picture day or if you wish to have



## FAZOLI'S NIGHT

Join us on Wednesday, **December 16**, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fazoli's restaurant at **80th & Cass Streets**. Every third Wednesday of the month will be Fazoli's Night at the Cass Street location. Fazoli's will donate 10% of that night's sales to SPSL. Join the fun including crafts for the kids!



## CASH FOR STUDENTS

Please save your Hy-Vee receipts and turn them in to the St. Pius X / St. Leo School office. Hy-Vee will donate \$1.00 for every \$200.00 that you spend. The program runs **through December 31**.



## EARN MONEY FOR SPSL BY SHOPPING ON-LINE

Start your online shopping trips at [Goodshop](http://Goodshop) to earn extra money for our school. Click [here](#) to follow the easy on-line instructions for registering to support SPSL. You can buy from hundreds of



your child's picture retaken their picture will be taken on the retake/make-up day which is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 8:15 a.m.



If you are having your child's picture retaken you must return their picture packet to the school office by Monday, November 30, 2015. There is a \$5.00 retake fee if there is no photographer's error and you are just not pleased with the photographs.

Students may dress up to have their picture taken on this day, but then we ask that they **change into their school uniform for the rest of the school day.**

## ADVENT

Advent begins on November 29th. The School Advent planning group decided to keep with the main theme using the symbol of the Advent wreath, its meaning and that of the four Advent Candles that we use one each week and their color symbolism.



**WEEK 1: WATCH (for His Presence)**

**WEEK 2: PREPARE (for His Coming into the World)**

**WEEK 3: REJOICE (He Is Near)**

**WEEK 4: BELIEVE (In God's Promise)**

The Advent planning group is asking students, teachers and staff to place their responses to the following weekly questions into the Advent candle for each week that will be located outside the liturgy office:

**WEEK 1: Where have you found God's presence in your life?**

**WEEK 2: How are you preparing for the Gift of Jesus in your life?**

**WEEK 3: Where or how has God given you Joy in your life?**

**WEEK 4: How has your faith grown throughout the Advent Season to help you believe in God's promise that He is with us, and how does this help you live out your faith in the journey of your life?**

(Advent Blessings! - courtesy of Ryan Lampe, Linda Harrison and Sister Jeannine o.s.f.)

## MUSIC IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS EVENTS



The Music in Catholic Schools invites you to its Christmas concert on Sunday, December 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Raynor Center at St. Margaret Mary

well-known retailers, and each merchant will donate a designated percentage of your purchases to our school after you register. What a great way to buy Christmas gifts! On the Sunday after Thanksgiving, select stores are offering double donations and exclusive deals. Thank you for using Goodshop!



### HEALTH HINT: When is my child too sick for school?

The following are guidelines (from the VNA office) to assist you in deciding when your child should stay home from school:

- **Fever of 100 degrees or higher** - your child should be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to school.
- **Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea** - keep your child at home for the duration of these symptoms. Be sure he is able to tolerate food without difficulty before returning to school.
- **Nasal secretions and coughing / sneezing** - spread respiratory infections easily when these



perform.

Parish. Please join us for this festive joint school concert where St. Pius X / St. Leo students will

Also, please mark your calendars for February 5, 2016, when Music in Catholic Schools holds its annual Benefit Dance and Silent Auction from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Free dance lessons will be offered from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

### C.A.R.E. NEWS

Please remember to buy C.A.R.E. for your holiday gifts, such as gift card to Amazon.com, American Girl, Best Buy, Dick's Sporting Goods, Pottery Barn, Village Inn, etc. We offer a large selection of gift cards that are available every day in the school office. You will surely find something for everyone!



If you have a specific C.A.R.E. certificate in mind that you don't see on our list, please ask. We may be able to order it for you. Stop by the school office to place your order, OR you may order online at [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com). Our school code is CDCL3189175L. Orders for items not kept in stock need to be placed online or brought to the school office by 9:00 a.m. each Monday morning.

The last day to pre-order Christmas C.A.R.E. certificates that are not kept in-stock will be Monday, December 14. Please send your pre-orders to the school office or order online before 9:00 A.M. on December 14. In-stock C.A.R.E. will be sold in the school office through Thursday, December 17.

If you are in need of gifts for your business, think about using C.A.R.E. gift cards. We are able to order large quantities of cards. C.A.R.E. has its own e-mail address which is [spslcare@spsl.net](mailto:spslcare@spsl.net), and the C.A.R.E. form is available on-line on the school's website under MENU or by clicking [here](#).

Thank you for supporting our school by buying C.A.R.E.!

symptoms can't be controlled.

- **Suspected communicable conditions** - child should stay home until symptoms are evaluated by a health care provider.



### FROM THE NURSE

Thank you to those parents who helped with the audio screenings this week. Your help made the process run very smoothly.



### SPSL ON THE INTERNET

Click [here](#) to learn more about our school and activities.



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