

FAITH FORMATION NEWSLETTER

December 2016



ADVENT is HERE! Let us prepare for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Advent is a time of preparation. What preparation can we do? We should pray more, go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, go to Mass and try to give time to our spiritual life.

Advent Penance Service will be on 12/14/16-7:00 PM. If you have not come to a Penance service before I highly recommend. It is a beautiful prayer service that includes the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

ADVENT PRAYER

Heavenly Father, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you. Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you. Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Amen.

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

12/4 & 12/5, 12/11 & 12/12-Regular schedule

12/18 & 19, 12/25 & 12/26, 1/1 & 1/2- NO FAITH FORMATION

Experience Bethlehem– 12/3/16 9-12. Our 2nd Annual Experience Bethlehem event will take place on Saturday, 12/3. All children will be free with a paid adult ticket. Adult tickets are \$10. Children still will need a ticket to enter. You will be transported back to the Bethlehem Marketplace. Crafts, Games, and a delicious breakfast (sponsored by the Knights of Columbus) will be included in your ticket. Columbiettes will have there famous marketplace for shopping . There market has beautiful handcrafted goods. Perfect for young shoppers. We are in need of the following items: large pillows, fabric and “sports” pop up tents. If you would like to be a shop keeper please contact [Laura Rivera-Irivera@stmarktampa.org](mailto:Laura.Rivera-Irivera@stmarktampa.org).



2nd Reconciliation Retreat 12/10-This is the last of two retreats for the preparation of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you did not attend the 11/29 retreat you are expected to be at this Retreat. One parent/adult with accompany the child preparing for the Sacrament. Please make sure to bring the child's Reconciliation workbook to the retreat.