



# St. Rose School

## CHELSEA, MA

December 1, 2011

Dear Families,

Happy Advent! This is a special time of year in our Church and here at school. One way that we acknowledge it as different from other times during the year is by having traditions and using symbols. One tradition we have here at St. Rose is an Advent prayer service each Monday in December, where we will light our Advent wreath. Additionally, we have a Jesse tree up on the stage. Each day at Community Gathering, we add a different symbol to this tree, which in “kid language”, is like Jesus’ family tree- it includes all of the important stories and people from the Bible who came before Jesus and who were part of Jesus’ life. Advent is an opportunity for us to stop in the middle of the busy schedules, shopping, and other chaos that accompanies this time of year. It’s a chance for us to remember what really matters, and to wait patiently for the coming of Christ. Think of ways you can celebrate Advent together as a family this year. Some possibilities include: attending Mass as a family, saying blessings before meals, having special meals on Sundays, having an Advent calendar or paper chain, and minimizing the importance of gifts while maximizing the importance of Jesus coming into our hearts. A nice resource for adults to use during Advent is: <http://www.d365.org/followingthestar>. Please read on:

Christmas Festival: It’s finally here! Our annual Christmas Festival will take place tomorrow and Saturday. This is our biggest fundraiser for the year and we need everyone’s help. Many thanks to everyone who donated items for your child’s class basket, for the punch board, for raffles, for the bake shop, as well as food items to sell. Additional thanks to everyone who volunteered to come help set up, work during the festival, and clean up. We truly could not pull this event off without the help of everyone in this community. If you haven’t signed up yet, just come and we will gladly put you to work!



NO AFTER SCHOOL: Please note that there will be no After School Program tomorrow due to the Christmas Festival. Please make arrangements to have your child picked up at 2:15. Thank you.

Thank You!: Many thanks to everyone who supported Student Council by attending the Fall Dance, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade by buying from their bake sale!

Report Cards: Next Wednesday, December 7 is Report Card Night. Report cards will be distributed to parents on a first come, first served basis between 6 and 8 pm. You must meet with your child’s teacher in order to get his/her report card. If you are unable to do so during this time, please make arrangements to meet with the teacher at your mutual convenience. Miss O’Rourke, Mr. Schell, and Sr. Andre will meet with parents together, so that you don’t have to wait in line multiple times. Grade 6 parents should plan to come between 5:30 and 7:00 pm. Grade 7 and 8 parents should plan to come between 7:00 and 8:30 pm. Please contact your child’s teacher if that time does not work for you.



Priorities: Sometimes we don’t realize the significance of our words and actions, or what they teach our children. We are working very hard to teach our students that school is important, and that they need to come to school every day, on time and ready to learn. We appreciate your cooperation in helping your child to value his/her education and take it seriously by coming to school every day, on time, and ready to learn. Numerous tardies and absences, even in the early grades, have a negative effect on students’ academic development and progress. If your child must come late or leave early or miss school, please make sure it is only because of a serious illness or emergency.





Winter Weather: A few reminders: unless it is pouring rain, we will not open the front doors until 7:30, so please do not come (or drop off your children) earlier than that. All children need to dress for the weather, with a coat, a hat, gloves, and a scarf. They go outside for recess, gym, and other occasions, and need to be prepared! If your child does not have these items, please let Ms. Keeton know and she will try to see if she can find them for him/her. If it snows and you think there is a possibility that we won't have school, tune in to Channel 4 (WBZ), Channel 7, Channel 5 (WCVB) or Fox 25 and look for St. Rose Elementary. I will call in as soon as I make a decision. All decisions are made based on the likelihood that teachers and students can get to school safely.

GoodSearch: Need to know more about something? Instead of using Google, try using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). You can put in St. Rose School (Chelsea, MA) as the charity you want to benefit each time you use this search engine. Last year alone we earned \$57! Also check out GoodShop.com and GoodDining!



Community Resources: La Alianza Hispana in Roxbury provides bilingual mental health and family support services to the Greater Boston area residents, with special emphasis in the Latino community. To inquire about services, contact Sandra Madruga at 617-427-7175 ext. 204.



St. Rose on Facebook: St. Rose School is officially on **Facebook!** Check it out at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Rose-School/174719982596857>. Our plan is to use this page as a tool to keep you informed and share pictures and good news throughout the year. Thanks to those of you who have already found the page and started interacting with it!

Communication via Email: If you would like to receive the newsletter and other information via **email**, please go to [www.strosechelsea.com/contact/emailsignup.html](http://www.strosechelsea.com/contact/emailsignup.html) and enter your information. We will gladly begin keeping you informed electronically! Please ask Ms. Keeton if you have any questions.



Lunches: Please see attached letter to order the **school lunch** for your child for the week of Dec. 5-9. You need to send this form back in each week, even if you receive free lunch, or if you are choosing not to get lunch this week for our records. Thank you.



BrainPOP: Don't forget to use it at home! [www.brainpop.com](http://www.brainpop.com). Our username is: strosechelsea and our password is: 580broadway.



Box Tops: Don't forget to save your **Box Tops!** Please tear them off of products you buy and use at home. They help our school to raise money! Thank you!



Blessings,

Caitlin Keeton, Principal

---

580 Broadway.Chelsea.MA.02150. 617.884.2626 (phone) 617.889.2345 (fax) [www.strosechelsea.com](http://www.strosechelsea.com)