St. Patrick Parish

Faith Formation Ministry

140 Church St.

Portland, MI 48875

517-647-6505 Ext. 419

**MondayNightFaithFormation**

**December 2022**

Month of Devine Infancy

****December is dedicated to the Devine Infancy. For there to be a “Devine Infancy” there must be an infant who is God. For that infant to be known as an infant by us, He must be of our own ken-a man like us. In other words, if we do not see the baby, we will not know the baby: if we do not see the boy, we will not know that boy. Thus, for there to be a month of Devine Infancy, there must first have been the Mystery of the Incarnation, the Mystery of the God-made-man. There is no December 25 without March 25. So, for December I challenge students to bring in a baby picture of themselves. Any student that brings in a baby picture will be rewarded.

Compassion

***“Have feelings or showing sympathy & concern for others.”*** Parents are to teach and challenge their children this throughout the month. However you choose to reward them for practicing this is up to you. If you contact me that your children were “caught in the act” displaying this, I will send them a free Slushie card.

**Service Project for December**

This month’s service project will be to make Christmas cards for our homebound Parishioners. Students will be doing this in class as a class project. If you have blank or left-over Christmas cards that you would like to get rid of, you can send those in with your students to be used for this. Students are also to send out cards to relatives, friends, loved ones in and out of state, etc. Any students that let me know they sent out any cards will be rewarded with a free Slushie card. I have many to hand out this year.



 Confirmation Preparation

 Information for preparation for this Sacrament was sent out last month. If you do not receive it, please let me know. This year’s preparation will be done using the online *“Chosen”* Program from Ascension Press. There are twelve lessons that the students will need to complete. There will be an outline to follow to help guide students through this process. It should not be difficult to complete one lesson in one week’s time. Sponsor information was also sent out. This Sacrament will be celebrated at St. Andrew’s Cathedral in Grand Rapids on **Sunday, May 7, 2023.** You will receive more information needed in time.

First Reconciliation

[This Photo](https://mindhacks.com/2017/07/29/dont-speculate-on-others-mental-health-from-afar/) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/)

The second graders should be done with the first round of First Communion preparation

with the *“Signs of Grace: You Are Forgiven”*. Dates for this Sacrament are

still in the works. There is a parent AND student meeting scheduled for Sunday, December

4th OR 11th at 11:00 am in the Parish Hall. The students will meet with Mrs. Simon and myself to

show the students the confessional room and what to expect when meeting with Father.

This should not last more than an hour and keep in mind only one parents needs to attend. The parents will meet with Carolyn Heckman.

The second-round prep with *“Signs of Grace: You Are Loved”* will begin the end of February, so take a break!

This portion of the preparation is a nine-week course also with one parent AND student meeting at the end of April. Only one parent needs to attend. This parent meeting will be presented by Carolyn Heckman. More details will be out soon as well.

 ***“And help me to have the love, grace,***

***and wisdom to pursue reconciliation”***

December Birthdays to Celebrate

** 1st – Father Mike 16th- Jace Petersen

 2nd- Alex Weber 16th- Carlei Petersen

 2nd- Jacob Heinicke 17th- Addilynn Pulling

 3rd- Daniel Harraka 20th- Cooper Hoppes

 3rd – Josie Pline 21st – Peyton Rockey

 3rd-Mrs. Angie Weber 23rd- Brianna Pung

 5th – Braden Harris 30th- Elaine Leik

 10th- Evan Ferris 31st- Addalyn Wendling

Thanksgiving Food Drive was very successful collecting 11 boxes equaling about 320 food items

for our Portland community.

 Thank you all for your generous donations.

Class breakdown in number of donations:

 K-37 5th-28

 1st-40 6th-69

 2nd-59 7th-21

 3rd-20 8th-30

 4th-15

*“Jesus said to his disciples: “Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.”*  (Mark 13:33-37)