St. Patrick Parish

Faith Formation Ministry

140 Church St.

Portland, MI 48875

517-647-6505 Ext. 419

**MondayNightFaithFormation**

**December 2023**

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 receive a prize.

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.

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See attached for the added service project starting in January. So, save your

old shoes after Santa brings new ones for Christmas.

First Reconciliation

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The second graders should be finishing up the first round of First Communion preparation

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

You will receive all the information in time for marking it on your calendar.

The second-round prep with *“Signs of Grace: You Are Loved”*  begins at the end of February,

so, take a break! This portion of the preparation is a nine-week course. More details will be

out soon. The format is the same as the first portion.

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

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

December Birthdays to Celebrate

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

 3rd-Josie Pline 16th- Carlei Petersen

 3rd- Mrs. Angie Weber 17th- Addilynn Pulling

 5th-Braden Harris 20th- Cooper Hoppes

 10th- Evan Ferris

Thanksgiving Food Drive was very successful collecting 12 boxes equaling about 434 food items

for our Portland community.

 Thank you all for your generous donations.

Class breakdown in number of donations:

 K- 50 5th- 36

 1st- 34 6th- 34

 2nd- 62 7th- 50

 3rd- 54 8th- 68

 4th- 46

The highest number of percent in donations will be rewarded with a treat for the class.

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