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HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE JESUS LOVES YOU, AND SO DO WE

Important Dates

- ⇒ Thurs. Nov. 18-21- Basketball Tournament, Santa Cruz Gym
- ⇒ Fri., Nov. 19- Thanksgiving Food Drive, Children's Mass, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Church;
- ⇒ Fri. Nov. 19- Student Treasures Books due in the office;
- ⇒ Wed., Nov. 24- Early dismissal (11:00 a.m.), for Thanksgiving Break;
- ⇒ Thurs., Nov. 25- Thanksgiving Day, **NO SCHOOL**;
- ⇒ Mon., Nov. 29- Students return from Thanksgiving break;
- ⇒ Tues., Nov. 30- Healthy Sprouts Grants Notification

Thoughtful Moments

Pray, Pray, Pray

Raising Catholic children to love and serve God and know their faith isn't easy. It may be our job, but it is also God's work. Making time for prayer acknowledges that God is in charge of the process. It is during prayer that he can offer us comfort and guidance in our important work.

Update on Upper Cluster Instructional Program

The instructional program involving grades 4-6 will continue for at least another 9 week period, at which time the program will once again be evaluated to determine if it is feasible for our students. A survey will be sent to parents of 3-6 grade who wish to provide input about the program. The results will be reviewed and a final determination made as to whether this method of instructional delivery will continue.

Basketball Tournament

HCCS will host the basketball tournament this week. As always, parents have been assigned to work the concession stand. Please make certain that, if assigned to work, you report to the concession stand to assist.

Purse Found

Someone has lost a gold purse on the school campus. Please call the office to identify the contents of the purse if this is yours.

No Newsletter next Wednesday- early (11:00 dismissal.

Does God Love Me Less When I Sin?

Children often worry that they become unlovable when they do something wrong. It may help to remind them that God's love can't be lost. Imagine God's love as a bright light shining in the window. We can close our eyes or pull down a shade to keep the light from shining on us. The light still shines, but we can't experience it because we have shut it out. Sin shades our hearts from God's love, but the love still shines. Removing sin helps us bask fully in the light. That's one of the reasons why Jesus created the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession). God is ready to forgive us with complete love!



Fr. Javier Gutierrez,

Pastor, SF

Lorraine M. Sanchez,

Principal

Angela Gonzales, School

Secretary

H **Honest**

C **Caring**

C **Considerate**

S **Students**

*Where Jesus Loves You and
so Do We!*



Halloween Carnival Sponsors:

1. Center Market
2. Lowes Supersave
3. El Paragua/El Parasol
4. Rancho De Chimayo
5. Santuario De Chimayo
6. Chilis
7. Socorro 's Restaruant
8. Romero 's Fruit Stand
9. Arlo 's Fruit Stand
10. La Tiendita de Paz
11. Floral Expressions
12. Ortega 's Weaving
13. Marty Sanchez golf
14. Wendys
15. Dairy Queen
16. Coca Cola
17. Ruby Maes @Images Hair Salon
18. Gina Salazar
19. Rosabella 's Hair in Motion
20. H & A Automotive
21. Ojo Caliente Mineral Springs
22. Ten Thousand Waves
23. Avon
24. Story Teller Theatres
25. Lowes Home Improvement Center
26. Tropicana



Feasts and Celebrations

November 28- First Sunday of Advent

During the next four weeks, we anticipate

the Messiah's birth, remembering when he

was awaited. Catholics all over the world

light candles in an Advent wreath each night



The Saints Invite Us to Their Garden

Imagine that the saints in Heaven are like beautiful flowers in a garden. Each flower seems flawless and its beauty effortless but it took a lot of labor to make them so.

The same is true for the saints. It took a lot of hard work to get where they are.

Learning about them may help us to become saints, too. **Rooted in faith.** Not every saint was holy from birth. For some, growing spiritual roots took years. The gift of faith helped them to find the garden where their roots would grow healthy and strong. **Nourished by grace.** A flower needs soil and sunshine to grow. To grow in

holiness during their lives, the saints relied on God's grace, the free and undeserved help that God gives us to respond to his call to holiness. **Grown with love.** Flowers also need food to become beautiful. Love fed the saints on Earth and feeds them still. Before he died, St. Dominic said, "Do not weep, for I shall be more useful to you after my death and I shall help you then more effectively than during my life.



Classroom in the Spotlight

Mrs. Terry Lopez 's First Grade Class



The first grade class has been working very, very hard! They are learning to work, play and above all, pray together! They have done *so many* things since the beginning of the school year!

One of the first things they did was their famous Mirror Project using poster boards, aluminum foil and pictures cut out from magazines depicting their likes and dislikes. This was a great way of getting to know one another! Even Mrs. Lopez did one!

For Halloween, parents/grandparents generously donated 4 pumpkins to the first grade class. So, the children divided into 4 groups, each decorating one pumpkin for their very own classroom contest. Thanks to our second and third graders and their teachers, Mrs. Martinez, Miss Erika and Mrs. Herrera, who all served as our very competent judges! The winning pumpkin went on to the *Halloween All School Pumpkin Contest*.

The children also have been studying plants and animals, making animal booklets of the animal groups and labeling parts of a flower, using a real carnation.

The children have been extremely busy working on a book to be published. It is entitled, "Our Book of ABC's". The children's creatively made up their stories and illustrated them. They worked individually and in groups.

In religion, the first graders have been studying prayer, what it is, the different types and, of course the "Our Father" and what it means. The children made booklets of this very special prayer.

