

Faith and Family Link

12.13.2017

NPACC Disciples of Christ

Grade 1 through grade 8

For more information, call 952.758.5131

A couple of big nights coming up!

This week - For those who have registered for the family meal... we will be serving anytime between 5:30 and 6. This will allow for everyone to get where they need to go by 6:15.

WCC site families will head over to St. Johns by 6:30 to practice for the traditional Nativity Pageant and prayer service which will be held NEXT WEEK at 7 p.m. Fun and treats to be enjoyed by all!

SW site families will begin their festivities at 6:15. *ALL are welcome!* Children in grades 1&8 will need to go directly to the church for practice. All others will have four different options for stations to visit ; Cookie Decorating, Christmas Bingo, Creative Kids, and Ornament Making. At about 6:55 you will move up to church for the 1&8 grade Nativity pageant.

December 20—EVERYONE is invited to head on over to St. Johns for a pageant and prayer service. This will begin at 7 p.m. We are asking that all Disciples of Christ families bring a pan of bars/cookies to share. We will meet for fellowship immediately after the pageant in the school basement.



Grades 1 & 8 practicing for their Nativity Pageant at the SW site on December 13.

Our Pope Tweets



Pope Francis @Pontifex · Dec 7

We all possess God-given talents. No one can claim to be so poor that they have nothing to offer others.

915 16K 52K



Pope Francis @Pontifex · Dec 6

No child of God can be discarded in His eyes. He entrusts a mission to each one of us.

945 12K 48K

Jesus

Others

Yourself

This Sunday will be the 3rd Sunday of Advent. It is also known as Gaudete Sunday, which signifies JOY! You will notice that this is the week we light the pink candle and our priests wear rose colored vestments instead of purple. It is a time to rejoice as we prepare for the coming of Christ!

Ho-hum... we've done this so many times before that it can become routine, mundane, and even a hassle! Shopping, wrapping, eating, returning, cleaning, decorating, food preparations... well, you know, the list can be endless....we lose sight of what this season is truly about... Yup, **GUILTY!**



But what if we were to focus on the word **JOY** in the proper order... The reason we celebrate Christmas, (Christ's Mass), in the first place – **Jesus**. What if trying to do his will in our lives was our first priority, would that bring us joy? What if we really looked at the great gift of Christ humbling himself from King to lowly baby... all for us. Would that give a greater, truer meaning to our Christmas?

Then next – How can we bring joy to **Others**? At our Baptism, we are all called to discipleship. How can we know the love, hope, and joy of Christ and not share it with others in our lives? We can do this by our words, but also by our example. Putting Jesus, and then others, before ourselves will bring us a joy in Him that will remain steadfast throughout sad and unhappy times in our lives.



Finally us! We are the child of a King. We have to treat ourselves (and others) with the dignity and respect that is required of royalty. God loved you into being, and put you here for a purpose. Search to find his will for your life and you will find joy for **yourself**.

Jesus became lowly and entered our world to show us the way back to our Father. This is what we celebrate at Christmas, the ultimate gift of love. That small babe in the manger is where we will find, hope, love, **JOY** and peace. Blessings!



Wishing you a
joyful heart,
a hopeful spirit, &
a blessed peace
as we celebrate the
birth of Jesus, our
Savior.

Merry Christmas!

*Pamela, Ruth, Lynn and
Laura, Your DOC staff*