

**Saint Peter  
School News  
December, 2023**

Dear Parents,

We now enter the Advent season in preparation for the birth of Jesus at Christmas as well as all the festivities to come. Pope Francis beautifully reminds us of the purpose of this liturgical season of Advent: "We hear a beautiful promise that introduces us to the Season of Advent: "Your Lord is coming." This is the foundation of our hope. It is what supports us even in the most difficult and painful moments of our life: God is coming, God is near and is coming. Let us never forget this! The Lord always comes, the Lord visits us, the Lord draws near, and will return at the end of time to welcome us in his embrace. Before this word, we ask ourselves: How will the Lord come? And how will we recognize him and welcome him? Let us dwell briefly on these two questions. The first question: *how will the Lord come* ? Very often we hear it said that the Lord is present on our journey, that he accompanies us and speaks to us. But perhaps, distracted as we are by many things, this truth remains merely theoretical for us.... God is hidden in our life, he is always there — he is concealed in the most common and most ordinary situations in our life. He does not come in extraordinary events, but in everyday things. He manifests himself in everyday things. He is there, in our daily work, in a chance encounter, in the face of someone in need, even when we face days that seem grey and monotonous. It is right there that we find the Lord, who calls to us, speaks to us and inspires our actions... However, there is a second question: *how can we recognize and welcome the Lord?* We must be awake, alert, vigilant. Jesus warns us: there is the danger we may not notice his coming and may be unprepared for his visit... in this Season of Advent, let us be shaken out of our torpor and let us awaken from our slumber! Let us try to ask ourselves: am I aware of what I am living, am I alert, am I awake? Do I try to recognize God's presence in daily situations, or am I distracted and a little overwhelmed by things? If we are unaware of his coming today, we will also be unprepared when he arrives at the end of time. Therefore, brothers and sisters, let us remain vigilant! Waiting for the Lord to come, waiting for the Lord to draw near to us, because he is there, but waiting alert. And may the Holy Virgin, Woman of waiting, who knew how to perceive the passing of God in the humble and hidden life of Nazareth and welcomed him in her womb, help us in this journey of being attentive to wait for the Lord who is among us and passes by."

**Confirmation Choir**

We congratulate our 8th grade students who received Confirmation (names in November newsletter) and we are so very grateful for the

beautiful singing voices of our students under the direction of Mrs. McCann who enhanced our Confirmation Liturgy:

Khalaya Johnson (6)	Joendrys Marquez (6)
Kayleeh Avila (4)	Hadassa Perez (6)
Missael Fernandez (4)	Jossanny Santos (6)
Samantha Martinez (4)	Lisbeth Perez (6)
Jesus Reyes (4)	Nevaeh Sheetz (6)
Abigail Tejada (5)	Olivia Rodriguez (7)
Adalis De La Cruz (6)	Isai Rivera (8)
Adanis Flores (6)	



**Diocesan Spelling Bee**

We are so proud of Dulcemaria Ramirez (7) and Armany Julbe (7) who represented us at the Diocesan Spelling Bee at Saints Peter and Paul in Lehighton. Dulcemaria had won 1st Place for Berks County and Armany 2nd Place.



**SPS Craft Club**

We are so happy to introduce a new club and its members. Students will meet every Thursday to make various crafts and seasonal decorations. Our dedicated teachers will rotate shifts and share their talents with these students:

Janelle Abreu (6)	Hadass Perez (6)
Jennifer Arevalo (4)	Liliana Santiago (6)
Alyvia Barreto (4)	Tristan Santiago(6)
Rita Ramirez (4)	Annalise Sierra (6)
Jose Ramos-Rodriguez (4)	Nathalie Buenano(7)
Nathan Velasquez (4)	Gabriela Caloca-Ortiz (8)
Nicole Bueno (5)	Mariana Jeronimo (8)
Montserrat Martinez (5)	Britney Martinez (8)
Cameron Merritt (5)	Tiffany Rodriguez (8)
Naleigha Merritt (5)	Erica Rodriguez-Rosa(8)
Emilio Perez (5)	Milagros Solis (8)
Jorge Rodriguez (5)	Jasmine Vargas (8)
Nayaliz Rodriguez (5)	



**SPS Book Club**

Our Saint Peter School Book Club has returned for another year of reading and discussing some significant books with meaning:

Armany Julbe (7)	Britney Martinez (8)
Olivia Rodriguez (7)	Mrs. Searfoss
Mael Vargas (7)	Mrs. Vida
David Zavala (7)	Sister Anna



**Pancake Breakfast with Santa**

We will celebrate this on Saturday, December 9 from 10:00 until 1:00 in the Social Hall. It will be a day of pancakes, selling of small Christmas items, raffle of theme baskets, craft-making, face painting, and opportunities to have your picture taken with Santa.



**Christmas Show**

We hope you can join us for a simple Christmas presentation in our church on Friday, December 15 after the 8:30 mass.

