

# Saint Peter School News December, 2025

## Dear Parents,

We are now entering the sacred liturgical season of Advent, a time to re-encounter with a God who loved us so much that he came into the world as one of us. The good news and joy that Christmas brings should fill us with an ever-ending hope that will sustain us through all trials and tribulations. In his last homily for Christmas, Pope Francis shared this beautiful message of hope as he opened the Holy Year.: "An angel of the Lord, bathed in light, illumines the night and brings glad tidings to the shepherds: "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord". Heaven breaks forth upon earth amid the wonder of the poor and the singing of angels. God has become one of us to make us like himself; he has come down to us to lift us up and restore us to the embrace of the Father. Sisters and brothers, this is our hope. God is Emmanuel, God-with-us. The infinitely great has made himself tiny; divine light has shone amid the darkness of our world; the glory of heaven has appeared on earth. And how? As a little child. If God can visit us, even when our hearts seem like a lowly manger, we can truly say: Hope is not dead; hope is alive and it embraces our lives forever. Hope does not disappoint!.... To receive this gift, we are called to set out with the marvel of the shepherds in the fields of Bethlehem. The Gospel tells us that, having heard the message of the angel, they "went with haste". In this same way, "with haste", we too are called to recover lost hope, to renew that hope in our hearts, and to sow seeds of hope amid the bleakness of our time and our world. And there is so much desolation at this time. We think of wars, of children being shot at, bombs on schools and hospitals. Do not delay, do not hesitate, but allow yourselves to be drawn along by the Good News. With haste, then, let us set out to behold the Lord who is born for us, our hearts joyful and attentive, ready to meet him and then to bring hope to the way we live our daily lives. And this is our task: to bring hope into the different situations of life. For Christian hope is not a cinematic "happy ending" which we passively await, but rather, a promise, the Lord's promise, to be welcomed here and now in our world of suffering and sighs. It is a summons not to tarry, to be kept back by our old habits, or to wallow in mediocrity or laziness. Hope calls us – as Saint Augustine would say – to be upset with things that are wrong and to find the courage to change them. Hope calls us to become pilgrims in search of truth, dreamers who never tire, women and men open to being challenged by God's dream, which is of a new world where peace and justice reign... All of us have received the gift and task of bringing hope wherever hope has been lost, lives broken, promises unkept, dreams shattered and hearts overwhelmed by adversity. We are called to bring hope to the weary who have no strength to carry on, the lonely oppressed by the bitterness of failure, and all those who are broken-hearted. To bring hope to the interminable, dreary days of prisoners, to the cold and dismal lodgings of the poor, and to all those places desecrated by war and violence. To bring hope there, to

sow hope there.... As we contemplate the manger, as we gaze upon it and see God's tender love in the face of the Child Jesus, let us ask ourselves: "Are our hearts full of expectation? Does this hope find a place there? ... As we sow hope there.... As we contemplate the manger, as we

gaze upon it and see God's tender love in the face of the Child Jesus, let us ask ourselves: "Are our hearts full of expectation? Does this hope find a place there? ... As we contemplate the loving kindness of God who overcomes our doubts and fears, let us also contemplate the grandeur of the hope that awaits us. ... May this vision of hope illumine our path each day."

## Confirmation

We rejoice with our 8th graders who received this special sacrament from Bishop Schlert :

Tais Batista	Manuel Ramirez
Jotxiel Caraballo	Liliana Santiago
Nyleah Connor	Jossanny Santos
Khalaya Johnson	Keilly Santos-Paredes
Carmen Jordan	Annalise Sierra
Misael Moreno	Helen Tineo-Genao
Diego Nuñez	Alexa Torres
Randi Pascual	Angel Vargas
Alanna Peralta	Edgar Vasquez De Leon

## Confirmation Choir

We are so very grateful for the beautiful singing voices of our students that enhanced our special Confirmation Liturgy:

Kayla Morisseau (4)	Zion Cooper (6)
Brianna Burgos (4)	Missael Fernandez (6)
Mayrenis Cabrera (4)	Samantha Martinez (6)
Ana Figueroa (4)	Jesus Reyes (6)
Iliana Gonzalez (4)	Benamy Ruiz (6)
Iliana Hernandez (4)	Scarlett Bueno (7)
Jasslyn Moronta (4)	Maria Martinez (7)
Jorge Perez (4)	Kiara Navarrete (7)
Talia Rodriguez (4)	Mariangel Polanco (7)
Yianna Vargas (4)	Naiyade Cedeno (8)
Monica Ramirez (5)	Hadassa Perez (8)

## Diocesan Spelling Bee

We are so proud of our 8th Grade student, Angel Vargas, who won 2nd Place in the Berks County CYO Spelling Bee and now goes on to compete in the Diocesan Spelling Bee Competition.

## Mathletes

We congratulate Mrs. Jones and her group of 8th Grade Mathematicians who competed at the Mathletes competition at Berks Catholic High School:

Nyleah Connor	Hadassa Perez
Misael Moreno	Annalise Sierra
	Angel Vargas

## Pancake Breakfast with Santa

We will celebrate this on Saturday, December 6 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 19 after the 8:30 mass.

