

# December 2017

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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## Our Mission:

To build a community of disciples of Jesus Christ by teaching children love, forgiveness, mercy and salvation through our Catholic faith.

## We will carry out our mission by:

- ◆ Welcoming all children and families with love and mercy
- ◆ Sharing the love of God through scripture, prayer, and Catholic teaching
- ◆ Preparing children and families to receive the grace of God through the Sacraments
- ◆ Building a community of faith and discipleship

## St. Ann Children's Religious Education



## December 2017 Newsletter



### C.R.E. Important Dates

## The History of the Crèche

The story of the origin of the Christmas crèche rests with the very holy man, St. Francis of Assisi.

In the year 1223, St. Francis, a deacon, was visiting the town of Greccio to celebrate Christmas. Greccio was a small town built on a mountainside overlooking a beautiful valley. St. Francis realized that the chapel of the Franciscan hermitage would be too small to hold the congregation for Midnight Mass. So he found a niche in the rock near the town square and set up the altar. However, this Midnight Mass would be very special, unlike any other Midnight Mass.

St. Bonaventure describes what St. Francis did on that Christmas Eve like this: "Then he prepared a manger, and brought hay, and an ox and an ass to the place appointed. The brethren were summoned, the people ran together, the forest resounded

By Debbie Kaluza, Director

with their voices, and that venerable night was made glorious by many and brilliant lights and sonorous psalms of praise. The man of God [St. Francis] stood before the manger, full of devotion and piety, bathed in tears and radiant with joy; the Holy Gospel was chanted by Francis, the Levite of Christ. Then he preached to the people around the nativity of the poor King; and being unable to utter His name for the tenderness of His love, He called Him the Babe of Bethlehem."

Thank you St. Francis! And may God bless you all this Christmas!



## Great Radio!

Are you looking for some good, wholesome music to listen to while riding in the car with your children? There are several great options! Try one of these wonderful, joyful, family friendly radio stations.

They are full of hope,

love, and Christian Values, and can be enjoyed by the whole family. You'll be so glad you switched!

101.7 Air1 Positive Hits  
94.9 KLTU  
Star 102.1 (Christmas)

## Praise and Worship

Join us for Praise and Worship in the Assembly Room during your child(ren)'s class time on December 13 and 14! We will be singing Christmas carols to celebrate this special season and to honor the birth of our Lord Jesus.

- ☉ Dec. 2 3rd Grade Service Project, drop off gifts between 10:00 am-1:00 pm Rooms 111,112
- ☉ Dec. 3 2nd Grade Service Project 1:30 pm, meet in Reception Rm.
- ☉ Dec. 6-7 No Classes, Virgen of Guadalupe Novena
- ☉ Dec. 9 SNAPS (Special Needs and Parent Support) Group meeting Christmas Celebration
- ☉ Dec. 13-14 Praise and Worship, Class Christmas Celebrations
- ☉ Dec. 16 Final Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
- ☉ Dec. 18-January 7 No CRE Classes
- ☉ Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Children's Masses 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.; Pageants at 3:40, 5:40
- ☉ Jan. 7 First Communion Preparation Workshop 9:30 am

Helpful tip: Gather around the Advent wreath to pray together as a family and remember what Christmas is all about!

