# Important for the Weeks of December 11 and 18, 2023 / Happy 2nd Sunday of Advent.

#### Dear HFGS Families, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends,

#### Gratitude to our Parent Leads, Volunteers, and Santa Shoppers!

The two days of Santa Shop, steered by Mrs. Samuy, Mrs. Cindy Bulaon, Mrs. Pauline Pitpit, and Mrs. Cheryl Miguel, were truly thrilling for our students and families, offering a glimpse of the Christmas items last week despite the parking challenges.

To all the parents who generously contributed to their children's shopping, we extend our heartfelt thanks. While our goal was to sell everything, we do have some items left. We hope your child enjoys what was purchased, and we look forward to welcoming you back to our 2024 Santa Shop.

#### Church Christmas Concert "Gloria" spearheaded by Dr. Adan Fernandez

Last night's Gloria-themed concert was a spectacular showcase of diverse songs performed by mixed choirs from our Church, notably featuring the talented HFGS students within the children's choirs. **Dr. Adan Fernandez** led most of the performances, while **Mr. Tom Makiling** delivered outstanding acts alongside the Glendale Youth Orchestra. Our students' remarkable performances added a special touch to the evening.

Huge congratulations to **all the members of HFCC Choirs, Fr. John Schiovone, the Glendale Youth Orchestra, Dr. Fernandez and Mr. Tom Makiling** for orchestrating such a magnificent event. The classical pieces and **Fr. John Schiavone'**s two new compositions were particularly captivating. To Holy Family - Thank you for providing us with the wonderful experience of our Church's music. It was truly memorable and uplifting.

#### Mom vs. kids' football game by Mrs. Teresa Nelson, Athletic Director

Congratulations to our B Flag Football team for an outstanding season. Thanks to Coach Johnson, Coach Aguilar, Coach Gutierrez and our families for their positive guidance and endless support. To culminate their outstanding 7-1 season, the "B" team enjoyed a scrimmage versus our HFGS B Flag Football Team Moms! With plenty of action, cheering, and flag pulling, the HFGS "B" Flag Football team families showed their Bulldog spirit!

#### Student-of-the-Month Assembly 12/13/23

On Wednesday, 12/13/24, we have another opportunity to celebrate our students' achievements throughout the month of November. Our collective dedication to instilling routines and discipline in our children's daily tasks, both at school and within our homes, consistently yields rewarding outcomes. Time and again, we witness the fruits of your hard work and guidance reflected in the children's active engagement and outstanding results in quizzes, class participation, projects, and beyond.

Let's come together to honor and celebrate the academic successes of our remarkable Holy Family kids this Wednesday. It's another moment to applaud their efforts and the support they receive from their families and educators alike.

# Christmas Concert Rehearsal (Thursday, 12/14) and Actual Day of Performance (Friday, 12/15)

Before Thursday, the day of our Christmas Concert's general rehearsal, we kindly request that all parent permission slips be collected. This is a necessary step before we escort your child out of school

and head to The United Community Church of Glendale, located next block on Colorado Blvd, for practice. All classes will be proceeding to this venue for the Friday event.

On Friday, 12/15/23, there will be two separate entrance doors. One designated for students only, and the other for the general public. Doors will open promptly at **6:45 p.m.** Please remember to bring your Christmas Concert tickets, which were dispatched last Wednesday. Also, note that this Wednesday marks the final day to order tickets through the family envelopes.

For those who have not purchased Concert tickets yet, there will be a table situated outside the Church doors on the day of the event where you can acquire admission tickets. We eagerly anticipate an enchanting Friday evening program for your entire family to enjoy.

# Heading to Rome immediately after Christmas Day

What an incredible journey ahead for the Concert Chorus heading to Rome after Christmas! To all the current members and families, as well as those who graduated with the Concert Chorus singers, I wish you all the best for this amazing experience. Gathering with choirs from around the world as part of The Pueri Cantores Group, meeting and receiving blessings from Pope Francis, performing in various cathedrals, exploring iconic landmarks like the Sistine Chapel, St. Francis of Assisi's place, St. Clare of Assisi Parish, the Colosseum, Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, Roman Forum, St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican museums, basilicas, and more - what an unforgettable journey it will be.

For those who missed this year's trip, mark your calendars for the Concert Chorus and our Church Choirs' next Rome visit in 2028. Safe travels to all, and may the meeting with Pope Francis be a truly special and holy moment. A huge thank you to Mr. Makiling for making this possible.

# "Bring a Friend Day "at Holy Family

Join us in celebrating Catholic Schools' Week by bringing a friend to shadow and experience the vibrant atmosphere of HFGS on **Monday**, **January 29th**.

Let's unite in our efforts to welcome more students into our school community, fostering their growth in faith and knowledge. Through this initiative, we aim to uphold the mission of the Catholic Church and share the invaluable benefits of a Catholic education. Whether you'd like to invite your child's cousin, a friend not currently at HFGS, or anyone eager to spend a day immersed in studying, meeting our faculty, engaging in prayer, and enjoying activities alongside HF students, mark your calendars for this special day. Monday, January 29, 2024, promises to bring new faces, new friendships, and an engaging experience for all.

# Simbang Gabi at Holy Family

Simbang Gabi is indeed a beautiful Filipino Night Mass tradition. At Holy Family, these devotional nine-day series of Masses are embraced by Filipino Catholics and diverse parishioners, marking an anticipation of Christmas. Similar to the nine dawn Masses leading to Christmas Eve in Puerto Rico, known as Misa de Aguinaldo, Simbang Gabi holds immense significance.

This tradition stands as a vital way to honor and worship God during the Christmas season. Through Simbang Gabi, attendees celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ while spiritually preparing for the joyous occasion of Christmas.

At HFCC, the Masses will commence at 5:30 a.m. from December 16 through the 24th, followed by a reception at the GS Auditorium immediately after each Mass - a time for fellowship and shared joy.

# Important for the Weeks of December 11 and 18, 2023 / Happy 2nd Sunday of Advent.

Sun. 12/10 - Second Sunday of Advent

# Mon. 12/11

12:00 p.m. - HFCC Staff Meeting

# Tues. 12/12 - Celebrating The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe! / Happy Birthday, Miss Mary Ann Gutierrez.

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. - School Mass

# Wed. 12/13 - Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 a.m. - Student of the Month Assembly 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Christmas Potluck in the classrooms for Primary and Elementary school levels

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - A Student Assembly Performance from Mrs. Claus, GS Auditorium (Thanks to Mrs. Ann Daniels for the sponsorship of this incredible show for our kids!) Parents are invited to come and watch.

#### Thurs. 12/14 - Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church / Happy Birthday, Mrs. Alma Talledo.

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Christmas Concert General Rehearsal for the Concert at The UCCG, United Community Church of Glendale. All parent consent forms to walk need to be submitted prior to 10:00 a.m.

# Fri. 12/15

#### 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Christmas Potluck in the classrooms for the Middle School 3:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - After School Care

7:00 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. - Christmas Concert 2023 at The UCCG - United Community Church of Glendale, 333 E. Colorado St. Glendale, CA 91205. There will be two (2) free parking lots for all our families and guests - HFCC and UCCG. A Winter Dedication Book will be received during the program and a special mail goes to all the sponsors.

Mon. 12/18 - No School. Christmas break begins and classes will resume on Monday, January 8, 2024.

**Note:** Deanery 6 Principals Meeting

#### A Prayerful Meditation to begin another week Psalm 85:7-13

7 Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

9 Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

10 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

11 Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

12 Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness will go before him, and make his footsteps a way.

Lord, let your light burn brightly in my heart that I may know the joy and freedom of your kingdom. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and empower me to witness the truth of your Gospel and to point others to Jesus Christ.

Thank you and have a blessed Second Sunday of Advent, Dr. Suelto

<u>References:</u> Fr. Anthony's Message School Calendar Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary