

November 23, 2005

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we gather together for our Thanksgiving celebrations tomorrow, we call to mind all that we have, all that we are and all whom we love. All these gifts come from God.

The faculty and staff hope all of our families share in many blessings for a bountiful Thanksgiving.

**Volunteers:**

A special thanks at this time of year to all the volunteers who give so generously to the St. Paul's community. You have an important role in making our school such a welcoming place.

**Advent:**

When we return from our Thanksgiving break, it will already be the Church season of Advent. As a school community, we will gather each Monday morning in the Parish Center to pray. We will begin Monday morning at 8:20 a.m. with a blessing of our Advent wreath.

**Gym Policy:**

Last week, Fr. Mario, Lory Baldizon and I met to discuss concerns that were made at the November Athletic Board meeting. **In response, the school foyer will be open to parents who have a child at practice. The gym is open to coaches and players only.** If the restroom needs to be used, parents can enter the school building through the first floor.

**Volleyball Update:**

Congratulations to both our Third Grade Volleyball and Fifth Grade Volleyball teams that were victorious in their championship games on Saturday.

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Awards:**

Congratulations to all our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders who received awards today (see attached).

**Toys for Tots:**

Once again we will be joining the San Francisco Fire Department's "Toys for Tots" Christmas drive. The toy barrels will arrive at school on Monday, November 28 and will be picked up on Wednesday, December 14 at 8:00 a.m. If you can donate a used toy, in excellent condition, to brighten up a child's Christmas, please drop it by the school office between the above-mentioned dates. We will also be accepting new toys. For health reasons, we ask that stuffed animals not be donated unless they are brand new. Thank you for your continuous support of the school community.

**One Warm Coat:**

The Parent Group will once again sponsor the One Warm Coat Drive here at St. Paul's School. Please send new or gently worn jackets and coats to the office beginning Monday, November 28 through Monday, December 5. The Parent Group will be sending a flyer home advising of the charity organization benefiting from these donations.

**From the Student Parent Handbook (p. 6):**

"The school discourages families taking trips when school is in session. If you must schedule a trip when school is in session, it is necessary to seek the approval of the principal and consult your child's teacher. Parents are advised there is no substitute for classroom instruction and should evaluate the loss of instruction for their child against the potential educational value of the planned trip. Teachers are not required to provide assignments prepared in advance or extra tutorial time for any student because of

these absences. It will be the responsibility of the parents to see that their child masters the skills and assignments missed due to such absences.”

**St. Paul’s Cookbook:**

The St. Paul’s Cookbook will be here soon! Please order your copy today! A flyer can be found in today’s Wednesday envelope or on the school website. Order forms should be returned to the office, Attn: Michele Bulen. **Checks should be made payable to St. Paul’s School.** Only 200 copies were ordered, so please plan to purchase as many as you need before they sell out. The cookbooks are due to arrive on December 9<sup>th</sup> so we will get them to families beginning the week of December 12. The books will sell for \$10.00 each and make the perfect gift for family and friends. Proceeds will benefit the St. Paul’s Parent Group. Thank you for your support of this project.

**Lost and Found:**

The Lost and Found container in the office will be emptied at the end of November. Please make sure you stop by the office before then to claim any uniform items you might be missing. A special thank you to Kathleen McKeon for overseeing this project.

**QSP Orders:**

Thank you to Mary Fernandez, Fernando Baldizon and Jeremy Emmerson for helping with the delivery of the QSP orders.

**Tuition Payment Reminder:**

The second tuition payment for two-payment families will be due December 1, 2005.

**Upcoming Calendar Events:**

<b>November 28</b>	<b>8:20 a.m. Blessing of the Advent Wreath Grade 4 Field trip—Herbst Theater 12:35 p.m. Dismissal</b>
<b>November 29</b>	<b>Hearing tests – Grades 1-3 Reconciliation Services – Grades 4, 5, 7</b>
<b>November 30</b>	<b>Progress Reports go home</b>
<b>December 1</b>	<b>Grade 4 Field Trip - Zeum Reconciliation Services – Grades 3, 6, 8</b>
<b>December 8</b>	<b>8:30 a.m. School Mass (dress uniform) Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b>
<b>December 14</b>	<b>7:00 p.m. Christmas Concert</b>

Sincerely,

Arleen Guaraglia  
Principal