December 19, 2014

Dear Parent:

We are blessed!

As we sat at the Franciscan Center last night, we were blessed by a wonderful Christmas Program presented by the children of third, fourth, and fifth grades. Under the direction of Mrs. Bess Mass, the children sang with clear, strong, beautiful voices. It was a performance to be cherished by not only students but by their families and friends.

…We are blessed by our parish community. Because of the faithful and faith-filled support of our many parishioners, we are able to serve the children who are with us today and to prepare for the ones who will come to us “tomorrow.”

…We are blessed by our Pastor, Msgr. Dennis Metzger, and Associate Pastor, Rev. Charles Ritter who steadfastly embrace the ministry of Catholic education. With energy and vision they fully participate in the partnership we have with parents and in the formation of their children in faith, academics, and service.

…We are blessed by parents, who allow us to enter their lives as partners in the education of their children. I do not have enough words to speak of all the ways that parents enter into a relationship with us. They volunteer, they share, they fund raise, and they celebrate the joy of learning in a Catholic school environment. Their commitment to the faith formation of their children is a blessing to our school and to our future.

…We are blessed by our faculty and staff. They are a community of faith and their Catholic School ministry calls them to holiness. They witness their faith and dedicate their lives to a vocation that is dynamic…one that challenges them to respond to a world growing in complexity. Through their dedication, they bless all of us. …

…We are blessed by our students. The goal of our school is for students to learn much more than content. Our goals include formative outcomes: that students will be able to see the presence of God in events and experiences of their lives; that they will become persons of integrity, compassion, and forgiveness; that they will recognize how they learn, know how to be reflective, appreciate their personal gifts, and demonstrate personal responsibility; that they understand and take responsibility for becoming
contributing members of society; that they learn to question the world through higher order thinking skills; and that they recognize the creative gifts that they and others possess.

…and at Christmas, we are blessed by the love, joy, and peace that the birth of our Savior brings.

On behalf of the students and staff of St. Joseph School, I wish you a blessed Christmas. May the peace and joy of Christ's birth be with you throughout the year.

Calendar Reminders

- The Second Quarter ends on Friday, December 19, 2014.
- School resumes on Monday, January 5, 2015.
- Report cards will be sent home on Wednesday, January 7, 2015.

Merry Christmas,

Sally A. Koppinger
Principal