



*'St. Jerome Early Childhood Center, a Catholic Community, provides a loving and accepting environment that fosters respect for all people, by modeling Christian values as our children grow and learn.'*

### ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE:



On Sunday, Nov. 26th we began the grace-filled season of Advent. We have been blessed with these weeks prior to Christmas as a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

Our students celebrated Advent Prayer Services with Sister Lucia in their classrooms this week. Our prayers, songs and discussions led us to a deeper understanding of the real significance of Advent and Christmas. The students made their own Advent wreaths to share with their families. As we prepare our homes and hearts for Christmas, may this Holy season of Advent draw our families closer together and closer to Jesus, the true gift of Christmas.

Wishing you Advent Joy & Christmas Peace,  
Phyllis Steele

### Thanksgiving Prayer Service

We celebrated Thanksgiving with a beautiful Prayer Service. Thank you to Father Mike O'Brien for presiding over this special event. We are very thankful for the blessings of faith, family and school.



Advent Prayer Service  
Thank you, Sister Lucia!



## Thanksgiving Food Drive



to drop nonperishable food items. Teaching our children to lead a life of service is one of our objectives. Thank you to Fred Bach and all of God's helpers who run the Lifeline Food Pantry!



Thank you to everyone who donated to our food drive for Lifeline Ministries. We collected over 250 items! Your donations are greatly appreciated. There are boxes in the Church foyer and Parish office where you can continue

## **Christmas Concert with Jack Hartmann and Santa!!**



Our Christmas fundraiser is our biggest event of the year! We raised over \$5,000.00 for the school. This helps to keep our tuition prices down! Everyone had a terrific time and enjoyed some family fun! We are so grateful to the many people who contributed to the success of this event. May God bless you all!





- ❖ **Christmas Sing-Along:** St. Jerome ECC will have its Annual Christmas Sing-along on Friday, December 22nd at 11:15 on the playground. Bring chairs or a blanket and your singing voice! Please see the flyer going home for more important information.
- ❖ **Nativity & Mass** – Join the Parish on Christmas Eve beginning at 4:00pm with the Annual Nativity Presentation and Mass to follow.

❖ **No PM Extended Day:** St. Jerome ECC will **not** offer PM extended day hours on Wednesday, Dec. 21st, as noted on our calendar. All students will be dismissed at 12:00pm.

#### **REMINDERS:**

- ❖ **Christmas Holidays:** Our Christmas Break is December 22 – January 5. We are offering a half-day camp Jan. 2-5. Limited spaces are available. Call the office for details.
- ❖ Our school program will reconvene on Monday, January 8, 2022

#### **THANK YOU:**

To those who donated to our canned food drive.  
To the parents who assisted in delivering the food donations.  
To those who helped at our Saturday workforce.  
To Father Mike O'Brien for presiding at our Thanksgiving Prayer service.  
To the families who donated items to our class raffle baskets.  
To all who contributed items to the Secret Santa Shop.  
To those who sent in donations and signed up to volunteer at our big Christmas fundraiser event.  
To Sister Lucia for teaching us about Advent.  
To the volunteers who helped with our poinsettia fundraiser.

#### **UPCOMING:**

Dec. 2 **Christmas Concert with Jack Hartmann and Santa**  
Dec. 6 Classes celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas  
Dec. 7 Church Tree Lighting 7:00pm  
Dec. 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
Dec. 10 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration at Church 4:30 pm  
Dec. 20 Room 4 Ice Cream Party (for selling the most raffle tickets)  
Dec. 21 Room 3 Pizza Party (for selling the most concert tickets)  
**Dec. 22 SING-A-LONG 11:15- Join Us on the playground – Gate closes at 11:10am**  
**Dec. 22 NO PM EXTENDED DAY –School Closes at Noon**  
Dec. 25 Jesus' Birthday  
Dec. 25-Jan. 5 School Closed -Christmas Holidays  
Jan. 1 Happy New Year 2024!  
Jan. 8 School re-opens  
Jan. 15 No School – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Jan. 29-Feb. 2 Catholic Schools' Week - Details coming soon!  
Jan. 10 Make-up Parent Orientation  
Jan. 20 Cash Raffle fundraiser begins  
Jan. 29 OPEN HOUSE 10:30am – 12:00pm Take a tour of our school!

**Re-enrollment** for the upcoming 2024-25 school year will begin in late January. Applications for new students for the upcoming school year will begin following in-house registration. Please recommend St. Jerome ECC to families & friends who are looking for a quality, nationally accredited Catholic Early Childhood program for their two-, three- or four-year-old children. More to follow in January!



# MANY THANKS

FOR THE DONATIONS THAT MADE  
OUR CHRISTMAS CONCERT EVENT POSSIBLE!

Please support the local businesses who donated to our fundraiser.

American Stage  
Auto Dynamics of Largo  
Beth O'Day Photography  
Bonfish Grill  
Chicken Salad Chick  
Clearwater Marine Aquarium  
Glazer Children's Museum  
Great Explorations  
Indian Rocks Café  
Ippolito Italian Deli  
Maple Street Biscuit Co.  
MOSI  
Rita's Italian Ice  
Slyce Pizza Bar  
Anonymous Sponsor  
SJECC Families and Friends

Stefanec's Barbershop  
Treasure Island Fun Center  
VIP Mexican Cuisine  
BeNail Bar  
Buff City Soaps  
Practically Pikaso  
Osterio Bricco  
Holiday Inn Harbourside  
Dali Museum  
Tampa Museum of Art  
Zack and Gio Designs  
JOTOS  
Ruth Eckerd Hall  
GZ Infinity Motors  
Danielle Sapp, Realtor