



HFCA NEWS

**Holy Family Catholic
Academy**

Volume 7 Issue 14

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Holy Family Catholic Academy welcomes each child in Jesus' name, developing within its students a love for God, learning and others. — HFCA Mission Statement

God's Glory, Our Joy

Then God asked, "Who told you that you were naked? You have eaten, then, from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat!" Genesis 3:11

In the familiar passage from the Book of Genesis, God placed our first parents in a garden and gave them practically free rein: They could eat of the fruit of all the trees in the garden except for one. In our tradition, so much stress has been laid on the *prohibition* that we tend to overlook the importance of the *permission*: Adam and Eve were given permission to enjoy the garden completely. Our God want us to be fully alive. As St. Irenaeus said, "The glory of God is a human being fully alive." Our God wants us flourishing. The garden stands for art and literature, for science and business and sports: all the things that mae life rich and wonderful. That's what God wants for us.

So why, then, did God make the prohibition? Don't make the mistake Adam and Eve did. The devil convinces them that God is a rival, and so they must take what God does not want to give them. Why does God say, "You must not eat of that tree"? Not because he is trying to keep something from them, but rather because he wants them to be fully alive. That will happen only when they accept everything as a gift.

The best things in life come to us when, at the end of all our striving, we are ready to receive a gift. The original sin wad grasping at what was meant to be a gift, and from that has come all of the suffering of the human race.

HFCA CHRISTMASTREE

Come and see your child's beautiful artwork on our first HFCA Christmas Tree. All the ornaments were made by our students under the direction of Mr. Keglovits. The theme was "A Green Christmas". There are two awards given each year; one for creativity and beauty judged by the Irving Arts judges and the other "Viewers Choice Award". This award goes to the tree that has received the most votes by the public. You can vote online until Dec. 31st or visit the center and vote until Dec. 20th. We are so proud of our tree and we would like everyone and their family to visit the Irving Art Center and vote for our tree.

UPCOMING DATES

Weds. Dec. 7 Spelling Bee
at 1:00

Weds. Dec. 7 Pep Rally at
2:30

Thurs. Dec. 8 Feast of the
Immaculate Conception

Thurs. Dec. 8 Band Con-
cert during lunch

Fri. Dec. 9 Christ Child
Toy Mass

Sat. Dec. 10 Santa Paws
Walk/Run

Sat. Dec. 10 8th grade
Confirmation Retreat

Mon. Dec. 12 Feast of
Our Lady of Guadalupe

Thurs Dec. 15 Christmas
Program at 6:30

Fri. Dec. 16 Early Dismissal
noon— No After-school
No Lunch

Christmas Program

Our Christmas
Program will be Dec.
15th. All students are to
be in their classrooms at
6:00pm.
Parents are to go to the
church .

Student Dress Code:

Students are to wear
their Christmas best.
Those in the Nativity,

Christ Child Mass

Holy Family Catholic Academy Christmas Service Project

Each December, our school community collects donations of toys in the name of the Christ Child. Donations are given to Knights of Columbus. Each child will bring these to our Mass on Dec. 16th. Thank you for sharing the spirit of Christmas giving with your children.

Weather News

Now that winter has begun, please make sure your child(ren) are adequately covered. Please make sure all their sweaters and jackets are labeled with their name on them.

If the weather is freezing or below (32degrees) the girls will be allowed to wear khaki uniform slacks.

In case of severe weather, please continue to watch NBC or NBC.com for weather updates. If Irving ISD is closed then we are as well. Holy Family will also send out a message via RenWeb on closings.

IXL CONGRATULATIONS!!

As of October 31, Holy Family Academy students have practiced over 2163 hours on IXL. This extensive usage places us in the 400 most active IXL teachers in the state of Texas. Considering that there are over 28,000 teachers integrating IXL in the state, that is no small feat! Keep up the great work!

Santa Paws in Coming to Irving!

Don't forget our Santa Paws 1K Walk/5K Run is this weekend! Bring the whole family and of course your dog! All proceeds go directly to the school. If you bring in over \$300 in donations, half of this will go towards your tuition for the 2017-2018 school year.

HFCA 2017-2018 Re-enrollment FACTS Grant and Aid

TUITION FOR 2017-2018 will remain the same as this current year.

It is time to reapply for FACTS Tuition Grant and Aid! Our goal is to have everyone who needs tuition assistance to have applied before Dec. 31st. We will be here at school until Dec. 15th to help anyone who needs assistance in filling out the paperwork. This is a generous opportunity given by the Diocese to help the smaller schools receive the much needed aid. At this time we are in a pool of 8 schools applying but after Dec. 31st the pools grows to 32 schools! Please help us help you by applying NOW! Paperwork must be submitted before Dec. 31st in order to receive early notification. You may use your 2015 W2s and Income Tax paperwork.