

# Christmas Concert ~~2021~~ 2022



Preston (4th) was playing songs by request (UL) from his fans in the stands during prelude practice (ML). It is always a treat to see our students dressed up! Preschoolers looked and sounded terrific for their performance. Both classes of preschoolers enjoyed singing and dancing. Their excitement was contagious! Blair Stella (4 year old preschoolers) shared a seat before rehearsal. Their smiles were too cute not to capture.

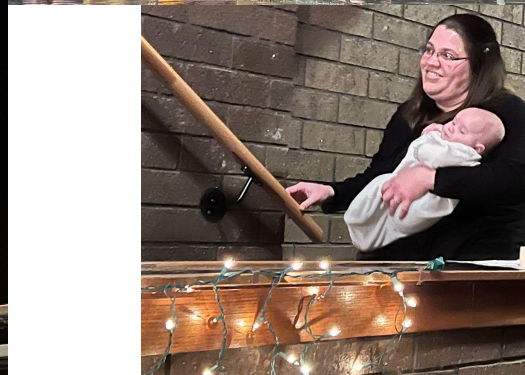
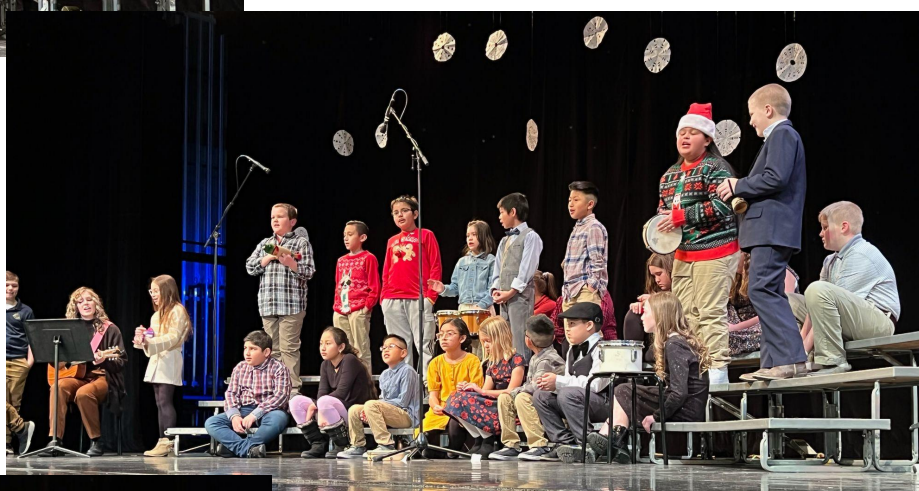
Mary (Alexis 5th) and angel (Isabelle 5th) (LL) and kindergarten thru 2nd grade (LR).







Third graders (UL) and 4th graders (LR). Ms. Taylor did a marvelous job of incorporating instruments into the performance, providing an opportunity students to try something new and to take a risk. Max (5th) helped Ms. Taylor with her music. Lovella (4th) accompanied Ms. Taylor on the ukulele. Second grade (ML), 1st grade (LR), Mrs. Heisdorffer and daughter Katie in



her debut role as baby Jesus (MR), and Joseph (Kale 5th) with Mary (Alexis 5th) and baby Jesus (Katie) in the stable. Ms. Taylor playing *Away in the Manger* beautifully on the cleo (LR).







Wisemen (Max and Grant 5th UL), 5th grade nativity (M), Mrs. Fritz and daughter Julia singing lovely and singing *His Name is Jesus* (R), and some of our clean up crew Meghan Hamilton, Ty (2nd), Max (5th), Brynn (K) pictured (LR). Thank you to all the others that helped clean up. Many hands make of little work when they come together. Ms. Taylor and Mrs. Fritz greatly appreciate the family support and help!

This year's program was a success in so many ways! Our rehearsals flowed efficiently. Teachers and staff were incredibly helpful in practicing songs in their classrooms, making decorations for the stage, managing and collecting instruments. The students did an excellent job rehearsing in December and January for both their songs and the nativity. Ms. Taylor has a way of connecting with students which shows in the way they rehearsed and performed. Students sang very well, nice and loud, and were excited to share with family. Mrs. Fritz expressed it well in Thursday morning prayers that her ears were blessed with the sounds of children's voices and when the audience joined in the singing and laughter. I would like to thank Mrs. McBride for playing piano at rehearsals and at the concert. How lucky are we that she continues to be a part of our family?! I would like to thank Ms. Taylor's friend Luis and Ms. Becky for putting the programs together and Ms. Kaitlyn for

Thank  
You

helping with instruments. Also, thank you to Mary Sue and Father Bernie for live streaming our program so others could enjoy our Christmas celebration from afar.

## Epiphany Blessing

During Thursday morning prayers, Mrs. Fritz started a new tradition, an Epiphany Blessing. It has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to bless chalk at the Masses for Epiphany. The chalk is used to write above doorways 20XX for the year, C, M, B for the three wisemen (Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar) and for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* in Latin meaning "May Christ Bless this House." The writing on the doorway is 20+C+M+B+22. As the writing is being done,

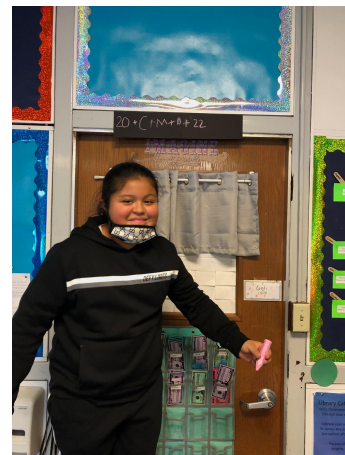
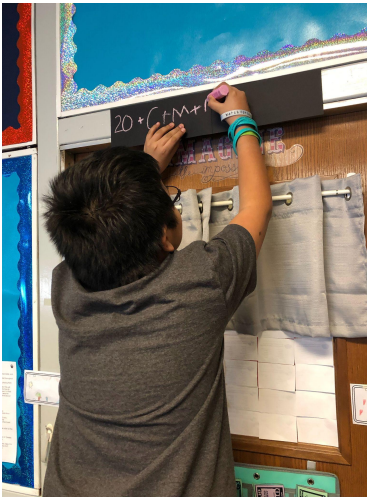
one of the following prayers is said.

1. May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

2. Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

3. Lord our God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your law. We give thanks to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Mrs. Heisdorffer's students took turns writing above their door frames.



## Rosca De Reyes (King's Bread)

Another new tradition began today. I would like to thank Mr. Lopez for the Rosca De Reyes or King's Bread provided today for staff. On January 6th, people in Mexico receive gifts celebrating the Epiphany, the celebration of Christ's birth. The bread has three plastic baby Jesus dolls inside. If someone cuts a slice of bread and it contains a baby Jesus doll, they have to bring a treat to share on February 2nd which is a feast day, a celebration of the Candle Masses or the presentation of Jesus Christ.

## Cow Juice

Four year old preschoolers learned that there are two types of cows, beef cows and dairy cows. Ms. Diane focused her lesson on dairy cows. Students listened to a story titled *Clarabelle*. Clarabelle is a holstein, one of six different types of dairy cows. Ms. Diane does a great job of asking questions and



engaging students to participate as she reads. Every two days, milk is taken to a plant to make dairy products like cottage cheese, string cheese, yogurt, ice cream, and pudding. Students were able to smell and taste test different types of milk, soy, strawberry, and a sweet milk that tastes like cinnamon toast crunch. By majority vote, preschoolers in Ms. Cole's class thought that the strawberry milk was the winner. Cinnmilk came in second and soy milk third place. This was another good experience for students to vote for their favorite.

Three year olds had an opportunity to simulate what it would be like to milk a cow with gloves filled with water. They thought it was so fun they asked Ms. Diane to bring in a real cow with her next time!



## Cash for Cla\$\$room\$

Please don't forget that we accept Hy-Vee receipts from the Washington Hy-Vee. We have a mailbox in the breezeway before the lobby to the school where you can leave them. We're excited to share that St. James is participating in Cash for Classrooms, part of Casey's Rewards. This opens up St. James to new funding opportunities to help improve learning environments for students. The best part? Donations don't come out of your own pocket. When you buy from Casey's and use their rewards program you can simply turn your points into a donation to St. James School. Help SJS make the most of this program and learn more at <https://www.caseys.com/community>. Click on the box that has your rewards. Search for Saint James School (all spelled out; no abbreviations) by the zip code 52353 and select Saint James School. Select support this school. You will be asked to confirm. Select Cash for Classrooms and verify how much you are donating. It's really easy! I donated \$7.80 on Tuesday to our school. I'm thrilled that there is an easy way to continue to support SJS!





Happy 40th birthday  
Gen!

welcome  
to the  
club!



Early outs

The Washington Community School District (WCSD) will have early outs every Friday for the second semester. St. James WILL REMAIN IN SESSION. We will NOT be adding additional early outs. We will continue with the original school calendar. Alternative transportation on the additional early out Fridays will need to be arranged as we will not have yellow bus transportation available. Please note the following early out Fridays for St. James and no school days (from the original calendar).

Friday, January 14  
Monday, January 17  
Friday, January 21  
Friday, February 4  
Friday, February 18  
Friday, March 4  
Monday, March 14-Wednesday March 16  
Friday, April 1  
Friday, April 14  
Friday, April 15  
Monday, April 18  
Friday, May 13

No School; PD Day  
No School; Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
Early dismissal 1pm; PD  
Early dismissal 1pm; PD  
No School; PD Day  
Early dismissal 1pm; PD  
No School; Spring Break  
Early dismissal 1pm; PD  
Early dismissal 1pm; PD  
No school; Teacher comp. day  
No school; Teacher comp. day  
Early dismissal 1pm; PD





### **NEW! Changes to St. James School 3 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Priority registration will be given to St. James parishioners for the 2022-2023 school year. Please pay attention to important deadlines below.

#### **STEP ONE:**

- **ST. JAMES PARISHIONERS:** Beginning **TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022**, parishioners may call the school office to submit their child's name for the 2022-2023 school year.
- **NON-PARISHIONERS:** Beginning **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2022**, non-parishioners may call the school office to submit their child's name for the 2022-2023 school year.
- We will follow up by sending you information about Preschool Orientation. Having your child's name on this list **DOES NOT GUARANTEE** a spot in the class. You must complete **STEP TWO** to register your child and reserve your spot.

#### **STEP TWO:**

- Attend Preschool orientation on **Wednesday, February 2, 2022 from 6:00-7:00pm in Tobin Hall**. You will receive the 2022-2023 registration packet which will include a **“Hold-the-Spot” form**.
- **PARISHIONERS:** **“Hold the Spot” form AND a \$50 non-refundable deposit MUST** be completed and returned to the St. James School office **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022** to guarantee your spot in the class. Registrations will be taken on a first come-first served basis. There are 16 spots available in PK3.
- **NON-PARISHIONERS:** If there are still openings after **March 11, 2022**, registration will be open to non-parishioner students. **“Hold the Spot” Form and a \$50 non-refundable deposit MUST** be completed and returned to the St. James School office **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022** to guarantee your spot in the class.

**\*All dates are firm deadlines.**

**\*There will be no waiting list. Names will not be taken prior to January 18, 2022.**

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

In the event of inclement weather, Washington Community School District makes the decision regarding delays, cancellations, or early dismissals. You can check KCRG, KCII, FlockNote, and St. James



Facebook. If Washington Community School District is delayed, canceled, or has an early dismissal, St. James will as well. If there is a two hour delay, three year old preschool will be canceled.

## weather

**Our cold weather rules are as follows:**

**56 degrees or above:** Students can choose what they want to wear outside.

**55 degrees to 46 degrees:** Students need to wear a jacket outside.

**45 degrees and below:** Students are to wear a hat, coat, and gloves. There are NO exceptions.

**If it feels like 10 and below:** Students will have inside recess.

**In order to play in snow, students must have snow boots, snow pants, hat, coat, and gloves.**

## Altar Servers

Wednesday, January 12

Wednesday, January 19

Wednesday, January 26

Wednesday, February 2

Wednesday, February 9

Scarlett (4) and Isaac (4)

Max (5) and Sophia (4)

Lovella (4) and Grant (5)

Alexis (5) and Jake (4)

Abraham (4) and Lucas (4)

## Children's Mass

Mass is at 8:25am on Wednesdays. Visitors are welcome to join us in person. Masks are recommended for all guests. You can also join us via Facebook Live.

## Mass Schedule:

Wednesday, January 12

Wednesday, January 19

Wednesday, January 26

Wednesday, February 2

Wednesday, February 9

Wednesday, February 16

Wednesday, February 23

Mrs. Heisdorffer

Mrs. Luers/Mrs. Moeller

Ms. Matheson

Mrs. Timmins

Mrs. Sheetz

Ms. Spears

Mrs. Clarahan/Mrs. Marek



## Calendar:

Tuesday, January 11

Thursday, January 13

Friday, January 14

Home & School/SIAC Meeting 6-7:30pm Conference Room

End of 2nd term

No School; PD day



Monday, January 17	No School; Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Tuesday, January 18	Begin 3rd term
Wednesday, January 19	School Board meeting 6:30pm Conference Room
Friday, January 21	Early dismissal 1pm; Professional Development
Friday, January 28	Spring Food Fundraiser Kickoff 2:30pm
Sunday, January 30	Catholic Schools Week kick off Mass 9am; Brunch to follow Mass in gym
Monday, January 31-4	Catholic Schools Week
Tuesday, February 2	Preschool orientation 6-7pm Tobin Hall
Friday, February 4	Early dismissal 1pm; Professional Development
Wednesday, February 16	Kindergarten orientation 6-7pm Tobin Hall
Friday, February 18	No School; PD day
Wednesday, February 23	School Board meeting 6:30pm Conference Room