



Queen of Peace Catholic School

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2012

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Wednesday, January 18th: Mass day**
- **Friday, January 20th: Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences, by appointment only!**
- **Sunday, January 29th: Parish/School Mass, 10:45 A.M.**
- **Week of Monday, January 30th—Friday, February 3rd: Catholic Schools Week**
- **Friday, February 10th: Family Valentine's Dance, 6:00 P.M.**
- **Saturday, February 18th: Steps for Students, University of Houston**
- **Monday, February 20th: No School!**

From the Principal



Parents,

Traditionally, the Epiphany is celebrated on January 6th, however, in the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2nd and 8th. It is the 12th day of Christmas and celebrates the visit of the three kings to the Christ Child. This Biblical event speaks to us about the plan of God for the entire human race. *Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Psalm 72)*

We hope you and your families enjoyed quality time during the

Christmas holiday! We are off to great second semester. We are happy to have Ms. Mendoza teaching Social Studies, and Ms. Bernabe teaching Language Arts for our middle school students. Our Advent Program was on December 9th. The students' performances were great! Students and teachers continue to show us they have talents in all areas.

On December 12th we enjoyed watching the traditional dance of the Matachines. Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and of all the Americas, appeared to the humble peasant Juan Diego in 1531. On December 15th the 4th and 6th graders sang Christmas carols and brought goodies to the residents of the Briarwood nursing home. The residents are very appreciative of our annual Christmas visit!

We held our School Spelling Bee on January 6th. This was an exciting event for all the contestants. Congratulations to our first-place winners: **Jerry Amaro** (middle school), **Janvee Patel** (upper elementary), **Parth Patel** (3rd grade), **Bianca Romero** (2nd grade), and **Siya Patel** (1st grade).

The Spirit Club Lions organized a Steps for Students Pep Rally last Friday afternoon. Please join us for the 5K Walk/Run on February 18, 2012 at the University of Houston!

P.T.O. will be hosting another Movie Night on Thursday, the 19th after school. We will be watching Cars 2 in the new church Hall. Food and other snacks will be sold. Come and join in on the fun!

~ Dr. Hernandez

Upcoming Events

Catholic Schools Week:
"Faith, Academics and Service"

Sunday, the 29th: Parish/School Mass, 10:45 A.M.

Monday, the 30th: Open House, 6:00 P.M. Pick up applications for returning and prospective families! P.T.O. will host a *Scholastic Book Fair* in the middle school Religion room!

Tuesday, the 31st: (Faith) Rosary at Church

Wednesday, the 1st: (Academics) Honor Roll assembly & Career Day.

Thursday, the 2nd: (Service) Please bring baby items to donate to Project Gabriel

Friday, the 3rd: Multicultural Day

Pre-K 3: **Japan**
Pre-K 4: **Italy**
Kindergarten: **Spain**
1st: **Guatemala**
2nd: **Mexico**
3rd: **France**
4th: **India**
5th: **Canada**
6th: **Egypt**
7th: **U.S.A.**
8th: **Russia**

Early Childhood

Pre-K 3:

December has been a very busy month for Pre-K 3. We are continuing our journey to learning new and exciting things. Our visit to the Christmas Tree farm was a very exciting and educational! We'd like to thank all the parents that volunteered their time. A special thank you to Mr. Torres, Ms. Murrillo, and Ms. Castrejon for chaperoning our field trip. The Advent Program was a huge success and the kids really enjoyed performing for their parents. Since December was a busy month we are continuing to learn about the

number 5 and the letter "G".

However, the colors pink and purple, and the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ were part of our Christmas theme during the Advent Season.

~Mrs. Holden

Pre-K 4:

December was busy and merry for Pre-K 4. Our class prepared for Jesus by lighting candles on our Advent wreath and reading picture books about Jesus' birth. We made Christmas gifts for our families and enjoyed our first field trip with Pre-K 3 to the Christmas Tree Farm. A



big

thank you to Ms. Solis, Ms. Benitez and Ms. Pena for being such wonderful chaperones on our field trip! We learned how they take care of the trees before people buy them to decorate their homes. Our class sang and danced to "The Twelve Days of Christmas" for the Advent Program. We celebrated together during our class Christmas party by eating yummy food, playing games, listening to Christmas songs, and opening gifts from friends and teachers. January in Pre-K 4 promises to be just as exciting as December!

~Ms. Cussen



Early Childhood

Kindergarten:

Happy new year! It's hard to believe we are already in the second semester, but our kindergarteners are working on the transition to first grade by increasing their reading of short words and combining them with sight words. We are also working on the removal of nap time. We celebrated the Epiphany by leaving water and grass

for the three kings' camels and received three gifts in return. In Math we are reviewing positions and will begin telling time soon. We are reading several short words that encompass short 'a', 'i' and 'o' vowel sounds. For Multicultural Day our room will be transformed into Spain! Be on the look-out for Spanish royalty, soccer players and matadors! ~Mrs. Roman

First Grade:

We have chosen to represent Guatemala for Multicultural Day. We are learning to locate it on a map. First graders will also learn about the country's food and its flag. We will dress up like children from Guatemala. In Math we are learning to count tens and ones. This will help prepare us as we begin to count money. ~Sr. Sharon

Elementary

Second Grade:

December was a short but productive month. Second grade had a great time on our field trip to the San Jacinto Monument and The Battleship Texas. We really enjoyed learning how Christmas is celebrated around the world. Congratulations to Bianca Romero the second grade star student of the month!

~Ms. Pittman



Third Grade:

December flew by with all the activities and excitement! We had a great time learning "Silent Night" in sign language for the Advent Program. We

enjoyed our field trip with 2nd grade to the San Jacinto Monument and Battleship Texas. We had a tour guide show us around the battleship and saw the view from the observation deck of the monument. Thank you to our chaperones for volunteering their time! We began multiplication before the holidays and are looking forward to beginning division in a couple of weeks.

~Ms. Esparza

Elementary

Fourth Grade:

We are off to a new semester. What a wonderful Advent performance the fourth graders put on in December. Thank you all for the thoughtful Christmas gifts! This month we are busy planning and working on our Science Projects. ~Mrs. Kurian

Fifth Grade:

The Fifth graders celebrated Advent in a special way. Not only were saints' feast days observed and Advent wreaths lit, but the class participated in a Mass offered in the



explored the literary device of symbolism. Our study led us to discover the hidden religious imagery embedded in "The Twelve Days of Christmas".

~Ms. Foltyn

chapel with Father David presiding. Each student had a special role of service during the Mass. After Mass, Father David explained some of the prayers that the celebrant prays quietly and that the people do not ordinarily hear. During the Christmas season, students



Middle School



Science:

We'll "C" What Happens: Now that we are at the height of cold & flu season, many wonder about ways to avoid the common cold virus. One known fact is that taking vitamin C is a good preventative measure. The 8th Grade Science class will be experimenting to discover the vitamin C content of various juices. "C" the next newsletter for the results! ~Mr. Brindise

Religion:

We're off to new year in Religion. Things have settled down quite a bit since Christmas vacation and we're settling into a peaceful reflection of the "Baptism of the Lord" and what His presence means to us as Catholics. Sixth grade has been learning the similarities and differences between the Ten Commandments and Jesus' new commandments, and how these laws can increase their faith. Seventh grade is focusing on the Holy Spirit and how it was sent to console and guide us. Likewise, Eighth grade is discerning ways to glorify God, taking care of their "temples of the Holy Spirit," and feeding their souls. We explore all of this while we patiently pray and wait for the beginning of Lent next month. ~Mrs. Lowry

Gallery





**Queen of Peace Catholic School
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston**

2320 Oakcliff Street
Houston, TX 77023

Phone: 713.921.1558

Fax: 713.921.0855

Office Hours: 7:30 A.M.— 3:30 P.M.



Our History:

Queen of Peace Catholic School continues over 60 years of educational ministry in the Roman Catholic tradition. Founded in 1947, by the Dominican Sisters of Houston, we strive to foster the spiritual, intellectual, physical and social development of each student.

Our Programs:

- ~ Religion, Technology and Library
- ~ Dance, Karate, Chess, Robotics and Athletics
- ~ Before and After School Care

For more information about programs, please contact: 713.921.1558



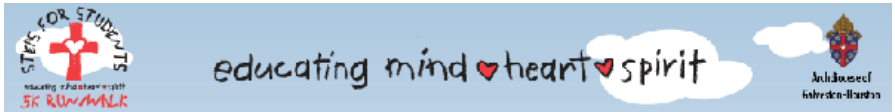
Fr. John Paul Bolger

We are blessed to have extremely supportive priests at Queen of Peace!

Fr. John Paul took time to create his own Steps for Students video in support of Catholic education.

Visit our Facebook page to view the video! You can also search “Fr John Paul’s Steps for Students Fundraising Video 2012” on the YouTube site.

Companions of the Cross



7th Annual Steps for Students

Saturday, February 18, 2012

University of Houston, Robertson Stadium

Steps for Students is an annual Archdiocesan-wide event that raises awareness of the importance of a Catholic education and provides much needed funds for our Catholic Schools. All school and parish communities can come together as one to support Catholic education.

The sponsorships for the race and any pledges support the Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program. The Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program is a commitment that the Archdiocese makes to keep Catholic schools accessible, available and affordable to all families.

We raised almost \$10,000.00 last year! *This year we would like to double our goal and raise \$20,000.00.* Please help us make this year’s event another great success! Each student has his or her own [FirstGiving](#) page.

All donations are tax-deductible!