



We would like to thank our school families for their generosity to the Teacher's Fund organized by the School Advisory Committee. It will certainly help make our holiday merry & bright! We work at St. Christina because we believe in its mission and believe in your children. Thank you for all of your support throughout the school year and especially at this time of year. We hope you all have a very Merry Christmas.

See you in the new year!

The Faculty + Staff of St. Christina School

UPDATES + REMINDERS

CHRISTMAS BREAK

Our long-awaited Christmas Break begins today. School will resume on Monday, January 5.

LAST CALL FOR JANUARY HOT LUNCH

Please click **HERE** if you would like to order Hot Lunch for the month of January. If you would like to order Hot Lunch for the remainder of the year, please click **HERE**. All orders are due by **December 22nd**.

JANUARY ENRICHMENT

If you would like to sign up for January Enrichment please click **HERE** by **Friday, January 9th**. Classes will be held on January 14, 21, and 28. There is no Enrichment on January 7th.

ST. CHRISTINA CHRISTMAS 2025 MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: 7:00am Mass, 3:00pm Christmas Pageant, 4:00pm Mass, 6:00pm Mass, 10:30pm Mass
Christmas Day: 8:00am Mass, 10:30am Mass

DRESS DOWN DAY

All students may Dress Down on **Monday, January 5** for a \$2 donation to support our 8th graders.

FACULTY MEETING/EARLY DISMISSAL

Students will be dismissed at 1:45pm on **Thursday, January 8**, due to a Faculty Meeting.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Our 8th grade students will participate in a Confirmation Retreat on **Thursday, January 8** at 6:30pm in the School Hall.

CURRENT FAMILY RESERVATION DRIVE

It is time to begin planning for the **2026-27 school year**, and one of the most important steps in that process is current family registration. It is important to confirm that all of our current families are returning so that we know how many available spots we have for new students. An accurate student enrollment count is essential in budget planning for the 2026-27 school year. Following current family registration, we will allow new students to begin registering. Each current family's reservation will be \$75 per family if paid between Friday, December 12th and Friday, January 9th. After January 9th, the fee increases to \$150 per family. The reservation fee will be credited on your August tuition statement. Please click the **2026/27 Current Family Reservation Drive link** to register your family for the 2026-27 school year. Please list the names of ALL returning students who currently attend St. Christina in the box where it asks for a Student Name. If you are a current family and have a new student enrolling, you will enroll your new student separately the week of January 12th. Please contact the Main Office if you have any questions.

NEW FAMILY REGISTRATION

Do you have friends, family, or neighbors who are interested in attending St. Christina for the 2026-27 family year? Spread the word...NEW STUDENT/NEW FAMILY REGISTRATION for the 2026/2027 school year begins on Sunday, January 25th from 8:00am-12:30pm in the Main Office of the School at 3333 W. 110th Street. Tours will be available for new families when they come to register. New student/family registration will continue through January 30th. The Main Office is open from 8:00am-3:00pm Monday through Friday for new student registration.

CHRISTMAS BREAK
12/22 - 1/4/26

MON 1/5
Classes Resume

TUE 1/6
SAC Mtg., 7pm

WED 1/7
8:10am Mass
No Enrichment

THU 1/8
Hot Lunch: Barraco's
Burger/Breadsticks
1:45pm Early Dismissal

6:30pm Confirmation
Retreat

SUN 1/11
10:30am Mass
Presentation of
the Cross, Creed &
Lord's Prayer for 8th
Grade Confirmation
Candidates

MON-FRI 1/12-16
i-Ready Diagnostic
Testing

MARK YOUR calendar



FRIDAY MORNING MASS 4-8th grade students: Join Mrs. Spano along with other faculty members each Friday at 7:00am Mass. We will sit together and walk through the Parish Center into school when Mass ends.

Click here to be connected to our online calendar for the most current info. Then, bookmark it!



Click here to be linked to our faculty + classrooms to connect with teachers and view their classroom sites.



CARDINAL CALL OUT

AVERY KNYTYCH

This Cardinal is a very conscientious student who stays focused on her work. She is a great class participant, asking and answering questions. She also thinks of other classmates and is willing to help everyone. This amazing Cardinal will have a successful future if she continues this fine work!



DANNY GARCIA

This cardinal has shown outstanding efforts! He is a positive and valued member in our classroom. He is always ready to lend a helping hand, offer support to a classmate, and approach every interaction with friendliness and politeness. His efforts and focus have led to an upward trend in his grades, in all subjects. This success is a reflection of his dedication and hard work! He continues to grow into a responsible, capable, and compassionate student.



IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS

#SOARING TO SERVE

Our PreK 3's sent a Christmas care package to a Dad of two of their fellow Cardinals, George and Oscar Brown, who is currently serving overseas. Their hope is to remind our soldiers that they are loved and prayed for everyday. God bless James Brown and all who serve!



CLICK HERE FOR SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER!



As we head into the final week of Advent and prepare for Christmas break, this is a great time to pause and reflect on the season of hope, peace, joy, and love. The last days before Christmas are often filled with excitement—and sometimes some extra busyness—but it's important to remember to take time to rest and enjoy simple moments together as families.

Please continue to practice healthy habits even during the holidays—wash hands often, get plenty of sleep, and stay active.

May your Christmas break be filled with joy, family, peace, love, and happiness. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

NURSE'S CORNER

CONNECT TO OUR PARISH HERE.



CONNECT TO OUR ALUMNI HERE.

FSA^{25/26}

save the date

FATHER / DAUGHTER DANCE

JANUARY 23RD. Purchase tickets by January 16th.

Details attached!

**CLICK HERE
TO SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER**

**CLICK HERE
TO LOG VOLUNTEER HOURS**



*8th Grade
Winter Lock-In
"Coming Home"*



11:00am-midnight
Saturday **27** December

St Christina Parish



Only \$20
for the
entire day!



RSVP by December 22, 2025

- 
- Gym Time
 - Board Games
 - Food
 - 4pm Mass
 - Music
 - Real Talk

Can you stay awake, stay connected
& stay positive till midnight? We'll see.



St. Christina Father Daughter

Winter Wonderland

Ball '26

Friday, January 23rd

115 Bourbon Street

6:00 - 9:00PM

Adults and Teens - \$30

Kids 12 and Under - \$20

Cash or Checks made out to SC FSO due Friday, January 16th

Contact Kate Ferguson at 773-505-1747 for any questions

Family Name _____

of Adults & Teens _____

of Kids _____

Total \$ _____

REFLECTION BY THE 6TH GRADERS

Loving God,

As we begin this holy season of Advent, We open our hearts to the hopeful waiting for Your Son, Jesus. You walk with us each day in our classrooms, our hallways, and our hearts.

You know the needs of our students and their growing minds. You see the hopes Your children carry— hopes spoken aloud, and hopes whispered only to You.

In this Advent season of preparation and as you walk in hope with us each day at St. Christina School, you fill our days with joy, a joy that shines from within and reminds us Jesus is near. You hear this joy in Mrs. Czoski's, Miss Slakaitis', Mrs. O'Neil's, and Mrs. Lyman's Preschoolers' laughter. You see this joy in them learning to share in their bright smiles, and You bless our Preschoolers with joy as they learn their first friendships, which fills all our hearts with joy.

You see this joy in the wonder of our younger students in Mrs. DeCarlo's, Mrs. McInerney's, Mrs. Wittenmeier's and Mrs. Fox's classes as they develop confidence after hard days learning new things, a shared laugh, a kind word, or a helping hand. May those joys shine bright in their classrooms and beyond into their hearts and homes.

You will remind Ms. Reich's and Miss Gillespie's students that true joy is going to come from knowing You as they prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. This joy will help them recognize the goodness within themselves and others. May Advent teach them to slow down, listen, and trust. May the hope of Christ give them light and joy when their hearts feel unsure.

Joyful expectations fill our hearts when Mrs. Cuttone gives steady guidance, patient wisdom, and faithful love to every 8th-grade student during Confirmation lessons. You see this joy as our students grow in faith and discover Your call. Her teaching is a source of light, encouragement, and Your grace at work in our community.

You continue to see Your joyful light in Mrs. Murphy's art room, where colors, shapes, and imagination remind us of her students' beauty in the world. Let every brush, sketch, and creation draw them closer to the wonder of Your coming.

Our students have so much joy in Mrs. McAuliffe's library, where stories spark curiosity, ideas come alive, and quiet moments lead us to deeper understanding. Continue to help her students find joy in reading, in discovery, and in the gift of shared knowledge.

As we await the coming of Christ, our students fill with delight in Mrs. Klupshas's computer lab— whether they're typing their first sentences, debugging their first code, or learning how to use technology with purpose and kindness. Let these skills lead to new discoveries and new possibilities.

You bless our school with the gift of music— melodies that lift our hearts. We see joy in our students when Ms. Reich and Miss Kelley fill our days and our St. Christina Church with notes and harmonies that fill our hearts with hope and happiness.

Oh Prince of Peace,

This Advent, we ask You to fill St. Christina School with Your gentle peace. We hope for the gift of peace in our students' hearts when they feel worried, peace in their friendships when there is conflict, and peace in our school community when we face challenges. Continue to teach them to breathe deeply, listen carefully, and choose to be understanding.

You see this when our students spread peace in small ways each day—in Mrs. Baley's, Miss Webb's, Mrs. Baldwin's, and Mrs. Jarka's Math classes, where numbers, patterns, and problems teach their students patience and understanding, help them work calmly, support one another, and find peace even when the work feels challenging. Or in Mrs. Hofmann's and Miss Harty's peaceful Reading classes, where stories open our students' minds and words to help them understand the world and each other. The books they read guide them toward kindness, empathy, and gentle hearts.

When Mrs. Jackin's students work together in her Science class with patience and respect, they remind us that peace is possible in our lives, our school, and in our world. You see this when students investigate, question, discover, and approach each lesson with calm and peaceful minds to explore the smallest particles or the vastness of space.

Mrs. Lotus's students' hearts fill with peace knowing the different stories of people, their struggles, their hopes, and their dreams teach a lesson—that peace is precious, peace matters, and that every act of kindness shapes a better future. May they continue to find the light to be peacemakers that bring respect and compassion into their own lives and their classrooms.

Giovanni Fanelli



When we pause to listen for the quiet footsteps of Your coming peace, we lift our Administrator helper, Mrs. DeCarlo, before You. She blesses our school with a calm spirit amid busy days, with a leadership that is a light that encourages understanding and knowledge in the classroom.

In this season of holy waiting, we find peace in Your words and Your teachings, through Father Ryan and Father Wayne. They are our school's constant source of comfort and hope. As they prepare us to receive You, prepare their own hearts with the gentle assurance of peace.

Faithful Lord,

We thank You for the gift of friendship at St. Christina School. Our students long for friends who listen, include, and support them. Mrs. Harring does exactly this. She teaches us to be friends like You—faithful, forgiving, and compassionate. She helps our students recognize when someone feels lonely and teaches them to have the courage to reach out.

Mrs. Vogwill is a true friend to all of our students and colleagues. You see this in the patience she offers each child, the guidance she gives to those who struggle, and in the steady encouragement that helps students discover that they are capable.

Our students are gifted with the friendship of our school counselor, Miss Kowalski. She listens with patience and compassion and has an open mind when students are in moments of confusion, fear, and growth. Her quiet care is a sign of hope.

God of compassion and care, we thank You for the gift of friendship shown through kindness, presence, and gentle healing. Mrs. Kulpa welcomes each child with patience and understanding, and offers comfort in moments of pain, worry, or fear. Her care towards our students is definitely a friendship to be felt.

In this time of warmth, welcome, and hopeful waiting—We give thanks for our aides, Sr. Jo, Mrs. Tracy, Mrs. Regan, Mrs. Dwyer, Mrs. Danaher, Mrs. Hahn, Mr. Dallabetta, Mrs. Moloney, and our helpers, Sr. Ann and Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. Villa, Mrs. Aler, Mrs. Boline, Mrs. Jansen, Mr. Rob and Company and Mrs. Carlson, of our school. You have gifted them with gentleness, joy, and the patient hearts that help children learn, grow, and feel safe each day. Their friendships strengthen and uplift our school walls and beyond.

God of Advent Hope,

This Advent, we ask You to let hope rise and fill St. Christina's School. Let hope rise in the students' hearts like the coming light of Christ that is full of promise. We see this when Mrs. Morano gives our students the break they need when their schoolwork feels difficult. She teaches them to have resilience in how to keep trying, keep moving, keep working hard, and that growth is possible. Her impact reaches our students far beyond the gym walls, and her lessons become life skills.

As we enter this season of Advent—a time of waiting, wonder, and new beginnings— We give thanks for the joyful gift of new life, and for the return of Mrs. Nugarus. Bless her as she steps back into her classroom, carrying the courage that comes with welcoming a child into the world. Surround her with Your peace as she learns to balance home and the call of the classroom.

God of Hope and New Beginnings, in this holy season of Advent, we see the light of hope in the Junior High teachers, Mrs. Immordino, Mrs. Hecker, Mr. Tovey, and Miss Mapes. You have entrusted them with guiding our Junior High Students who stand in between childhood and what comes next— a place filled with questions, challenges, and possibilities. You can see this hope in every moment of their work: even on difficult days, when growth and progress feel slow. We see this hope when they show patience and wisdom as they prepare these young learners for new responsibilities and the journeys that lie ahead.

God of Love,

We thank You for the love that fills St. Christina School. You see the tender hearts of our preschoolers, the growing compassion of our younger students, and the deeper understanding of love in our middle and junior high schoolers.

This gift of love is instilled in our students every morning over the P. A. with Mrs. Spano. With a simple prayer or message, Mrs. Spano reminds us that love is patient, love is kind, love forgives, and that love includes everyone. This helps our students recognize how deeply You love them, so they may share that love with classmates, teachers, and families.

May the hope of Advent surround us all, lifting our hearts, guiding our steps, and blessing us each day.

Amen.

Love, the Class of 2028



Gabby F.



MARIST DANCE TEAM

Christmas Dance Clinic

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 20

\$40
PER DANCER

3:30 - 5:00 PM
GAME AT 5:30

Calling all 5-10 year olds! Join the Marist Dance Team for a jolly day of holiday cheer and dance! Learn sideline chants, a fun holiday performance routine, and hit the court to shine at halftime of our boys basketball game! Don't miss your chance to dance, cheer, and spread Christmas spirit!! Walk-ins welcome!

QUESTIONS? EMAIL HEAD COACH KRISTA
PLACAS AT PLACAS.KRISTA@MARIST.NET





Mount Greenwood Branch
 11010 South Kedzie Ave
 Chicago, Illinois 60655
 (312) 747-2805
 Mon and Wed 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 Tues and Thurs 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 Friday and Sat 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

**January 2026
 CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**

<p>Registration is required unless otherwise noted.</p> <p>Registration is available online or in person.</p> <p>www.chipublib.org</p>	<p><u>Have You Got Game?!</u> Come find out at our Family Game Day! We will have board games, a few carnival type games and perhaps some physical challenges at this drop-in program.</p> <p>For kids ages 5-14 and their families! No registration needed.</p> <p><i>Thursday, January 8 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.</i></p>	<p><u>Art Buffet</u> Feeling creative? Just drop in and get making! All materials will be provided, all you need to bring is your imagination. (Prepare to get messy!)</p> <p>For kids of all ages. No registration needed.</p> <p><i>Monday, January 12 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</i></p>
<p><u>Let's Play Dungeons and Dragons</u> Enjoy a fast-paced fantasy tabletop game led by Ms. Annie.</p> <p>For ages 8-14.</p> <p><i>Wednesday, January 21 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</i></p>	<p><u>Toddler Story Time</u> Toddle on in for this 30 minute program of stories, songs, stretches and a craft!</p> <p>For ages 18-35 months.</p> <p><i>Mondays, January 26, February 2, 9, 23 and March 9 NOTE: No story time 2/16 & 3/2</i></p> <p><i>11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.</i></p>	<p><u>Open Block Play</u> Stop into our block play event to build, explore and create together. This is a drop-in event.</p> <p>For ages 0-8. No registration is needed.</p> <p><i>Monday, January 26 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.</i></p>
<p><u>Preschool Story Time</u> Join us for this 45 minute program of stories, songs, stretches and a craft.</p> <p>For ages 3-5.</p> <p><i>Wednesdays, January 28, February 4, 11, 18, 25 & March 4</i></p> <p><i>11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.</i></p>		<p>Or use this QR Code to get to the Mount Greenwood Branch's Events page:</p>