From: Loretto Academy
To: Undisclosed-Recipient:;;
Subject: Parent Letter
Date: Friday, December 04, 2009 11:51:36 AM

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

LORETTO ACADEMY

Loretto Academy

Elementary School

Faith*Community*Justice*Respect

December 4, 2009

Dear Parents:

Thank you for your cooperation with the delayed starts during the snowy weather this week! Since snow is so rare in El Paso, the children truly enjoyed it.

Because of the late start for school, the Mass was cancelled. The readings were from the beginning of Advent, preparing the way for Christmas. How can we share from our abundance to give to others? Thanks to Mrs. Gonzalez, Mr. Guerrero, and the fourth graders who worked hard to prepare for the Mass.

Loretto Academy Web – Have you looked at the Loretto Academy web site recently? It has been redone. You may want to check it out at www.loretto.org. If you click on schools, then Elementary School, then cafeteria menu and scroll down, you will find the upcoming events.

Christmas Program - On Tuesday, December 15th, the Elementary School students will perform at our Christmas program in the gym. Students are asked to dress in their "Sunday" best clothing. Boys are asked to wear slacks and bright colored shirts or sweaters. Girls may want to wear their fancy Christmas dresses. Children will report to their classrooms at 6:00 p. m. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. We encourage you to be on time and stay to enjoy the whole program.

Las Posadas in the Elementary School - On Wednesday, December 16th, the elementary school students will be participating in our Las Posadas. It is the 4th year for this event. It will begin at 8:45 a.m. by the third grade classrooms. Parents are invited to join us for this event.

Dedication of the Ghana School – On Saturday, November 21, the Blessed Trinity Leadership Academy in Akokoamong, Ghana was officially opened. The Mass for the dedication of the school building and the convent was short by Ghana standards, lasting only 1 hour and 45 minutes. Many people At Loretto Academy have worked to raise the money to make this a reality. Pre-K, Kindergarten and First Grades began in September. Representing Loretto at this event were Sisters Pauline, Marie, Mary Ann and Lydia, as well as our co-member Emily Owusu-Ansah, who is the president of the FST Sisters. Archbishop Sarpong was there and had his name on the plaques along with Sr. Pauline on the school and Sr. Marie on the convent. This was a huge honor for the Loretto Community. Sr. Pauline is still working in Ghana.

Our first graders have helped raise money for the school as their service-learning project for the past two years. Our Elementary School students met Sr. Marie last year. She shared some of her experiences while she lived in Ghana with the students.

Please pray for the FST Sisters, their students and all the families in the Akokoamong region.

H1N1 Shots – We still have not been notified when the shots will be given. We will let you know as soon as we hear something.

Field Trip – Last Wednesday, the third, fourth, and fifth graders and teachers attended the UTEP Christmas Spectacular. It was a history lesson on the 20th century: dress, songs, and dance. It began with the 1940s and ended in the 1980s. Many of the students knew many of the songs and had seen the dances in movies.

On Wednesday next week, the second graders will be going to the Insights' Museum to see the space exhibit.

December Service-learning Projects – On Tuesday, December 8th, we will have an all Academy Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Each class will donate a bottle of laundry detergent to Villa Maria, a women's shelter, in El Paso. Because of the many demands on our families during the Advent season, I have already purchased the laundry detergent for the classrooms. However, several of you have asked what you can do to help your children learn to give to others. If any of your children want to bring some laundry detergent to contribute, we will take it with us to the Mass.

In addition to laundry detergent, the women at Villa Maria can always use toiletries and Villa Maria always needs help with cleaning items and food staples. If you are traveling during the holidays and staying at hotels, you may want to collect any extra shampoos, soaps, etc. and drop it off at school when you get back.

PAL Help! -Volunteers are needed to work concessions for Parents at Loretto (PAL) for the Deck the Doors event and Show Choir Winter Concert to be held Monday, December 7, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are able to help that evening, please contact PAL parent Rose Mercado at roselucero@rocketmail.com or (915) 373-1859.

Did you forget to buy your ticket for the **Black and White Ball? -** Loretto Academy parents and students are invited to attend the 2nd Annual Black and White Ball on Saturday, December 5, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. at the El Paso Marriott, located just three miles from the Loretto campus at 1600 Airway. Sponsored by the Alumnae of Loretto Academy and St. Joseph's Academy and the Cathedral Alumni and Associates (Los Que Van Quedando), the evening will feature receptions by class decades (20s to 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, and 00s), silent and live auctions, a sit-down dinner, live entertainment, and a dance with music to the popular live orchestra, Azucar. All proceeds from the event will fund scholarships at Loretto Academy and Cathedral High School. Dress for the evening is "black and white" — you may wear a tux or evening gown or black jeans with a white t-shirt. Tickets are $50 per person of which $20 is tax deductible. Discounts are available for the purchase of full tables ($400 for a table of 10). To purchase tickets, make your check payable to "Loretto Academy" and mail it to or drop it by the Advancement Office or call Mrs. Hoffmann at (915) 566-8400 with your credit card number by 5:00 p.m. tonight.

Let's pray for all the homeless, jobless and sick people throughout our area. May they find places to stay, jobs to help pay for food, shelter, and clothing! And for all who are sick that they will return to good health! Let's give God thanks and praise for all God has given us. Amen

Sincerely,

Ms. Jane German
Elementary School Principal

Loretto Academy – A Tradition of Excellence
Educating students since 1923

December 7 - 12, 2009							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	19	***20***	***21***	***22***	***23***	***24***	***25***
Classes	Day 6	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4		
Cafeteria	Spaghetti	Popcorn chicken	Hot Turkey Sandwich	Hot Dogs with Chili	Bean Burritos		
Basket Ball Schedule	No Practice	ES boys and girls 3:15 – 4:30	ES boys and girls 3:15 – 4:30	ES boys and girls 3:15 – 4:30	No Practice		
Birthdays	Andres Rios	No Birthdays	Lorna Campbell Barbara Castillo	Michelle Flores	Luke Briggs	Emily Jane MacDonald	No Birthdays
Field Trips	None	None	2nd graders to Insights Museum	None	None		
Activities							