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# THE HOOT

ROMERO ACADEMY AT RESURRECTION NEWSLETTER  
DECEMBER 2020

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**December 1: Report Card Pick Up**

**December 2: Family Faith Night: Get to Know the Rosary**

**December 9: Sacraments Information Session**

**December 16: Family Faith Night: Theme TBD**

**December 21- January 1: Christmas Break**

## PARENT TO-DO LIST

- ✓ If you have been notified that your child's EdChoice Scholarship check is in, please come to school and sign the check as soon as possible.
- ✓ Download the [Gradelink Application](#) to your phone (if possible). You will be able to monitor your child's grades and attendance as often as you'd like.



## ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent for the day, please remember to call and inform the school. You will need to write a note and bring it to school or text a photo of the note in order for the absence to be excused.

## REPORT CARDS

If you were unable to pick up your child's report card, please look for it in the mail. It was sent on Friday, 12/4/2020.

## THE BIRTH OF OUR SALVATION

BY MR. ALEX RODRIGUEZ

What does Christmas mean? Gifts, time with family, a special meal, Santa Claus, the list can go on and on. Let's take a step back though and think about what it means for a Christian to truly experience Christmas. The Messiah became flesh some 2,000 years ago on a manger, in a cave, next to farm animals. That's what Christmas actually is, right? The birth of Jesus; and to be a Christian is simply to believe that Jesus Christ is God, was crucified, died, buried and rose from the dead three days later and ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

But, what does believing that God became flesh mean? Think of your scholar when they were born, that sweet tender human being that had been growing inside of mom for 9 months. Babies are frail; they're beautiful but they need someone to take care of them. Christians believe that Jesus Christ as savior of the world became flesh in that same exact way! He was a baby that needed mom to take care of Him, to feed Him, to change Him, to show Him how to walk. Jesus Christ was a baby just like we all once were and is our salvation. Christmas is a celebration of the birth of our salvation!

How do we experience this salvation, this joy, this great love in our day to day? We can and should experience Christ in that special meal, that time with family and in the exchange of that gift! But what does any of that mean? Being in union with Him, allows us to be in authentic relationship with those around us, because to be a Christian is to be united to Jesus in the most intimate union. He already knows everything about you, you just have to step aside and welcome Him into your heart. We must speak and listen IN Christ; we have to live in Christ because He is more intimate with me than I am with me. If I can try to be so united with Christ that you are able to see Him in me, then I am answering my call to be a Christ follower. My constant "yes" is the only thing that I can contribute, that "yes" destroys apathy, that "yes" overcomes what makes us unauthentic humans, that "yes" to being a Christian conquers all; and it does that because that "yes" is love.

Our "yes" to an incarnate God, a crucified Messiah is a "yes" to an adventure that is uncomfortable but more rewarding than any other "yes" that we have and will give. However, to give an authentic "yes", we need to encounter supernatural/divine love, a love that we can't find in the universe no matter how hard we look for it. A love that we most definitely cannot find in the broken humans that we walk this journey alongside with.

However, those same exact broken humans, through this necessary supernatural love, are able to show the gaze of Christ to others. Saint John the evangelist saw the gaze of Christ because he lived, walked, ate and joked around with Him for three years. Later on, a disciple of John (Polycarp of Smyrna) saw the gaze of our Savior in John's gaze, and a disciple of Polycarp (Irenaeus of Lyon) saw the gaze of Christ in the gaze of Polycarp. Through those encounters 1900 years ago that have never stopped occurring, I am able to see the gaze of Christ in the scholars here at Romero, because they've seen it themselves!

I had a professor in college ask my class: "I went to a ballgame with my son this weekend and we got hot dogs. Does anyone know why?" His answer was: "Jesus Christ". Our daily life is here because of Jesus Christ. It's foolish to think that our day to days don't interest our creator and therefore He isn't present in them. No, I woke up today because of Jesus Christ. You cook a special meal because of Jesus Christ. You open gifts because of Jesus Christ. You breathe because of Jesus Christ. "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins: and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38) To be a Christian is to be in intimate friendship with Jesus and because of that friendship you give of yourself to those around you and you bring the Lord with you. We are like a fish out of water without Jesus! "How foolish and vain if [we] desire anything but Him! Is it not a greater loss than losing the whole world? For what, without Jesus, can the world give [us]? Life without Him is a relentless hell but living with Him is a sweet paradise. If Jesus be with [us], no enemy can harm [us]." (Thomas à Kempis) Glorifying God in everything that we do has to be what we are doing every day. Wake up and praise the Lord, brush your teeth and praise the Lord, drink a cup of coffee and glorify Jesus, in every mundane action you have to be praising Jesus. There is beauty in the mundane! We just have to be open to waiting for it and we need to have an appetite for it. Christ is at the center of it all. The will of the Father is always about today. Christ alive is about today, not tomorrow, ten, twenty years from now. It is about today, because the true end of history has already come, His name is Jesus Christ.

