



School Activities

In our schools the Sisters encourage the students to offer prayers and sacrifices during Advent as little birthday gifts for the Baby Jesus. The children also prepare for concerts and plays centering upon the theme of Christmas. We know that these performances make an impression on the children because the little ones repeat the lines of the plays for months afterwards and remember the songs for years. It's our hope that the lessons contained in the words and melodies will stay with them for a lifetime. The girls' sodality members are enthusiastic about visiting nursing homes with the Sisters. They bring holy cards to distribute, and they pray the Rosary with the residents and join with them in singing the familiar Christmas hymns and carols.



Convent Preparations

Besides helping our students prepare for Our Lord's Birthday, we are also mindful of the need to make our own hearts ready for the coming of our Infant Savior. We do this especially through prayer and sacrifice. Although Advent is a busy time, we try to practice greater recollection amidst our duties. The "Hail and Blessed" Christmas novena, which begins on November 30, the Feast of St. Andrew, helps us turn our thoughts often throughout the day to Our Lord and His Blessed Mother. As we offer these prayers, we are reminded of "the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born" and of the joy that is ours as a result of His birth. Thus, by frequent prayer, along with acts of virtue and hidden sacrifices, we strive to make our hearts a true place of rest for the Christ Child.

By cultivating the spirit of Advent, a spirit of loving preparation for the coming of Christ, we will be blessed with a truly joyful Christmas. May the Infant Savior grant you the grace of a holy and happy Advent, and may He be the center of your hearts and homes both before and after Christmas.

In the Sacred Heart,

Mother Mary Bosco, F.M.

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