



# Giáo Lý Ơi



Welcome to Issue #5 of GLO! Advent is here, so let us prepare for the coming of Jesus!

## **Mass (6PM) & Adoration - Friday, December 2nd**

Thank you to all who went to November's Adoration! Jesus is always wanting to see you during this special time. Cha Thành is reserving adoration on the first Friday of each month for the youth! There are weekly themes, and an opportunity to participate more by writing notes and prayer to offer to our Lord. Confession will also be offered during this time. Everyone is invited to come and worship!

## **December Classes Schedule Reminder (and Lunch Menu)!**

Saturday, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> – Normal Classes and 4pm Mass (*Fried Chicken and French Fries*)

Saturday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup> – Normal Classes and 4pm Mass, Feast Celebration for Thiếu Nhi Thánh Thể (*McDonald's burger and sandwiches*)

Saturday, Dec 17<sup>th</sup> – Special Weekend (See below)

Saturday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve, No Classes

Saturday, Dec 31<sup>st</sup> – New Year's Eve, No Classes



**Thank you** to Chi Hà and all the parent volunteers who come and provide us with delicious food! We cannot run without you! If you would like to help, please contact Chi Hà through email ([hatran98012@yahoo.com](mailto:hatran98012@yahoo.com)).



## **Saturday December 17**

Leading into the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of Advent our parish is hosting a **Parish Retreat**. See Báo Niềm Tin for more details on the weekend. We will **not** have classes this weekend and we encourage families to participate in the retreat.

## **Sunday December 18**

Masses are held as normal, and our parish has 2 special activities on this day!

**2:30pm – Thánh Ca Giáng Sinh** (Christmas Caroling Performance) – The various choirs in our parish have planned to perform a great ensemble of Christmas carols! Come join the fun and sing along!

**4:30pm - Tiệc Ăn (Reception Party and Dinner)** – All are invited to participate at the Christmas party following the performance.



## **Save the Weekend! Advent Retreat for Teens!**

This retreat will be on the weekend of December 17th. The theme is "Filling Your Cup of Life", and it is open for those ages 13-17. More details to come!

## **Be a Volunteer!**

Do you want to help others and have fun? Do you want to learn more about your faith while serving others? We invite you to be a part of the Giáo Lý team. We have a lot of fun and make new friends. Come celebrate both our Vietnamese and Catholic tradition.

Contact Anh Lộc ([dao.loc@gmail.com](mailto:dao.loc@gmail.com)) for more information!

## **Nurses or Medical Doctors still needed for Medical/First Aid Team!**

On Saturdays, we still need people to serve on our Medical/First Aid team. You will rotate one Saturday a month, so the commitment is easy to manage. We always have children with scrapes and bruises, and sometimes, there can be a real medical emergency. Please contact Chị Lê Trường Vương to sign up ([babyxuan02@hotmail.com](mailto:babyxuan02@hotmail.com))





# Giáo Lý Ở Continued

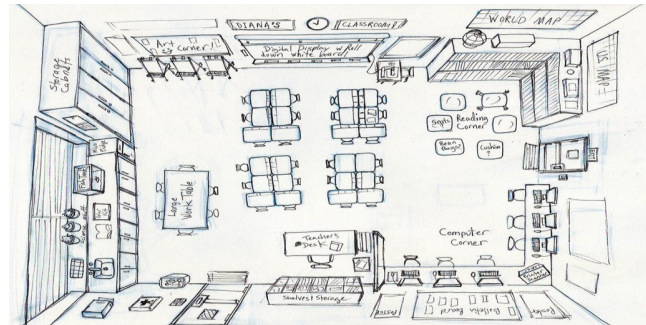


## Classroom Design Contest!

Have you dreamed of what your ideal classroom would be in Giáo Lý? How about for TNTT? VNDL? Calling all students and young adults! **Now is your time to share your ideas!** Our parish leadership continues to work on expanding and building space for classrooms and our school programs. Share what your ideal classroom would be, and you can shape the future!

Draw a picture, build a model, or write an essay – it's up to you. All entries will be compiled together into a display to share with our parish leaders! Open to all grades and ages.

Submit your drawing or proposal to [minhquan@vmpwa.org](mailto:minhquan@vmpwa.org) by December 31st, 2016!



## Got Space?

*A reflection from Anh Sơn, Phụ Trách Tâm Linh (Spiritual Life Coordinator)*

This past Thanksgiving, my family had a potluck and everyone brought the most delicious food including prime ribs, turkey, stuffing, and so much more. I ate so much that I had no more room to eat dessert!

It seems that every time Thanksgiving comes around and we enter into Advent, we are filled with so many things. We are filled with food, parties, shopping, friends and family visits which are all wonderful things. In that "busy-ness", Cha Thành reminded me last week during Mass, that Advent, which means "Coming", is a time for us to prepare for Jesus to come into our lives more fully. But for Jesus to do that, He needs some *space*. When Mary said "yes" to God, she had to make a sacrifice of her time and space to carry Jesus in her



womb. In contrast to Mary's "yes", the innkeepers and others said "no" to the Holy Family as they tried to find shelter for the night and give birth to Jesus. It is so easy and even rational for me to say "no" either from fear or from lack of space or time. I don't really know who this stranger is. I don't want my comfortable life to change or be inconvenienced. My house and heart is too full. I am too busy to spend a moment with Jesus.

The image of Mother Mary is a great reminder that in order to allow Jesus into my heart and soul, I need to clear it of the clutter which includes the good as well as the bad. Sometimes I am tempted to do more good things. Giáo Lý needs me to do more. My work needs me to work longer. Friends and family need more of my time. Then there are the bad temptations which take up more space such as pride, anger, arrogance and indifference. These things push Jesus even further out of my heart.

Advent is a time to prepare to not just celebrate Jesus coming into the world 2000 years ago, but to anticipate His coming into my heart and soul more fully. Can I put down my phone and not check the latest Facebook post or that text message from a friend? Can I put down the video game or skip watching that funny show on TV? What can I do to clear some space in my heart and soul and spend some time with Jesus so that Jesus can enter and transform it?

