



# PREP PARENT NEWS

November 2021

## Dear Parents,

The Bible says in Proverbs 22:6 - *“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.”* With all of the challenges of time facing us today, it is imperative that we ensure that children, as well as ourselves, receive the Biblical instruction needed to assist in healthy spiritual development.

We (PREP staff) do not just believe that our children are the “church of tomorrow”... we also believe they are the “church of today,” and are of great value to the body of Christ. Jesus expressed this great value when He said, Mark 10:14 – *“When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”*

Each week, children receive take home worksheets and I want to encourage you to take a few minutes out of your busy schedule (which we all have), and spend/invest those precious moments in activity with your child(ren).

Would you just make a note of this to remember to share in that activity with your child(ren)? I know many of the parents will be seeing the value of doing this and no doubt the children will be absolutely thrilled that someone they love took time to share with them during the week. Time is so valuable, yet aren't our children even more valuable than that?

## New Church Year!

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent is the season comprising the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas (Sunday, November 28 – Friday, December 24)

Advent is the time of expectation and preparation for the birth of our Lord! The Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today. It is a time for faith communities and families to remember, through prayer, reflections, special music, and good deeds what the true meaning of Jesus' birth is.

Since circles have no beginning and no end, the circular shape of the Advent wreath symbolizes eternal life in Christ. The wreath holds four candles which are lit progressively, over the four weeks of the Advent season. Generally, three are violet (purple) and one is rose-colored, each representing 1,000 years. Added together, the four candles symbolize the 4,000 years that humanity waited for the Savior.

