



**Giving Back on Giving Tuesday**  
*St. Irenaeus Parish School, Cypress*

Each year, St. Irenaeus Parish School participates in Giving Tuesday, a global day of giving and kindness. Sixth graders, their Kindergarten buddies, and TK children, hosted a **Soles4Souls Shoe Drive**. Shoes were collected from all grade levels to be distributed to the homeless, and those living at the poverty level in our country and worldwide. Students filled 24 large boxes with nearly 1,000 pairs of shoes.

**SKDA's Lower School Visits Senior Living Facility**  
*St. Katharine Drexel Academy, San Diego*

On December 14th, Kindergarten – Fourth Grade students visited Covenant Living at Mount Miguel Health Facility to sing Christmas carols to the residents. The school children decorated pots and planted trees.

One of the residents amazed the students by speaking beautifully about how God “plants everyone and cultivates us so that we can blossom and grow,” making the symbolism of the tree planting extra special. It was a memorable experience for all, and students look forward to returning to visit again!



**A Visit from St. Nicholas**  
*St. Joseph School, Santa Ana*

A special visitor came to share his feast day on December 6th at St. Joseph School. St. Nicholas was welcomed into the classrooms and spoke to TK, Kindergarten, and First Grade students about the true story of Nicholas of Bari, and how he had once been a Greek bishop. St. Nicholas was impressed that the young students knew about his legacy of giving gold coins to people in need. During the day, students placed their shoes outside the classroom doors. They were later surprised to find their shoes had been filled with candy.



**At this Epiphany I pray:**

- ALL: To live deeply, with purpose,**
- To live freely, with detachment,**
- To live wisely, with humility,**
- To live justly, with compassion,**
- To live lovingly, with fidelity,**
- To live mindfully, with awareness,**
- To live gratefully, with generosity,**
- To live fully, with enthusiasm.**

Loving God, help me to hold this vision and to daily renew it in my heart, becoming ever more one with you, my truest Self.

*(Adapted from Joyce Rupp "A New Year Prayer", 2021)*

*A blessed Epiphany*