

## St. Stephen's Church, Belvedere

### Advent 2008 Godly Play Schedule

***"In most religious education children are told who God is.  
In Godly Play children discover God for themselves."***

<b>Godly Play Advent at St. Stephen's</b>	
	<p>During the four Sundays of Advent the children will be getting ready to enter the Mystery of Christmas. During this time of year many people are so busy they will miss the Mystery. They don't know how to get ready, or maybe they just forgot. But we will go with the prophets, the Holy Family, the shepherds, the angels, the Magi and all the rest to make the journey that was not just back then, it is also now.</p>
<b>1) Nov. 30</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advent I</b></p> <p>On this Sunday, we remember the prophets. Prophets are people who come so close to God, and God comes so close to them, that they know what is most important.</p> <p>They pointed the way to Bethlehem. They didn't know exactly what was going to happen there, but they knew this was the place.</p>
<b>2) Dec. 7</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advent II</b></p> <p>On this Sunday, we remember the Holy Family. The Holy Family is on their way to Bethlehem and our children are going with them.</p> <p>We remember them with a candle that shows the light of the Mother Mary and the Father Joseph as they make their way to Bethlehem. They must have been the last people coming up the road to Bethlehem that night.</p>
<b>3) Dec. 14</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advent III</b></p> <p>On the Third Sunday of Advent we remember the shepherds who were standing in the fields around Bethlehem keeping their sheep.</p> <p>Suddenly there was so much light in the sky that it hurt their eyes and they were afraid. They were scared too when they thought they heard singing in the sky! But the angels were singing: "Don't be afraid".</p> <p>Angels often say that, because it is scary to have a messenger of God come to you.</p>

<b>4) Dec. 21</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advent IV</b></p> <p>On the fourth Sunday in Advent we remember the three kings, the Magi, the wise men.</p> <p>When they saw the wild star, they saw it went where it wanted to go. It did not stay put. They decided to follow the wild star to see where it was going and what it wanted to show them. They followed the star all the way to Bethlehem.</p> <p>Here they found the Christ Child, the mystery of Christmas.</p> <p>We light candles for the prophets, the Holy Family, the shepherds, the wise men, and the Christ Child.</p> <p>Please have your children join us as we enjoy the light.</p>