



THE GOOD NEWS MAY 2016

Dear Parents,

Hooray!! To our Third Grade students who hosted the 8am Mass on Sunday, May 1st: Ava Wimberley, Sigmmond Antony, Aaron De Ruyter, William Welser, Isabella Verdadero, Francis Adaliga, Sloane Graham, Lucas Hardt, Ashley Quintana-Dizon, Alyssa Zepeda, Anthony Biedenbender, James Repetti, Jeremy Engel, Sophie Hasegawa and their wonderful teachers Robyn Solimando, Christine Ferrero, Margaret Michaels, Michelle LaMontagne and Alex Luna. The Religious Education children always do such a great job of greeting, reading and presenting the gifts. They are a blessing to all of us and we are so proud of them!

Many thanks to our wonderful Teachers, Aides, Traffic and Yard Patrol Volunteers. Also, to the parents who provided goodies and assistance with set-up, serving and clean up for our Spirit Days, Parent Meetings and Special Celebrations! We couldn't do it without all your help!

Three cheers for our wonderful Religious Education Students! As of May 4, they have donated over \$700.00 to the **Missionary Childhood Association as one of their service projects during Lent. This money will go directly to help the poorest of the poor children living in 81 countries around the world. Also, many food items were donated to help the poor in our area. **Plus, many, many cans of chili donated to the Feed The Needy program which is coordinated by our very own Fourth Grade Teacher Barbara Mullen!** Thank you so much for your generosity to those in need. **Truly, children, your lives can and do make a positive difference in the lives of others.****

Our Annual "**Baby Shower for Life**" Mass, is today at church. All families are invited to attend this wonderful liturgy. This shower benefits mothers who are being counseled at the Pregnancy Help Center. Students are asked to bring in a baby-need item to be used in preparing a gift package for the new mothers. A special invitation was sent home last week.

For our **Closing Classes**, the Jr. High students and their families will gather for a special Mass led by our Pastor Msgr. Mike. A pizza party, for the students and their families, will be held in Kavanagh Hall, following the liturgy. Also, our Youth Minister, Gabriel Reyes will be speaking to our students and their families about the wonderful Confirmation program here at St. James. The Elementary classes, grades 1-6, will gather together at the Parish Center for a celebration led by Msgr. Mike, Fr. IK and Deacon Bob, which will include a Prayer Service, Blessing of the Children, Teacher Appreciation and Presentation of Student Certificates followed by refreshments for all. It will be a great way to end our year together!

I am pleased to attach the **May** issue of **Partners in Faith**. Three **May** highlights are: ■ Children's free will means that - despite parents' best efforts - we can't guarantee our children will grow up happy. We can, however, do our best to ensure they grow up prepared for challenges, feeling connected to people who care, and knowing they are loved and valued - the main ingredients for a happy life. The main article on page one tells how. ■ A back-talking habit may seem relatively harmless in a child, but it does inhibit the growth of some virtues and skills. The main article on page two gives tips for snipping back-talk in children. Catholics devote the month of May to honoring Mary and her role as our Mother. The ParentTalk feature discusses how using a "Mary Garden" can increase devotion to Mary - and ultimately to her Son. I hope you enjoy these articles.

Please take some time to relax this summer - I wish you joy and look forward to September when we will begin another year together!

God Bless You!



Congratulations to the following children who have received their **First Holy Communion on May 7th:**

Angel Albarracin, Karina Amezcua, Franco Aulet, Trenton Ayson, Matthew Banach, Nicole Brecker, Briana Dunbar, Andrew Dysim, Zeke Eull, Chloe Ferrari, Mateo Figueroa, Vaughan Flaherty, Isabel Frazier, Isabel Garcia, Sophia Garcia, Annaliz Gomez, Ava Gomez, Brady & Jack Green, Logan Guerreiro, Jakob Heberling, Brock Herrera, Victoria Higareda, Erika Knight, Faith Law, Cayenne Lawrence, Robert Leetch III, Andrew Lewis, Alexander, Alexis & Malina Martinez, Maya Mc Camant, Ryder Mejia, Tyler O'Neal, Alissa Phillips, Aidan Qatto, Russell Reyes, Connor Reyes-Thomas, Logan Sain, Andreas Samaan, Gabriella Schultz, Luke Seamans, Camren Smith, Levi Suree, Ann Thekkinedath, Samantha Tully, Chloe Uszler, Francisco Villegas, Madelyn Williams, Julia & Thomas Wilson, Caitlyn Wong, Keegan Zarefsky & Charlize Zavaleta.

May the love of Jesus be with you always!

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 1 **3rd Grade**
Hosts 8:00am Sunday Mass
- May 7 **First Communion 10:00am**
- May 8 Mother's Day
- May 9 **RE Office Closed**
- May 10-11 Baby Shower For Life Mass
Grades 1-6 **Church @ 4:00pm**
- May 15 **Pentecost**
- May 17-18 Closing Classes & Celebrations
Grades 1-6
- May 17 Jr. High Closing Classes Family Mass
7:00pm - Church
Pizza Party @ Kavanagh Hall
- May 30 **Memorial Day - RE Office Closed**
- June 1 Registration forms for 2016-2017
Mailed

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Interested in sharing your time and talents with our children?

Please contact Diana Holly if you might be interested in becoming a teacher or teacher's aide for our Religious Education program. As our program has grown, so has our need for staff.

Also, again this year each family will be required to volunteer for at least one: traffic duty, yard duty, spirit day yard duty or host evening functions. Please see your volunteer form in your registration packet. We need everyone's help to continue our wonderful Religious Education Program!

Hip ~ Hip ~ Hooray !!

REGISTRATION 2016-2017

Registration forms for our program's currently enrolled families will be sent home the first week of June for the 2016-2017 year. **Prompt return of completed forms can ensure your choice of day.**

NEW families can register beginning June 1st during our regular office hours: Monday -Thursday 10am-3pm, and the week of August 22nd from 1pm - 7pm.

Non-Refundable Fees for 2016-2017:

Registered Contributing Families:

1 student - \$100.00, 2 students - \$200.00,
3 or more \$220.00

Non-Registered Families: \$250.00 per student

Late Fee: \$10.00 per student if registered after **August 31st.**

The Religious Education Office will be closed from July 18th through August 12th and will reopen Monday, August 15th.