

October 21, 2016

Dear Parents,

This weekend's readings for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary time help us focus on how poverty or being poor means more than not having material things. Our poverty means we depend and recognize our need for God. Nobody is perfect. We all have strengths and weaknesses. A humble person recognizes their faults and weaknesses. When we are honest about our weaknesses, we open ourselves to receive God's healing mercy. He is always ready to forgive us when we make mistakes. God does this so that we may feel better about ourselves and can work on improving our weaknesses. Then we are free to use our strengths to do good in the world. One of the blessings of receiving God's mercy is that it helps us be grateful. When we are grateful for God's love and mercy, we want to share it with others. How wonderful, right? This helps us bring about a happy and healthy family of God!



PARENT SURVEY - Please remember to complete the parent survey sent to you in an e-mail this week. This will help us complete one very important part of the Accreditation process. We need to hear from every family to help the results be as accurate as possible.

GARDENING A tremendous thank you to the Dalton family, Eisley family and Tremonte/Pouthasy family. They willingly gave of their time and talents to both weed and plant the beautiful Fall gardens in front of the statue of Mary, at the front entrance and around the sign in the driveway. Thank you for answering the call from my blue letter! The school looks beautiful!



Halloween - Mrs. Salas Romer is preparing for our annual Halloween party next Friday. Please remember to offer your help if you can. We are also having a pumpkin carving contest on that day. Any student wishing to bring a carved pumpkin to school on Oct.28th is welcomed to join the contest. The winners will be announced on Halloween Day, Monday. The categories will be funniest, most creative, most unusual, and prettiest. Please bring them in first thing in the morning, on Friday the 28th. The pumpkins will be judged during the day and can go home at the end of the day with your child or may also be picked up the night of the party. One safety precaution.....no real candles, only battery lights to place inside carved pumpkins. Thanks for your cooperation.



Student Council - The Student Council has requested that we once again repeat our Parade of Saints. Last year, was our first year with this all school celebration and it went very well. This is a great way to help the children understand that they can dress however they want at night for Halloween, but in Catholic School, we know the true meaning of the



celebration . The name Halloween comes from an older name "All Hallow's Eve". This day was celebrated on the vigil (the night before) All Saints day. So we want all the students to dress up on Monday October 31st, as a saint, hero of God, or someone the church admires who perhaps has not been named a saint yet, but are role models of a good life in our Church i.e. Pope Francis. The children can come dressed as this person when they come to school. If the costume is too cumbersome, they can bring play clothes to change into once our Parade is over. The children will go to their classrooms to put their things down and then we will have the parade at about 8:15. They can also dress as the occupation of that saint. You can easily google the lives of the saints and be as creative as you want.

In Grades K-2, all the children have to know is the name of the Saint they represent. If you want to make a sign or prop for them to hold up with the Saint's name that would be great.

In Grades 3-8, all students should have some facts that they learned after reading about the life of the person they have selected. They may stay dressed or change after the Parade is over. The students in Grades 3-8 will be expected to know some information and be able to speak about their saint. If you don't have any ideas, perhaps you can spend some time searching your child's Baptismal Saint's name.

REMEMBER: For Pre-K this event is totally optional, but if you want them to come in dressed for the parade that day, you could have them wear an angel costume. They will use their angel costume again for our Christmas Program, so it won't be a total waste! But for Pre-K it is just a watch and learn experience.

I hope everyone has a great weekend.

Sr. Annette