

Principal's Newsletter

Fifth Sunday of Lent

The Gospel for next Sunday gives us an account of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Martha and Mary, his sisters, are inconsolable. Many of us have experienced the same desolation when we have lost a loved one. We question God and wonder why he allows so much pain and loss.

Martha and Mary are real examples as models of faith in the hour of grief. In her time of grief, Martha ran and poured out her sorrow to the Lord. Jesus challenged her to pause, reflect, and believe and this helped her make that wonderful profession of faith, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who has come into the world." Her deep faith was rewarded.

Like Martha, we need to turn to the Lord and go on believing, trusting and praying. This story shows Jesus as a faithful friend. He didn't leave Martha and Mary to grieve alone. He came to them during their time of need. He shared their sorrow and gave them hope by promising eternal life to those who believe in him. Jesus is here for you and surrounds you with his love.

This Lent, Jesus has been leading and inviting you to take another step forward in faith. As he did with Martha, he brings you along gradually. Even when you fail, he is there to pick you up. During the last few weeks of Lent, renew your Lenten promises and allow Jesus to be your guide. Receive his forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and experience his great love as you receive Eucharist each weekend.

Damien Spartan Robot Challenge: April 1 from 8:00-3:00pm at Damien High School

This is an engineering competition for students in grades 7 & 8. We are deeply grateful to Mr. Richard Sealy for the countless volunteer hours spent training the teams. The purpose of the challenge is to introduce the concepts of robotics and programming to students before they enter high school. The students are very excited and fully engaged in this hands-on program. Best of luck on Saturday.



Mass

Friday at 8:30am with all grades

Stations of the Cross

Friday evenings during Lent at 7:00pm. All are welcome to join in this traditional Lenten practice of prayer and reflection following Jesus on his way to Calvary.

Reconciliation for Students in grades 3-8

Students will be given an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on April 3 & April 10.

Students, who have not already done so, will be given an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

First Eucharist



Preparation has begun for First Eucharist and will continue at school and at home.

Please spend time with your child as he/she prepares to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. Study the assigned chapters together weekly and complete the "Let's Share" section as a

family. This is a great opportunity for you to deepen your own understanding of the Eucharist and its importance in your life and the life of your family. It is also a time for you to recommit to the promise you made at Baptism to nurture the faith of your children. All of us are called to bring our families home to heaven. Are you doing your part?

Parent Mandatory Preparation Meeting March 30 at 7:00 – 9:00pm in Room 8



Spelling lists for the 2017 Spell-A-Thon have gone home with your child(ren). Please spend time practicing the spelling words and have your children put them in sentences in preparation for the Spell-A-Thon on April 6. This will give you an opportunity to sponsor your child(ren) and begin to earn some obligation \$\$ for the next school year.

Teacher Stem Training

Three teachers participated in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math training in March. The training focused on providing teachers with an opportunity to learn how to implement STEM in their classrooms. This was very timely as a very generous donor gifted us with all the hands-on materials needed for each grade level K - 5. The teachers will spend a second day in training in April. We are so grateful and the teachers came home very excited!

Dates to Remember

- March 30: Parent Sacramental Class at 7:00pm
- April 3: Star Assessment Reading
- April 3: Online Scrip order due by 8:30am
- April 5: Science Fair
- April 6: Spell-A-Thon
- April 6: Last day to order Scrip before Easter
- April 10: Annual Vision/Hearing Screening
- April 12: Easter Egg Hunt
- April 12; Easter Vacation at 3:00pm/No ESC
- April 24: School reopens

Track Practice

Track is off to a good start and the kids are excited to be in training. We thank Mr. Bettencourt and his many volunteer helpers for organizing, planning, and training the students.

Knights of Columbus Youth Basketball Free Throw Contest Winners 2017:

Mary Larson came in 2nd in Southern California section and 3rd in the state She made 19 of 25 free throws.



Come and join us to pray to the Divine Mercy every Friday.

We will be praying in front of the Virgin Mary sanctuary outside of the church. This is a short (15) minute prayer where we will be praying for our families.

We will begin praying promptly at 2:50PM.

Blessings,
Silvia and Javier Ogaz