

# Principal's Newsletter

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

In the readings for next Sunday, Jesus assures us that we all have a home to go to, namely, the heavenly Father's house. He even promises to prepare a place for us in that house. This is a cause of tremendous hope for us.

In life, all of us go through difficult times when our faith is tested. It is during these periods that we discover our inner strength. It is easy to have strong faith when things go well, but how do we handle the difficult situations?

During the Last Supper the apostles were thrown into crisis when Jesus began to talk about his death. Their hearts were troubled and they were filled with fear. Knowing this, Jesus tried to prepare them for the ordeal and asked them to trust and believe in God and in him. Jesus assured the apostles that

he would not leave them, he would not abandon them. Rather,

he was going to prepare a place for them, but they needed to go on believing, go on trusting.

He has given us the same message to go on trusting in God. Then the unbearable becomes bearable, and in the darkness a glimmer of light appears. God is with us in the midst of difficulties and never abandons us. Those who have faith have a source of comfort and inspiration, especially when trouble strikes. They know that God will be good to them in the end, both in this world and the next. It is not we who keep the faith; it is the faith that keeps us. May we always listen to the gentle words of Jesus, "Believe in God, and believe also in me."



## Mass on Friday, May 12 is at 8:30 a.m.



We will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady of Fatima. Before Mass begins, seventh grade students will make a short presentation on the apparitions and messages to the children of Fatima. Please join us as we continue to pray Mary's Rosary for peace in our world. If you are unable to attend, please say a decade of the Rosary on your way to school or work daily for the protection of our world at this time in history.

## First Eucharist

Saturday was very special for our First Communion class and their families. They have received Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion and are filled with the love of Jesus. As parents, we know that you will continue to help them nurture their love and faith by taking them to Church weekly and being the good example at home. Loving, prayerful families make for happy kids and a happy world. Turn to prayer as a family, say a decade of the Rosary as you drive to and from school and you will receive abundant blessings. We are very happy for the children and proud of them.

We thank the parents and all who planned the special retreat for the children. What a blessing for your family and the community. We appreciate our teachers, Mrs. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Gutierrez for their part in preparing the students for this special day. We extend our thanks to Fr. Tim, Fr. Carlos, Fr. Stephen Barber from Loyola High School, Deacon Greg Moore and Deacon Don Norris for their great support of the children and families.

## Marian Day Devotions

What a beautiful Mass, with prayers, the Rosary and devotions honoring Our Blessed Mother on Friday. We are grateful to Mr. B and eighth graders for their prayerful liturgies and devotions that touched our souls. May Mary continue to bless you and your family during her special month. We will continue to recite the Rosary Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7:30 a.m. for world peace. You can unite with us by reciting a decade on your way to work.



## Thank You to Parents

What a special week we've had! You totally spoiled us and we are overwhelmed with your great outpouring of love, support and appreciation throughout the week. Each day, you treated us to a delicious breakfast and lunch and left lots of surprises and goodies for each staff member. Teachers and staff were so excited to find their classrooms all clean with fresh flowers on their desks Monday morning. We are very grateful to the PTG Board who planned and organized this special week for the teachers and staff. We truly appreciate Debbie and Jen and helpers who were so excited to coordinate the activities and put all those special survival kits together. We thank you for your kindness and support shown not only this week but throughout the year.

## Teacher Luncheon

Thank you to the first grade class for providing our delicious "Cinco de Mayo" lunch on Friday. We truly appreciate you.

## Track Meet

32 of our students participated in the track meet on Sunday at the University of Redlands sponsored by Sacred Heart Academy. St. Joseph School took 2nd place and received 65 medals. Thank you to our parent volunteers and Mr. B for organizing and preparing our athletes. Congratulations!

# Registration

*Please complete your paperwork and return all completed forms during registration from May 18-20 in the school library.*

## Dates to Remember

- May 9: Fourth Grade Field Trip
- May 10: Sixth Grade Field Trip
- May 11: Kinder & 8<sup>th</sup> Panoramic Picture
- May 11: Talent Show at 1:15 p.m.
- May 11: New Kindergarten/New Family Orientation Meeting at 6 p.m.
- May 12: Student Council Primary Speeches at 2:15pm
- May 12: Last day to order yearbook – to order visit [www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com)
- May 13: St. Margaret Mary's Track Meet at Damien
- May 15: Student Council Primary Campaign
- May 16: Final Food Drive for His Hands
- May 17: Primary Elections
- May 17: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Missions Sale – a bag of cookies for a \$1.00
- May 18: Sports Award at 1:30 p.m.
- May 18-20: 2017-2018 Registration
- May 19: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Day Away
- May 20: Fr. Carlos' celebration with Mass at 5:00 p.m., followed by gathering/meal in hall
- May 24: Final Student Council Elections
- May 26: Walk-A-Thon/Noon dismissal, Graduation Dance
- May 29: Memorial Day/No school
- May 30: St. Joseph Parish Confirmation