



Microphone

St. Mary's Catholic School

A Letter From Sister Marianella

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Dear Parents,

Thanksgiving is right around the corner.

The beautiful season of Thanksgiving is set for the colorful brisk month of November. Many families spend time preparing for this and look forward to celebrating with family and friends. When we stop to think of the many blessings that each of us has received, I think we are convinced that every day should truly be a day of "Giving Thanks." In reading the newspaper and viewing news casts, one becomes aware of the deprivation and needy wants of so many people in this universe.

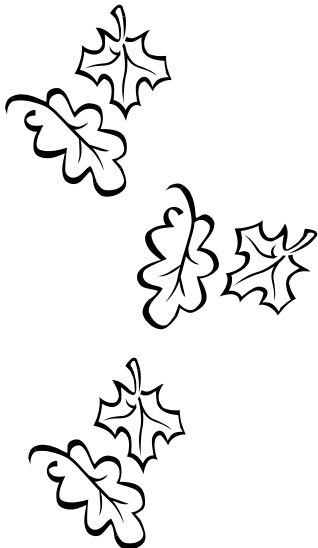
In preparing for Thanksgiving, I want to remind you that we have started our food drive for so many needy families. We ask that you please send canned food and staple items of various kinds. We are also accepting donations for purchasing turkeys. In the past we have been able to purchase one for each family. In previous years we have taken care of approximately 30 to 35 families. If it is possible we would appreciate every child donating something toward this food drive. It has always been one of the most successful events we sponsor. Our food drive will end on Tuesday, November 23rd. Thank you for your generosity.

As cold weather is approaching, we are anxious to help needy families by providing them with blankets and warm articles of clothing. This drive will continue through January. Thank you.

The children's Thanksgiving lunch will be held on Tuesday, November 23rd. Because of limited space this Thanksgiving meal is for the students only. The price of lunch is \$2.00. Students who regularly eat in the cafeteria may use their cafeteria account to take care of this. For the children who do not eat in the cafeteria but want to on that day, the price is \$2.00. According to the menu it promises to be a fine Thanksgiving dinner. Thank you!

Some of the children have an on-going bet with me. They claim that they are going to read "lots and lots" of books and reach the number that has been set as their goal. I told them that I didn't think that they could accomplish this and they made me a bet. (They really don't realize how much I want them to win the bet. They informed me that they know that they will reach the goal.) Good luck, Love-Doves!!

(continued on page 2)



Catholic Identity

A Letter From Sister Continued

I do have some news for you pertaining to a few faculty members. Mrs. White, one of our fifth grade teachers has been very ill. After returning home after her stay in the hospital, she made the decision to resign her position. She is grateful for all the prayers that have been offered for her recovery and knows that it is because of these prayers that she is improving. I ask that you continue to pray for her as she does have a long way to a complete recovery. God bless Mrs. White, and we ask for many special blessing on her. We also thank her for all she did for our children.

Another faculty member who has been ill is Ms. Mares, one of our first grade teachers. Ms. Mares became ill and was taken to the hospital early Monday morning, November 1st. Ms. Mares suffered from a condition she has, there is a small hole in heart that has to be closed. Please continue to pray for her. Presently she is doing much better. After a week or two of rest, which is dictated by the doctor, she will have the small hole in her heart closed. It is considered to be a rather simple procedure and she plans to return on the Monday after Thanksgiving. For the next two weeks, Mrs. Silva and Mrs. Osman will be working with the first graders to make certain that all is on task. They are doing a fine job!!!!

Our third graders had a most beautiful First Holy Communion Mass! I wish to congratulate each and every First Communicant and their parents. Truly, it was a glorious occasion!!

I do want to remind you of the special workshop that is being sponsored by the Catholic School Office. We sent a flyer home but are enclosing another one. You have received a permission slip for students in grades 3rd to 8th. They will be transported by the Herrera Bus Company. Grades 6th, 7th, and 8th will attend Thursday, December 2nd; Grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th will attend Friday, December 3rd.

All parents are encouraged to attend the session on Thursday, December 2nd from 7:00-8:30pm. Sessions will be held at St. Pius. If you have any questions please call 242-6271.

Let us join in thanking God for all the blessings he has bestowed and continues to bestow on St. Mary's school.

Thank you and God bless you.

Sister Marianella, S.C., Principal

Advent Prayer Service to be offered for Parents

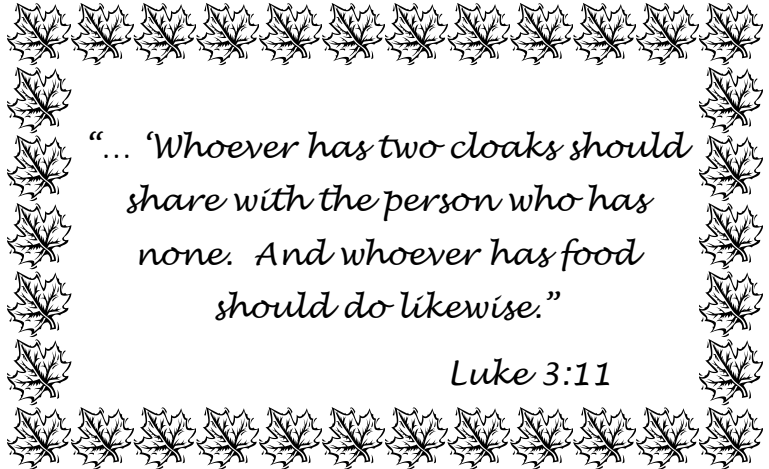
St. Mary's, in conjunction with the priests of Immaculate Conception, will be offering an Advent Prayer Service for parents on Saturday, December 4th from 9:30-11:30 am. This comes as a direct result of the parent survey that was done at the beginning of this school year. It would like to attend please let your child's homeroom teacher know and see the flyer in the Wednesday Envelope.



Thanksgiving: A Time for Reaching Out to Others



As many of St. Mary's families and friends know, every year the school involves itself in a number of community service projects. This year is no different and November brings about a long standing service project, the annual food drive. This year, as always, we are asking students and their families to donate non-perishable goods for families in need. These donations allow us to give food to a number of needy families every year. Students can bring donations to their homerooms from now until November 23rd. During this time of thanksgiving, friendship, and holiday cheer, let us not forget those who are less fortunate than ourselves.



"... 'Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.'"

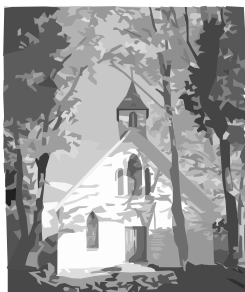
Luke 3:11

World Missions Collection for Catholic Relief Services

On Wednesday, October 27th we celebrated a Mass together and World Missions was our theme. We took up a collection at the Mass and it totaled \$250.00!! We thank all the children for thinking of others who are part of the Body of Christ. If you would like to know what mission work is done through Catholic Relief Services, you can check it out on line at

November Masses

Parents are always welcome to celebrate mass with us. The following liturgies are planned for the month of November:



- ◆ Wednesday, November 3 @9:15 am: **Theme:** All Saints Day
Prepared by: 2nd Grade
- ◆ Wednesday, November 10 @9:15 am: **Theme:** Leo the Great
Prepared by: 8th Grade
- ◆ Wednesday, November 17 @9:15 am: **Theme:** Jesuit Martyrs of El Salvador
Prepared by: 7-3
- ◆ Wednesday, November 24 @ 9:15 am: **Theme:** Thanksgiving
Prepared by: 3rd Grade
- ◆ Wednesday, December 1 @ 9:15 am: **Theme:** Advent St. Francis Xavier
Prepared by: 6-3



Congratulations Third Graders!

St. Mary's third grade students made their first Holy Communion on Saturday, November 13th. The Mass was beautiful and the students looked very pretty and handsome in their new First Communion outfits!

Congratulations third graders! May God bless you all!

Also, thank you to the teachers, parents and Father Leo for helping to prepare these students for this very special day!

Scriptural Foundations of Catholic Social Teaching

1. The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

Genesis 2:2-3 (God labors and rests)
 Genesis 2:15 (humans cultivate earth)
 Jeremiah 22:13; James 5:4 (wage justice)

2. Solidarity

Genesis 22:17-18; Psalm 22:28-29 (save all nations)
 Romans 10:12 (no national distinctions in God)
 Galatians 3:28 (all one in Christ)

3. Care for God's Creation

Genesis 2:15 (stewardship of earth)
 Daniel 3:74-81 (all the earth blesses God)
 Romans 8:18-25 (all creation awaits redemption)

~ From: *Leader's Guide to Sharing the Catholic Social Teaching*

An "Art-felt" Thank You!



St. Mary's art students would like to thank Zakery Clarke, 6-2, and his mother, Kristine Clarke for a beautiful job repainting the Art Smart sign over the summer. When you pass the art room door, look up and see the shiny new sign. Thank you for doing this for our school and God bless you.

Mrs. Snyder,
 Art Teacher



Action Alerts: Do you want to stay informed about issues that are important to you and our society but don't know how? If so look at the sites below to get informed:

Catholic Charities USA:

<http://capwiz.com/catholiccharitiesusa/mlm>

"Catholic Charities USA is the national office for over 1,700 local Catholic Charities agencies and institutions nationwide. Catholic Charities USA provides strong leadership and support to enhance the work of local agencies in their efforts to reduce poverty, support families, and empower communities." Sign up for these action alerts and receive news and information about important issues from Catholic Charities USA.

NETWORK:

<http://capwiz.com/networklobby>

NETWORK is a national social justice lobby group that keeps people informed about issues that are urgent in our society today. It was formed in 1971 by Catholic Sisters from many orders around the country. NETWORK is a "Catholic leader in the global movement for justice and peace, NETWORK educates, lobbies, and organizes for economic and social transformation."

Jesuit Refugee Services USA:

http://jrsusa.org/support_keep_informed_form_php

Jesuit Refugee Services USA (JRS USA) accompanies and defends the rights of refugees in the US and abroad. JRS USA "provides advocacy, financial and human resources for JRS regions throughout the world. In the US it serves as the major refugee outreach arm of the US Jesuits and their institutional ministries, facilitating and mobilizing their response to

FAIR TRADE FAIR & PRESENTATION-DEC. 4 & 5



On Saturday, Dec. 4, Anne Avellone, Director of the Office of Social Justice & Respect Life, will give a presentation on consumerism and fair trade after the 5 pm mass. Food will be provided & donations will be accepted.

On Sunday, Dec. 5, several vendors will be selling their fair trade products in the hallway by the school gym. Fair Trade helps the producers get a fair wage to support their families. See www.crsfairtrade.org for more info.

Opportunities for Service/ Volunteering at Immaculate Conception Jesuit Church

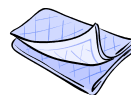
Bread and Blessing Sunday meal for those who are homeless: Volunteers are needed to serve the meal restaurant style or cook the meal each week from 12-2pm Sundays. Contact Mike to volunteer at 247-4271 or ImmConYASJ@gmail.com or contact Roberta Montoya to help with the cooking at 831-9674 or by email at rcm7721@aol.com

ICC Social Justice Committee: This group meets every other week or so to plan for upcoming social, educational & service opportunities around the Catholic Social Teaching for the whole parish. Contact Mike to volunteer at 247-4271 or ImmConYASJ@gmail.com.

ICC Religious Education Sacramental Preparation Catechists and RCIA: serve as a teacher or teacher's aides in the Religious Education classes to youth and adults. Contact Deacon George at the Church office at 247-4271

ICC Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers: Serve at any of the daily or Sunday masses. Volunteers are also needed to take Holy Communion to those who are homebound. Contact Fr. Joe Vanderholt @ 247-4271

NEED FOR WINTER CLOTHES & BLANKETS



As it starts to get colder at night, our guests who are homeless are in need of blankets, gloves, hats, long underwear, & jackets. Please drop these off at the Parish Office M-F from 9 to 12:30 & 1:30 to 5.

Young Adult (20's &30's) Ministry

Our next Young Adult Mass is on Sunday December 19 at 5pm. Contact Mike Shawyer at the Church Office or at ImmConYASJ@gmail.com

St. Mary's Catholic School

224 7th Street
Albuquerque, New Mexico
87120

Phone: 505-242-6271

Thank you to all who contributed to this months newsletter: Sister Marianella, Ms. Leann Locklin, Mrs. Jean Snyder, Mrs. Phylis Thorson

We're on the Web:

www.saintmaryscatholicschool.com

Christmas Play News:



This years Christmas program will be held on Friday, December 7th at the Kiva Auditorium. Look for more information pertaining to the program in the Wednesday envelope.

Hot Chocolate!

Cooler weather is here and so is our annual hot chocolate sale! Cost is still 25 cents. Hot chocolate will be served Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:30-8:00 in Mrs. Thorson's room. Keep warm and visit with friends!

M&M's

We have started selling M&M tubes for \$1.00. The tubes are to be filled with quarters and returned! This quick and easy way of collecting will benefit missions in our area. Do you have any suggestions?

Service Council News

Operation Christmas Child

It is once again time for Operation Christmas Child, a service project that our school has been involved in for many years. To participate: Find a Shoe box. Fill it with non-liquid items a child might like. Personal items, toys, and school supplies are all fantastic! Bring the box to school and give it to Mrs. Thorson or Mrs. Tambor. We will be taking them to the collection point in mid-November.

The Storehouse:

Student Service council will be taking a filed trip to the Storehouse in the near future. Please send in any gently used furniture, toys, clothes or canned goods and our dedicated Service Council Team will take it with them when they go on their filed trip.

Recycling Items:

Keep Collecting and sending in the following:

- **Pull Tabs: supports Ronald McDonald House
- **General Mills Box Tops for Education: helps us buy items for the school (trash cans, picnic tables)
- **Used eye glasses: Lion's Club refurbishes them for people that can't afford new glasses.
- **Used ink and toner cartridges: purchases paper for our school.
- **Campbell's Labels for Education: purchases supplies for our school.
- **Gently used toys, clothes, household items: taken to the Storehouse who gives them away.
- **Aluminum Cans: Helps Jose with his grandchildren.