



St. Margaret Catholic School

Viking Vine



"Be Who God Meant You to Be And You Will Set The World On Fire."

February 22, 2019

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

"And why should we be quiet in church?" the teacher asked. "Because people are sleeping," came the reply. This might very well be the case, if the sermon was about "repentance". Today, tolerance is the "in-word" and anything that implies that we may have to consider making some serious changes to our lifestyle, is hardly likely to be a popular idea or one that is likely to prevent us from dozing off. However, there seems to be a place for repentance somewhere in life for, when the old lady was asked why she had suddenly taken up Bible Studies, she replied, "I am studying for my finals."

To decide that you have been wrong in supposing that you could manage your whole life and be your own god, is no easy matter. But, in essence, repentance is to think about something later on and have a reversal about it, to have a change of mind.

One of the best known stories told by Jesus, is of the wayward son who ends up in a pig-pen with nothing to eat but the mush the pigs were fed. He begins to regret the self-will

that led him to where he is. No doubt there is a great deal of self-pity mixed with his remorse. Nevertheless, he decides to eat "humble pie" and to return home. When he does, his father who has been waiting for this moment for a long time, runs to meet him and throws a party.

The returning Prodigal Son does not earn his father's love by his repentance. Love has never been absent from his father's heart; only he could not experience it in a faraway country. Repentance is not the means whereby we earn God's forgiveness and love; these are there all the time. Repentance is the means by which we receive them. It is going home.

Jesus declared that the purpose of His coming was to call "sinners to repentance". Luke 5:32. When we sin, we "miss the mark" in life. When we repent, we turn to God and ask Him to help us to aim better. Repentance is a lifestyle, a process by which a person, who is away from God, recognizes that situation and goes back to God. Instead of ignoring God, we turn around and choose to give Him His rightful place in our life. "To repent is to adopt God's viewpoint in place of our own. It is the most joyful thing in the world because, when you have done it, you have adopted the viewpoint of truth itself and are in fellowship

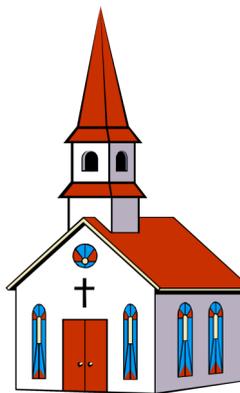
with God." William Temple. Archbishop of Canterbury.

Maybe, when we hear that a class of children is preparing for First Reconciliation, we might take a look at ourselves and ask, "Do I really love God? Do I actually love myself? Do I show love for my neighbor? Am I a peacemaker? Do I treat other people as I wish to be treated? Am I a forgiving person? Or Am I a bit of a 'Prodigal' and in need of going home?"

God, our Father, what a great story Your Son, Jesus, gave us. Help us to take advantage of the gift of Your limitless love for us. Help us to make the decision to come home. Amen.

Peace and Blessings,

Wendy L. Wicke



Events

Monday, February 25th

9:00 am - Celebration In Memory of "Quinten".

Wednesday, February 27th

Free Dress for February Birthdays

Thursday, February 28th

8:15 am Mass

Friday, March 1st, Tuesday, March 4th & Tuesday, March 5th

- Mardi Gras Holiday

Lunches

Monday, February 25th

Cheeseburger, Fries, Orange Smiles & Dessert

Tuesday, February 26th

Ground Beef & Cheese Tacos, Pinto Beans, Corn & Peach Slices

Wednesday, February 27th

Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Gr. Beans, Salad, Pineapple Tidbits, Wheat Garlic Roll

Thursday, February 28th

Turkey/Rice/Gravy, Red Beans, Yam Patty, Apple Wedges & Southern Cornbread

Friday, March 1st

NO SCHOOL - MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY

Choice of Milk Daily

Things to Remember

HALO!

Our HALO this week was Mrs. Kari Proksch. We thank Mrs. Proksch for helping to make our SMCS students excel in Music and sound like angels!!

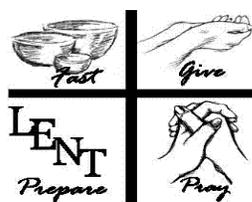
Club Meetings

Wednesday, February 27th

3:00 - 4:00 pm - Science Club

Thursday, February 28th

3:00 - 4:00 pm - Chess Club



Viking Lagniappe

Unveiling the Virtues

Habit #5 Seek first to understand, then to be understood

What kind of listening do you do? Is your listening pretend? Pretend listening is when you're not paying attention when someone is talking. You may say, "Yeah" or "Okay" but you are not really listening. Is your listening self-centered? Self-centered listening is when you are only thinking about your response. You are not really listening to what the other person is saying. Or is your listening real - AUTHENTIC? An authentic listener listens with his ears, his eyes, and his heart. An authentic listener listens without interrupting and truly listens to understand. Let us all become AUTHENTIC listeners.

Obedience - assenting to rightful authority without hesitation or resistance. This is Jesus' favorite virtue

Patriotism - paying due honor and respect to one's country, with a willingness to serve

Prayerfulness - being still, listening, and being willing to talk to God as a friend

Respect - speaking and acting according to one's own and other's rights, status, and circumstances

Responsibility - fulfilling one's just duties; accepting the consequences of one's words and actions, intentional and unintentional

Family Faith Formations

I'm anxious and worried. What if I do a terrible job?

The shaking had started in the delivery room. My baby's heart rate had slowed, and by the time the nurses wheeled me into

surgery for an emergency C-section, my entire body trembled violently in fear. Now, long past midnight, in a darkened room, I couldn't stop shaking. Why now? My baby boy had arrived, healthy and safe. Everything was okay. But new worried beset me. How would I do this parenting thing if I couldn't control my own fears?

Until now, I hadn't noticed a faint glow on the hospital bed. Someone, a nurse maybe, had left the light on in the adjacent bathroom, and for a moment I was a seven-year-old kid, afraid of monsters in the dark. Back then, all I had to do was call out, and my mom would leave the bathroom light on until I fell asleep. Tonight in that hospital room, I knew Mom was still with me - even though she had died years before - reminding me that God always leaves the light on.

All parents worry. You may even physically tremble at times. But know this, and repeat it whenever things seem darkest: "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it."

To Do: Next time you're at church, notice the candle near the tabernacle - the sign of Jesus' presence. Picture Him next to you as you pray.

To Pray: *Jesus, I worry about so much. Show me that Your light shines on me.*

From Connie Clark, *Pep Talks for Catholic Parents*, Twenty-Third Publications, 2016

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

Lenten Mission at St. Raphael in Iowa

March 10, 11, 12, 2019. Each evening the mission will begin at 6:00 pm with Sister Camille Martinez being the speaker. You do not want to miss this mission.

Special Awards Winners for the Regional Science Fair

U.S. Navy/U.S. Marine Corps

Nicholas Harris and Colton Wood

American Meteorological Society

Jude Guillory

American Psychological Association

Laci Moton

Broadcom Masters

Nicholas Harris

Best Junior High

Nicholas Harris

Also, on the February 14th Viking Vine under Behavioral Science 1st Place was Laci Moton, not Ava Moton. So sorry Laci!!

"A Taste of Louisiana

Dinner & Auction

Saturday, March 23, 2019

6:00 pm

Family Center Gym

Enjoy a Louisiana dinner before the live and Silent Auctions with St. Margaret Friends and Alumni.

Information has been sent home via email. If you have any questions you may call the school office at 337-436-7959.