

October 15, 2024

Dear Parents:

On the Hallow App this morning, I heard a great explanation by **Bishop Robert Barron about the devotion of the Rosary.**

Bishop Barron said that the Catholic Church has many devotions to help us participate in Jesus' victory over sin and death. Yet, the Rosary provides us with a concrete way (holding the beads in your hand) to discipline the mind for meditation. He says: **"When our minds are skittish, superficial, obsessive, and in constant motion, hurrying to the next thought, we never get to the deeper realms of the soul. The repetitious prayer of the Rosary quiets the mind and allows the depths of the soul to rest"**. He goes on, "All spiritual traditions witness to the fact that the soul likes to go slow" and "the spiritual center likes to see, hear, and savor". He also explains that taking the time to meditate on the birth, suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus into heaven, fuels our social and spiritual work. Daily prayer of the Rosary fueled Mother Theresa's radical work for the poor.



On Friday, November 1st, the Church celebrates the Feast of All the Saints. As we all strive for holiness, St. Mary's School has developed a tradition of strategically teaching about the lives of the saints and allowing the students to dress up like his or her favorite saint on the morning of November 1st. Before Mass, the students will process in their outfits at church and directly following Mass, we will take them on a "parade" to and through the ISD building next door, where the employees really enjoy seeing the children dressed like saints.

Attached to this email you will find a flyer for parents to let the office know the name of the saint that your child or children have chosen. The office will then make name tags for them to wear with their costume. Please return this flyer to the office **no later than Thursday, October 24.** And note that the **Thursday Mass on October 31 has been moved to Friday, November 1st.**

I want to thank all the volunteers who helped with the Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo fundraisers last week. Fundraising makes 30% of our school revenue, so without these efforts, our school would not be able to stay financially viable. **Each and everyone of our volunteers, from the bingo callers to the meatball rollers, are honored and appreciated!**

The virtue our students are learning this week is honesty. **Honesty means sincerity, openness, and truthfulness in one's words and actions.**

Have a blessed week, and remember, Grandparents' Day is next Thursday, October 24!

Mrs. Farney

PS: Catholic Outreach Service has put out a call to help the survivors of hurricane Milton. **For the next two weeks we will designate the tithing contributions to this cause.**