

October 4, 2020

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

Dear families and teens,

We are finally getting the opportunity to begin our year of faith formation together. Though this is an unorthodox year for classes, I am excited for all of our parish community to gather in small ways and continue along our faith journeys together.

Our start of this year is falling on the feast of St. Francis, whose love for God was remarkable. God asked St. Francis to build His church, and Francis (who may have taken things a bit too literally at the time) immediately picked up a brick.

My hope for this Sunday is for all of us to begin this faith formation year by responding to God's call with the same faith seen in the life of St. Francis.

God bless,

Haley

Year 1 Students and Parents:

- **Discuss the upcoming semester**
 - Look over the class topics you have scheduled. At first glance, what seems interesting to you? What are you expecting to learn about?
- **Questions and Expectations**
 - Teens: talk with your parents and write down three things you are hoping to learn or understand more from this process of preparing for Confirmation. (Have these questions for next week's Zoom class.)
- **Pray together the prayer of St. Francis (below)**

Year 2 Students and Parents:

- Discuss the upcoming semester

- Look over the class topics you have scheduled. At first glance, what seems interesting to you? What are you expecting to learn about?
- Go over deadlines and put them on your calendar!!
 - Go through Sponsor Information Packet
 - Sponsors must be selected and turned in by November 1, 2020

- Questions and Expectations

- Teens: talk with your parents and write down three things you are hoping to learn or understand more from this process of preparing for Confirmation. (Have these questions for next week's Zoom class.)

- Pray together the prayer of St. Francis

- Discuss the gifts and fruits of the spirit found in the prayer. How do you see the Holy Spirit present in this prayer from St. Francis?
- How does this prayer inspire you to live a Christian life?
 - Gifts of the Spirit (Isaiah 11)
 - Wisdom
 - Knowledge
 - Understanding
 - Counsel
 - Piety
 - Fortitude
 - Fear of the Lord
 - Fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5)
 - Love
 - Joy
 - Peace
 - Patience
 - Kindness
 - Goodness
 - Faithfulness
 - Gentleness
 - Self Control

Prayer of St. Francis

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE:

WHERE THERE IS HATRED, LET ME SOW LOVE;

WHERE THERE IS INJURY, PARDON;

WHERE THERE IS DOUBT, FAITH;

WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, HOPE;

WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS, LIGHT;

WHERE THERE IS SADNESS, JOY.

**O DIVINE MASTER, GRANT THAT I MAY NOT SO
MUCH SEEK TO BE CONSOLED AS TO CONSOLE, TO
BE UNDERSTOOD AS TO UNDERSTAND, TO BE
LOVED AS TO LOVE. FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE
RECEIVE, IT IS IN PARDONING THAT WE ARE
PARDONED, AND IT IS IN DYING THAT WE ARE
BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE.**

Amen