

+Dear QOA Families,

Happy Easter Season, a 50-day celebration to mark the resurrection of our Lord and Savior! What wondrous love Jesus has for each one of us—we really need to reflect on this reality often. Jesus loves us unconditionally, just as we are, not as we think we ought to be! He died on the cross to save us from the power of sin, a fact we need to bring to the forefront of our minds and hearts and pass on to the children.

This week the National Catholic Education Association is holding its annual convention virtually. The keynote speaker was Father Michael Schmitz from the Diocese of Duluth, Minnesota. He began by thanking all teachers for all they have done during the challenging times of the pandemic. I too offer my deepest gratitude to the dedicated and caring educators we are blessed with at Queen of Angels. Father Mike, as he referred to himself, then reminded viewers of the awesome truth, that we are loved completely by God. He stressed that the purpose of the Catholic Church, our parishes, and our Catholic Schools is to make those who attend full-fledged followers of Christ. This is our mission, to make our students and parishioners disciples of Jesus! This is the reason why we are here, why Queen of Angels School exists, to get all of us to heaven, to become saints; this is our end result. I suggest, Parents, that this is your task, too, to get your children, your spouse to heaven. Father Mike added, “If we are not making disciples then we are failing. We may not see the fruits of our labors, but we must lay the groundwork!”

Some simple steps to lay the foundation is by praying as a family, saying grace before and after meals, participating in Mass each weekend, performing some acts of service as a family, and going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation throughout the year. In today’s world, we need our faith now more than ever. Jesus on the cross said, “I thirst.” For what does He thirst – a personal relationship with each and every person. He died to save and offer us a new and resurrected life! This is reason to shout out, “Alleluia, Jesus is Risen!!!”

I hope you have had the occasion to enjoy this beautiful spring weather. New life is all around us with the birds chirping, the daffodils blossoming, and the buds of the trees starting to burst forth. Such wonderful opportunities to give thanks and praise to God! I give thanks to God for our wonderful QOA Family 😊

Love, prayers, and thanks,

*Sister Mary*