



St. John the Baptist Catholic School

# 4B News

Mr. Nguyen's Classroom Newsletter



St. John the Baptist Catholic School

1021 Baker Street  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

November 15, 2009

## Who You Are Speaks Louder than Anything You Can Say

by Lee Ryan Miller

I teach economics at UNLV three times per week. Last Monday, at the beginning of class, I cheerfully asked my students how their weekend had been. One young man said that his weekend had not been so good. He had his wisdom teeth removed. The young man then proceeded to ask me why I always seemed to be so cheerful.

His question reminded me of something I'd read somewhere before: "Every morning when you get up, you have a choice about how you want to approach life that day," I said. "I choose to be cheerful."

"Let me give you an example," I continued, addressing all sixty students in the class. "In addition to teaching here at UNLV, I also teach out at the community college in Henderson, 17 miles down the freeway from where I live. One day a few weeks ago I drove those 17 miles to Henderson. I exited the freeway and turned onto College Drive. I only had to drive another quarter mile down the road to the college. But just then my car died. I tried to start it again, but the engine wouldn't turn over. So I put my flashers on, grabbed my books, and marched down the road to the college.

"As soon as I got there I called AAA and arranged for a tow truck to meet me at my car after class. The secretary in the Provost's office asked me what has happened. 'This is my lucky day,' I replied, smiling.

"Your car breaks down and today is your lucky day?' She was puzzled. 'What do you mean?'

"I live 17 miles from here.' I replied. 'My car could have broken down anywhere along the freeway. It didn't. Instead, it broke down in the perfect place: off the freeway, within walking distance of here. I'm still able to teach my class, and I've been able to arrange for the tow truck to meet me after class. If my car was meant to break down today, it couldn't have been arranged in a more convenient fashion.'

## SAINTS FUN FACTS

by mario d. macari

WHILE VISITING ROME WITH SOME FELLOW FARMERS, SAINT FABIAN DECIDED TO VISIT A PAPAL ELECTION MEETING. WHILE STANDING IN THE BACKGROUND, OBSERVING THE DEBATES, A DOVE DESCENDED FROM THE CEILING AND LANDED ON FABIAN'S HEAD! BEING REMINDED OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD, THE COUNCIL ELECTED FABIAN POPE AND HE SERVED FOR 16 PERSECUTION-FREE YEARS!!



The secretary's eyes opened wide, and then she smiled. I smiled back and headed for class." So ended my story.

I scanned the sixty faces in my economics class at UNLV. Despite the early hour, no one seemed to be asleep. Somehow, my story had touched them. Or maybe it wasn't the story at all. In fact, it had all started with a student's observation that I was cheerful.

Deepak Chopra has quoted an Indian wise man as saying, "WHO you are speaks louder to me than anything you can say." I suppose it must be so.

## Parent/Teacher Conference

Dear Parents,

Parent conferences are this week. Students will be dismissed at noon everyday this week starting Tuesday. The conference is 10 minutes in length and will consist of your child reporting how they've done this past quarter academically and behaviorally. I've asked the students to prepare their own conference last week. They all know their grades already. This, of course, means that you child will need to be there at the conference. I will fill in any gap your child might leave out and discuss the IOWA test results with you. Below is the conference schedule. Thank you and God bless.

*Mr. Nguyen*

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
7:00	Jonathan	Tiffeny	Kayla	Katherine
7:20		Marissa G	Maile	Alex
12:15	School	Lance	Zachary	
12:35	is	Michael	Aubrey	Emily
12:55	still	Josh	Danny	Charlie
1:15	in	Kelsey	Bill	
1:35	session	John	Victoria	Trinity
1:55	at	Tommy	Marissa B	Jeremy
2:15	this	Julia	Mart	Kyler
2:35	time	Andrew	Hope	Lia
2:55				
3:15		Nathan		

## Weekly Giggle

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?"

Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white."

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Momma, is that why ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"



# Congratulations!

... to the following students who earned an A+ on the following tests.

<i>Religion Ch. 3</i>			
Michael Daniel Julia	Jeremy Zachary Trinity	Kyler Andrew	Kelsey Emily
<i>Math Ch. 3, Section A</i>			
Kayla	Maile		
<i>Science Unit A, Ch. 3</i>			
Jeremy			
<i>Spelling 12-3</i>			
Katherine Lia	Zachary Kayla	Tiffeny Trinity	Julia
<i>Spelling 12-5</i>			
Julia	Trinity		
<i>Vocabulary</i>			
Josh Alex Emily	Kelsey Daniel Julia	Katherine Charlie Tommy	Marissa G Hope Bill

## Upcoming Tests

Religion	Ch. 4	Mon. 11/23
Reading	Little House Ch. 9	Wednesday
Spelling + Vocab		Friday
Math	Ch. 3, Section B	Tue. 11/24
Language	Pronouns	TBA
Science	Unit A, Ch. 4	TBA
Social Studies		Check Planner
Spanish, Music, Computer		Check Planner

## Upcoming Events

- ! **Mon., Nov. 16:** Spirit Attire Monday
- ! **Tue., Nov. 17 - Fri., Nov. 20:** Parent/Teacher Conferences and Book Fair in Library
- ! **Mon. 11/23:** Jeans & School Sweatshirt day
- ! **Tue., Nov. 24:** All School Mass 10:00 AM
- ! **Wed. 11/25 - Fri. 11/27:** Thanksgiving holiday