



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

February 21, 2010

Day by Day Through Lent: Fasting From Our Clutter

by Susan K. Rowland

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT: CLEARING THE CLUTTER OUT OF MY WORK LIFE

Mt 17:1-9; Mk 9:2-10; Lk 9:28-36 Peter's reaction to seeing Jesus transfigured was to do something, build something. But God tells him and us, "This is my son. Listen to him." In a culture where what we do is valued above who we are, listening to God is sadly neglected. This week, I will pray about the "clutter" of excess doing; about busy-ness, stress, and workaholicism. Do I trust God with my work? Do I see myself as loved and valuable for who I am, not what I do?

MONDAY: BLESSINGS—OVERFLOWING, POURED INTO MY LAP

Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38 Jesus promises blessings beyond belief when I give. To whom do I give my time and energy? Is it to career, work and chores? Is there anything left for God or people? Should I reorder my priorities?

TUESDAY: HEAVY BURDENS, HARD TO BEAR

Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12 Is there anyone in my life who has laid a heavy burden on my shoulders? Jesus promised that his yoke is easy and his burden light (Matthew 11:30). Are my burdens God's will or the result of human selfishness?

WEDNESDAY: WANTING THE PLACE OF HONOR

Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28 Jesus told James and John that the greatest in the Kingdom is the humble servant. How much of my busy-ness is designed to gain a "place of honor"? Do I need to revise my thinking in this area?

THURSDAY: LIKE TREES PLANTED BY WATER

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31 What a wonderful image—a tree planted by a running stream, always nourished, never in fear of drought. It is possible to live such a life by reading God's word and praying often throughout the day. I, too, can be refreshed and fearless, no matter what happens.

SAIN'TS FUN FACTS

by mario d. macari

WHEN SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST WAS EN ROUTE TO PREACH IN ASIA, HIS SHIP WAS WRECKED IN A STORM. ALL BUT JOHN WERE CAST ASHORE AND JOHN WAS ASSUMED DEAD. TWO WEEKS LATER, HOWEVER, THE WAVES CAST HIM ASHORE ALIVE AT THE FEET OF HIS DISCIPLE PROCHOROS.



FRIDAY: PRODUCING THE FRUITS OF THE KINGDOM

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46 The Kingdom will be given to those who produce the "fruits of the Kingdom." What kind of "fruit" is my life producing? The lasting fruit of the Kingdom, or things that will not last beyond earthly life?

SATURDAY: GOD'S ARMS ARE OPEN WIDE

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 This parable could be called the parable of the faithful father. If I have realized this week that work and busy-ness are replacing my relationship with God, it's time to come home to my Father.

Fasting

Lent should be more than a time of fasting. It should be a joyous season of feasting. Lent is a time to fast from certain things and to feast on others. It is a season in which we should:

- Fast from judging others;
 feast on the Christ indwelling them.
- Fast from emphasis on differences;
 feast on the unity of all life.
- Fast from apparent darkness;
 feast on the reality of light.
- Fast from thoughts of illness;
 feast on the healing power of God.
- Fast from words that pollute;
 feast on phrases that purify.
- Fast from discontent;
 feast on gratitude.
- Fast from anger;
 feast on patience.
- Fast from pessimism;
 feast on optimism.
- Fast from worry;
 feast on Divine order.
- Fast from complaining;
 feast on appreciation.
- Fast from negatives;
 feast on affirmatives.
- Fast from unrelenting pressures;
 feast on unceasing prayer.
- Fast from hostility;
 feast on non-resistance.
- Fast from bitterness;
 feast on forgiveness.
- Fast from personal anxiety;
 feast on eternal truth.
- Fast from discouragement;
 feast on hope.
- Fast from facts that depress;
 feast on verities that uplift.
- Fast from lethargy;
 feast on enthusiasm.
- Fast from suspicion;
 feast on truth.
- Fast from thoughts that weaken;
 feast on promises that inspire.
- Fast from shadows of sorrow;
 feast on the sunlight of serenity.
- Fast from idle gossip;
 feast on purposeful silence.
- Fast from problems that overwhelm;
 feast on prayer that undergirds.

- Author Unkown

Congratulations!



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

<i>Liturgical Color pop quiz</i>			
Andrew	Kelsey		
<i>Math Ch. 5, Section C</i>			
Michael	Kayla	Trinity	
<i>Spelling 21</i>			
Kelsey Kayla	Marissa G	Tiffeny	Julia
<i>Vocabulary - Patty Reed 1</i>			
Kelsey Danny Kayla	Katherine Charlie	Hope Zachary	Marissa G Tiffeny

<i>Upcoming Tests</i>		
<i>Religion</i>	<i>Triduum</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>Reading</i>	<i>Patty Reed's Doll</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>Spelling+Vocab</i>		<i>Friday 2/26</i>
<i>Math</i>	<i>Ch. 6, Section A</i>	<i>Thu. 2/25</i>
<i>Language</i>		<i>TBA</i>
<i>Science</i>	<i>Unit B, Ch. 2</i>	<i>Tue. 3/2</i>

<i>Upcoming Events</i>	
Mon. 3/1:	Spirit Attire Monday
Fri. 3/5:	Noon dismissal
Tue. 3/9 to Thu. 3/11:	Catholic Book fair
Mon. 3/15:	Spirit Attire Monday + Confession
Mon. 3/22:	Lunch orders for April due

It is the third Friday of Lent, and the faithful parishioner stumbles through pouring rain past hamburger huts and steak houses into the monastery at Mount Angel and requests shelter. He's just in time for dinner and was treated to the best fish and chips he's ever had.

After dinner, he goes into the kitchen to thank the chefs. He's met by two brothers, "Hello, I'm Brother Michael, and this is Brother Francis."

"I'm very pleased to meet you. I just wanted to thank you for a wonderful dinner. The fish and chips were the best I've ever tasted. Out of curiosity, who cooked what?"

Brother Michael replies, "Well, I'm the fish friar."

The man turns to the other brother and says, "Then you must be . . ."

"Yes, I'm afraid I'm the chip monk."