



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

October 24, 2010

Heads-up on Halloween Symbols

Around Halloween it's important to get your head straight about these things. Halloween (the "e'en" or evening before "All Hallow's," or all the "Holy Ones," the saints) is the vigil of two feast days. All Saints Day is Nov. 1, and All Souls Day is Nov. 2.

On All Saints we celebrate the lives of the saints, especially those in heaven. On All Souls Day we remember those who have died, especially in our immediate family.

Stories of ghosts first became associated with Halloween in Ireland. It was said that if someone had died the previous year and you were still holding a grudge against that person, he or she would appear to you on the evening before All Saints. You'd be so startled you'd run to do whatever would make your forgiveness complete. Not a bad reminder any time of the year!



Skeletons and skulls are naturally symbols at Halloween because of All Souls Day, "the Day of the Dead," as some countries call it. It doesn't hurt us to think about death once a year. We're all going to die someday. Skeletons and skulls remind us of this. Figures of devils and witches can also remind us of the ever-present temptation to be like God.



Halloween is not "of the devil," as some fundamentalists say. Many denominations don't teach about the communion of saints, so naturally they don't celebrate All Saints Day or All Souls Day. All they have left of Halloween is pre-Christian superstition about the dead.

All the same, if I had to pick decorations for a Halloween party, I'd go with skeletons and skulls rather than devils, just to separate the symbols. Since the holiday sometimes brings out warped people who commit copycat crimes, I'd stick with friends and places I know. It's always good to choose carefully how you have your fun.

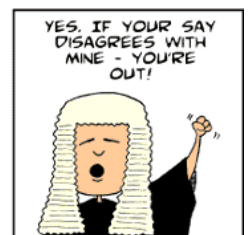
SAINTS FUN FACTS by mario d. macari

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!!



Upcoming Tests

Religion	Ch. 3	Mon. 11/1
Reading	Little House Ch. 6	Wed. 10/27
Spelling + Vocab		Friday 10/29
Math	Ch. 3A	Friday 10/29
Science	Unit A, Ch. 3	Thu. 10/28
Language	Pronouns part 1	TBA
Soc. Studies, Spanish, Music, Comp.		Check Planner



Red Ribbon Week

Monday October 25, 2010

Be a "Jeanius" – Too Smart To Take Drugs
Students may wear jeans. All other uniform regulations apply.

Tuesday October 26, 2010

Give Drugs The Boot
Students may wear crazy socks and shoes. All other uniform regulations apply.

Wednesday October 27, 2010

You Can Spot Me – Drug Free!
Students may wear polka dot socks OR a polka dot shirt or sweatshirt. All other uniform regulations apply.

Thursday October 28, 2010

Wear Red for Red Ribbon Week Day
Students may wear red socks OR a red shirt or sweatshirt. The red item must be predominantly red. If there is any writing on the shirt or sweatshirt, it must be appropriate, e.g. Quicksilver, Nike, etc.

All week Door Decorating Contest

Doors will be judged on Friday, October 29.

Weekly Giggle

Two brothers are terrible trouble makers. They are always breaking things, stealing things, lying, and making all kinds of general trouble. The parents have tried everything to get the boys to change, to no avail. Finally, out of options, they ask their pastor if he can help. He says he will talk to the boys, but only one at a time. The parents drop off the youngest and go home, promising to return to get him soon. The boy sits in a chair across from the pastor's desk and they just look at each other.

Finally, the Pastor says, "Where is God?"

The boy just sits there and doesn't answer.

The pastor begins to look stern and loudly says, "Where is God?"

The little boy shifts in his seat, but still doesn't answer.

The pastor is starting to get angry at the boy's refusal to converse and practically shouts "Where is God?"

To the pastor's surprise, the little boy jumps up out of his chair and runs out of the office.

The boy leaves the church and runs all the way home, up the stairs and into his brother's room. He shuts the door and pants, "We're in BIG TROUBLE. God's missing and they think we did it!"



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

<i>Rosary Test</i>			
Riley	Ethan	Gabriel	Francine
Peter	Izabelle	Bryan	Matthew
Cade	Megan	Emily	Madeleine
Alyssa			
<i>Nouns part 2</i>			
Alyssa			
<i>Math 2C</i>			
Matthew	Francine	Joseph	Izabelle
Madeleine			
<i>Spelling</i>			
Bryan	John	Riley	Cade
Alyssa	Megan	Roisin	Zachary
Spencer	Jalen	Emily	Augustin
Ethan	Matthew	George	Francine
Liandra	Izabelle	Bridgette	Michael
Noah	Alex	Madeleine	
<i>Vocabulary</i>			
Nicholas	Hannah	Emily	Riley
Alyssa	Megan	Roisin	Matthew
Charlene	Michael	Gabriel	Noah
Alex	Madeleine	Izabelle	
<i>Little House Ch. 3-5</i>			
Madeleine	Izabelle	Riley	Megan
Francine			

Upcoming Events

- 10/24-10/28:** Red Ribbon Days
- Fri. 10/29:** Saint Attire procession
Grandparents' Day
- Mon. 11/1:** All Saints Mass 10AM
- Tue. 11/2:** Spirit Attire Day
- Fri. 11/5:** No school. Faculty inservice
- Sun. 11/7:** Daylight Savings Time ends
- Wed. 11/10:** Picture Make-up Day