

Partners in FAITH™

Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

March 2018

Nativity of Mary Catholic School
952-881-8160

Thoughtful Moments

St. Margaret Clitherow

St. Margaret Clitherow converted to Catholicism soon after she married, at a time when Catholicism was illegal in England. Yet, St. Margaret continued to practice her faith.



Her husband was not Catholic, but allowed her to hide Catholic priests in their home so they could say Mass secretly. Margaret was arrested when royal officials found a cupboard filled with vessels used for Mass. Her peaceful, joyful attitude during her imprisonment, trial, and execution inspired those around her.

Don't rush fixes

It is said that good teachers show students where to look but don't tell them what to see. Good parents, too, give youngsters a chance to find solutions to their own problems. Coaching without fixing for them teaches children confidence, self-reliance and resilience.

"For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?" (Luke 14:28).



How to be the perfect parent

Imperfection is a sad consequence of our human condition. It is deeply unrealistic to expect to be a perfect parent, but we can strive to be the best parent for the children we have.

Consider these ideas:

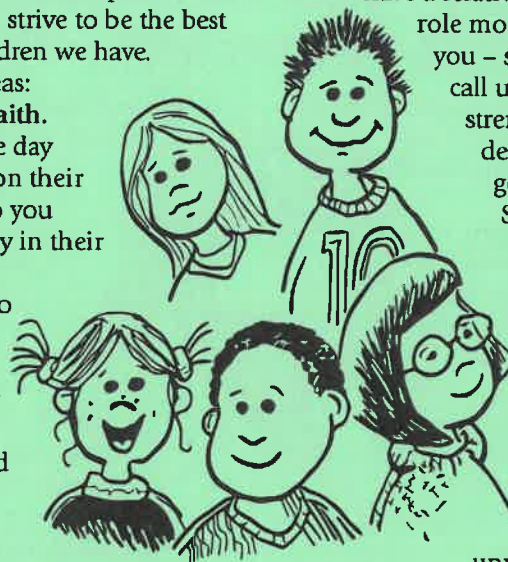
Fill them with faith. Think ahead to the day your children are on their own. What role do you hope faith will play in their lives? Decide how prepared you are to achieve this and identify the resources you may need to shore up your own faith and skills.

Choose good company. If you don't live what you believe, you will come to believe what you live. Therefore, surround yourself with solid companions who share your values. These are the people who will help

influence your family.

Stand on strong shoulders. Do you have a relative, friend, or other role model who inspires you – someone you can call up as a model of strength, determination, generosity, devotion? Such people can act as concrete examples of faith lived for both us and our children. **Look for progress, not perfection.** Parenting is a long-haul job and it is

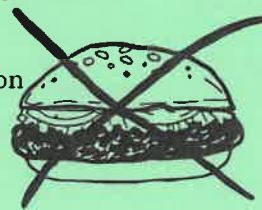
unrealistic to think we will never blunder or our children err. When we or our children lose our way, it is best to admit mistakes, ask for forgiveness, get back on the right track and keep moving.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics give up meat on Fridays in Lent?

The practice of giving up meat on Fridays in Lent is a reverential offering honoring Jesus' sacrifice on Good Friday. We abstain from eating meat as a reminder that Jesus gave up his flesh for us.

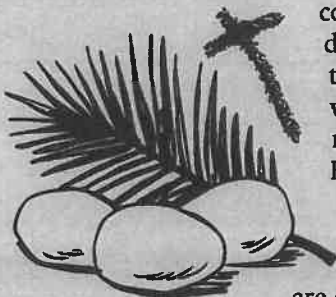


Fasting from certain foods during Lent can be a form of prayer. It helps us to focus on Christ. Fasting is also an outward sign of our faith. The Church asks that we observe all Fridays as penitential days of abstinence, even outside of Lent.

Symbols of the season

Christian cultures all over the world share symbols of the Lenten season:

Ashes. In the early Church, sinners were marked with ashes and isolated from the community on Ash Wednesday. During Lent, they lived apart for serious wrongs such as adultery, theft, murder, heresy. On Holy Thursday, they were absolved and welcomed back. Today, a cross is traced on our foreheads from ashes of last year's palms signaling the start of Lent.



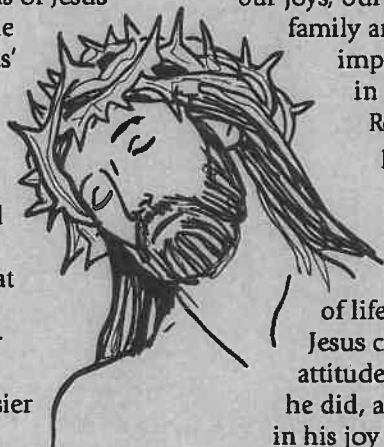
Eggs. Eggs used to be among the foods that couldn't be eaten during Lent. A staple in many diets, the lack increased their importance. Over time, the egg became a symbol of the tomb. Jesus was laid in a tomb and rose on Easter to bring us new life. New life also comes from an egg. At Easter, we dye eggs and gift them in baskets.

Palms. In pre-Christian days, palms were thought to ward off evil. Palms were laid at Jesus' feet as he rode into Jerusalem. Blessed palms are distributed on Palm Sunday in remembrance.

Scripture LESSON

Mark 14:1-15:47, Join our pain with Jesus'

This Gospel reading tells of Jesus' suffering and death on the Cross. Remembering Jesus' suffering is not just something we do just once a year. The more often we remember, the more it will help us recall that Jesus was human, too, and experienced what we feel – and so much more. If we offer him our suffering and remember his, it makes our pain easier to bear.



our joys, our good health, our family and friends are all important ways to share in the joy of his Resurrection. The point is to offer everything to Christ.

What can a parent do?

Suffering is part of life. Yet, disciples of Jesus can have the same attitude toward suffering as he did, and we can also share in his joy of the Resurrection.

When children are hurt, sad, or scared, help them remember to turn to Jesus because he wants to comfort them with his great love.

Every day our frustrations, our fears, our loneliness and temptations can become ways in which we share in the suffering and death of Christ. Likewise,

Parent TALK

Last year, I felt our family observance of Lent had gotten stale. We have given up everything from chocolate to TV to videogames. We needed a new approach to the season.



What if we "competed" to do good deeds? I

bought a giant roll of tickets and set up an empty jar for each of us. Every time someone performed a good deed, a ticket would go in his or her jar – two if the deed was secret.

To keep up enthusiasm and interest, we totaled the tickets halfway through Lent. The person who earned the most tickets decided where we went for brunch on Laetare Sunday. We made a final count on Easter and celebrated with brunch after Mass.

It was a great success! This was the most observant Lent we ever had. More importantly, the kids learned to look for opportunities to practice kindness, compassion, generosity, and love.

Feasts & Celebrations

March 2 – St. Agnes of Bohemia (1282). Born in Prague to King Ottocar I of Bohemia, St. Agnes renounced court life to become a Poor Clare sister instead. She was known for serving the poor and working miracles.

March 10 – St. John Ogilvie (1615). Born in Scotland and raised a Calvinist, St. John Ogilvie converted to Catholicism and later became a Jesuit priest. Despite intense persecution in Scotland, St. John ministered to Scottish Catholics in secret. Eventually, he was arrested and executed for treason.

March 17 – St. Patrick of Ireland (c.461). Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland and is credited for having established the Church there.

March 25 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (1st Century). Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion recalls Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem when he was greeted by crowds waving palms and cheering, and it marks the beginning of Holy Week.



Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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MIDDLE SCHOOL

Return to Homeroom
teacher by 3/8/18

Field Trip

Parental/Guardian Consent Form & Indemnity Agreement

The student must have this form to participate. Phone calls will not be acceptable.
FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO THE CLASSROOM TEACHER BY _____

Participant's Name: _____
Birth Date: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____
Home Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Parent/Guardian Phone Numbers:
Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____
Date/Type of Event: 3/22/18
Destination: Bloomington Art Center
Individual(s) in Charge: Angie Filipin
Estimated time of departure: 1:10pm Return: 3:50pm
Mode of Transportation to & from event: BUS
Student cost (if applicable): 0

I, _____, grant permission for _____
(Parent/Guardian name) (Child's name)

To participate in the above named activity and I warrant that my child is in good health. In consideration of my child's participation, I agree to indemnify the parish/school and the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis from any claims or law suits brought against the parish/school/Archdiocese of St Paul/Minneapolis by myself, my child or others, that arises out of any behavior by my child at the event/activity described above. I also agree to pay reasonable attorney's fees or expenses incurred by the parish/school and Archdiocese in defense of such a claim/law suit.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT: In the event of an emergency, I give permission to transport my child to a hospital for emergency medical treatment. I wish to be advised prior to any further treatment by a doctor or hospital. In the event of an emergency, if you are unable to reach me at the above numbers, contact:

PRINT Name of alternate contact person Phone Number of alternate person

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

~~_____ I would like to chaperone this event. _____ I am unable to chaperone this event.
As parent/guardian, I agree to all of the above stated considerations and conditions.
All chaperones must have a background check, Virtus training and signed Volunteer Code of Conduct on file.~~

NA

OPTIONAL MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Medication my child is taking at present: _____
Family Health Plan Carrier Number: _____
Family Doctor: _____ Phone: _____

Grade 1

February 2018

Greetings Firstie Parents!

We hope you have your calendars marked for this years Spirit of Spring on April 21! This annual event is a fun night of entertainment, food, drinks and socializing with Nativity of Mary parents, staff and friends in an effort to support our amazing school. You don't want to miss it!

As part of the 2018 Spirit of Spring Auction each grade will be putting together a classroom creation or gift basket that will be used as one of the silent auction items. The first grade theme this year is "On the Go". We are asking each family to donate \$10 to be used to purchase items and gift cards for this years basket. The basket will be filled with items such as gift cards for gas and car washes, lottery tickets, snacks, coffee and more!. The first grade Spirit of Spring team, Colleen Thornburg (Natalie's mom) and Elizabeth Aune (Lauren's mom), will be collecting donations and assembling the basket.

Donations are due before Spring Break - March 23 and can be turned in to your classroom teacher or the school office in an envelope marked, "Spirit of Spring - First Grade". If you have any questions, please contact Colleen at colleenEthornburg@gmail.com or Elizabeth at emaune@hotmail.com.

Thank you for your generous contribution and support of Nativity of Mary School!



Spirit of Spring 2018

HOLLYWOOD

Night at Nativity of Mary School

Saturday, April 21 ~ 6 p.m.

save the Date!



Cookie Dough and Butter Braid Fundraiser! Help the Nativity 8th Graders get to Chicago!

Dear Nativity of Mary School Parents,

The dates are set and the 8th grade class of Nativity of Mary is looking forward to the Chicago Trip this spring. Now we need your help to raise the funds to get them all to the Windy City.

If you would like to purchase cookie dough or butter braids to support the 8th graders, please complete the order form attached and return it with payment to the school office no later than Monday, March 12, 2018.

Checks should be made payable to Nativity School.

Your order will be **ready for pick up** on Monday, March 19, 2018 between 3:00-6:00 pm in the school office. This product is frozen and cannot be stored at Nativity. Please be sure to make arrangements for pick up.

Thank you in advance for your support. If you have questions, please contact the school office (952-881-8160).

Remember that Butter Braids are not sold outside of fundraising, so stock up now!



