



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

November 24, 2011

While I was an undergraduate at UCLA (at least it was a PAC 12 school), I had the privilege of being in Professor Eugene Weber's History of Early Modern Europe class. Maybe you are familiar with him as he did a wonderful program about Western Civilization for PBS some years ago. I know that it is currently not the educational fashion to flaunt the merits of lecture style teaching but he was pure lecture; pre-power point or Youtube video feeds. The lecture hall probably held close to 500 students. He held my attention as he spun his lessons wrapped in fantastic descriptions. Well, I began to think that this was someone I wanted to meet and so I began to plan that I would visit him during his office hours. I thought in my undergraduate way that I had to ask some profound question. About mid-way through the quarter I worked up the nerve with a question I thought worthy of the task and paid visit. I can't remember what it is that I asked him but I remember his response crystal clear, he simply turned the question back to me and asked what I thought! What I thought? I stumbled through an answer, he asked a question or two as we discussed the matter and that was it. I left perplexed, thinking I had missed the opportunity to garner wisdom from this great mind.

It took time, but I realized later, that what the professor was trying to teach me was that I had a deeper understanding than I realized and that it was simply a matter of trusting in my own thought process together with a little effort to reach an answer. From my perspective, good teachers practice this form of coaching as they teach. At this level (K-8th) there is much that is brand new to the students but as they develop their knowledge base, the teachers must facilitate in the students, higher level thinking so that they learn to trust in their own powers of induction and deduction. It will allow them to trust in their

ability to compare and contrast ideas or to evaluate and or synthesize concepts to give them the power to think out problems or issues. In our teachers here, especially in our experienced teachers, we have educators that understand and practice this and this is something we can truly be grateful for.

I hope that you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving and some restful days to celebrate your children, family and friends.

Sincerely,

Michael Cantu,
Principal
Holy Rosary School

WILL IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL IT MAKE?

This weekend brings the new translation of the Roman Missal: in other words, the changes in prayers and responses at Mass. Your new response to the priest's "The Lord be with you" will be the very first change as you respond "And with your Spirit" at the opening of the Mass. This occurs five times during the course of the Mass so while we may stumble over other prayers and responses for some time that are said less frequently we should get this one down pat early on. On the other hand, I bet many people will still absent mindedly make the old response just like you hear me absent mindedly say the name of the previous Pope or Archbishop for some time after they have changed! Even for a couple of years I can slip up if I slip into "cruise control"! We are creatures of habit and we don't easily embrace change especially in these areas of our lives. There are areas where we do like change and we can all easily identify this for ourselves ---- we especially like it if others would change in the ways we would like them to change! But when it comes to making changes in our own lives that is not as appealing. We are more likely to say in these situations "Why don't

they leave things as they are”?

Just like you, I would be much happier right now if The Vatican had left things as they are.

Patrick Barredo gave reasons for the changes in his talk last Sunday that was very helpful to all who spoke to him and sent emails after the weekend Masses. One thing I will add for myself is the fact of having to pause and think about new prayers and how they are either connecting me or reconnecting me to God. It is easy to get used to saying the same prayers over and over without thinking too much about what we are saying and finding new and deeper meaning. How many of us would admit this regarding the Our Father and the Confiteor and the Act of Contrition in Confession: we are saying very significant prayers about forgiving and being forgiven --- we are saying we will forgive others just as God forgives us and we are saying to God only forgive us our sins as we forgive those who offend us! Do we really mean that? Are we growing in our conviction of forgiving as we are being forgiven by God? New prayers and old prayers with new words will cause us to have to slow down and think about what we are saying. New melodies to the parts of the Mass we are singing will likely have the same effect ---- unless you don't like to sing at Mass! People do remind me that they or family members do not like to sing at Mass. The new rituals call for more singing or chanting on the part of the priest but Fr Mike and I would admit to being seriously challenged in that regard and are likely to do less rather than the more that is asked for! Some priests who are confident in their ability to sing the Mass have already started doing so. I am not ready to venture in to doing this too quickly and I am sure many of you will be happy about that!

All in all, these are the surface changes but as Patrick said last Sunday, something deeper and more basic has not ever changed. Our faith in God and what that faith offers to our lives has never changed and will never change.

God has wonderfully created us and has offered us the eternal life with Him. He wants us to live a life of faith, hope and love on the journey to eternity. His plan is for us to live fulfilling lives of care, compassion and forgiveness. Regardless of word changes that's what matters the most and the Pope who authorizes the changes to make them more true to the scriptural references and translations would hope that they lead us ultimately to a deeper relationship with

God and His family on earth on whom we are practicing faith, hope, love, care, compassion and forgiveness.

This is the difference I continue to strive for in my life regardless of the words.

I pray that it is your goal also.

Let a new beginning make for new and deeper relationships with God and each other.

Fr John.

Coat Drive

Claire and Kirsten from the 8th grade are having a coat drive at Holy Rosary from November 22nd-December 15th. This time of year gets really cold and West Seattle's Clothesline is in desperate need for clean, gently used jackets of all sizes. If you have any jackets you would like to donate, please bring them to the big box right outside the teachers' lounge. Thanks and have a warm holiday!

From,

Claire and Kirsten 8B

Matching Gift Programs

There are many corporations that offer gift Matching Grant Programs. Gift matching grant programs often aim to recognize and motivate employees, to engage in outreach and volunteerism to make our communities a better place to live, work, and play. They will often support employees' giving their time and talent to qualified non-profits and non-governmental organizations, in addition to schools. Some of these programs will also recognize employees who give of their time and give them the opportunity to earn money for organizations that are meaningful to them.

Thank you to all of our school families that request matching funds from their place of work. Here are some of the local businesses that offer grant

matching programs:

Boeing

Microsoft

Nintendo

Chase

Starbucks

Alaska Airline

Russel Investments

Symetra

There are others – so ask your company if they offer a matching program. Most companies will match donation to the Holy Rosary School Annual Fund and to the HEART Auction for Fund-an-item and Dessert (Scholarship) Auction.

Parents' Club Corner

*** No Parents' Club meeting on Thursday, December 1st ***

Events:

Christmas Tree Lot opens on Saturday, November 26th. Please join us at 3:00pm for the Blessing of the Trees. We hope to get a big crowd for the West Seattle Blog.

There are still shifts available to help at the Tree Lot. Please go to the volunteer link and sign up.

Pancake Breakfast

On Sunday December 4th there will be a Pancake Breakfast in the School Hall from 9am until 11:30. Please join us after mass for a Pankcake Breakfast and then stroll outside and buy your Christmas Tree from the Holy Rosary Tree Lot.

If you would like to help at the Pancake Breakfast, you can sign-up on-line at the Christmas Tree Lot volunteer page for a coffee & donuts shift on December 4th or contact Jerry & Sara Velling at jerry@vellings.com or sara@vellings.com

Community Meal

Holy Rosary Church is sponsoring the December 18th Community Meal. The meal is served from 1-3PM at Our Lady of Guadalupe's Parish Hall.

We will need volunteers to help set up and decorate, serve the meal and clean up afterwards. In addition, we need desserts to serve the 125 to 150 people who attend. Desserts can be dropped off at OLG's parish hall the day of the event after 9:30AM. If you are interested in volunteering please send an email to Renee Harn. (rharnfamily@comcast.net)

Calling for all Metropolitan Market Receipts ASAP

Metropolitan Market is going to discontinue with their 1% Receipt Program by the end of this December. Please turn in all your receipts to the school as soon as possible for us to submit. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Irene Merz at irenemerz@comcast.net. Thank you!

Outside Emergency Container

We could use 4 used card tables, 8 folding chairs and 2 battery-powered radios for the outside emergency container.

Thank you, Maggie Judd.

Mustard Seed Corner

Nov 17, 2011/Nov 24, 2011

1st Sunday of Advent– Nov 27, 2011

The first Sunday of Advent begins a new Church year, and a “new” Gospel is opened for our reflection during the coming year. The Catholic liturgy provides a three-year cycle of readings for the major feasts and seasons of the year. The Sunday Gospels are

generally taken from Matthew during year A, from Mark during year B, and from Luke during year C. Portions of the Gospel of John are read each year (especially during year B, because Mark's Gospel is so short).

A little more about Mark: The tradition of the Church teaches that Mark grew up in Jerusalem and became a missionary when he was still a very young man. He and Peter traveled to Rome where they preached the word of God. The Gospel of Mark was the first to be written, and it records many of Peter's stories about the life and wisdom of Jesus.

Roman Missal: Two key issues to remember about the new translation

1. The language is more sacral and as a result the translations communicate more precisely why we pray, why we have hope, and how we present ourselves before God.
2. The new translation helps us to see more clearly the connection between Scripture and the Mass prayers.

Community Postings

LEE'S MARTIAL ARTS (West Seattle)

TURKEY DAY WORKOUT!!! Thursday November 24th from 8:30 am-10:00 am. Cost is FREE with canned food items or a \$20 donation. The proceeds go to the West Seattle food bank.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT!!! Saturday December 3rd ***AND *** Friday December 16th (6-10PM)
Get some last minute Christmas shopping done while the kids have their own fun! Cost is \$30/child \$40/ 2 kids Includes dinner, games, popcorn and movies! Please RSVP. It is required.

KIDS SELF DEFENSE CLASS Sunday December 11th, from 2:00-4:00 PM. (Please arrive 15 min early so we can start promptly) Cost is \$30 The Kids Self Defense Workshop is designed to inform and empower kids 6 - 11 years of age on the basics of self defense. This class will include a highly rated film, role-playing, and physical self-defense tools.
RSVP and advanced payment is required.








www.LMAWestSeattle.com
LMAWestSeattle@aol.com

Young at Art in West Seattle. A new studio in West Seattle offering a variety of art classes,

open studio times, workshops for adults and children, meeting spaces, and birthday parties just opened up!! Please see attached flyer and Calendar.

Theresa Anderson

youngatartws.com

-  **Dec 8** **Immaculate Conception Mass**
-  **Dec 9** **Report Cards**
-  **Dec 12** **Gr 3 – 6 Advent Reconciliation**
-  **Dec 14** **Gr 7 & 8 Advent Reconciliation**
-  **Dec 16** **Noon Dismissal**
-  **Dec 19- Jan 1** **Christmas Vacation**
-  **Jan 5** **Epiphany Program**