

St. Mary Catholic School
Weekly Packet
November 22nd

PRINCIPAL NOTES

“The rich man who gives to the poor does not bestow alms but pays a debt.” --St. Ambrose of Milan

I have many things to be thankful for this Thanksgiving Holiday, not the least is being part of this St. Mary Catholic School community. I am often reminded how fortunate we all should consider ourselves when we sacrifice to send our children to a Catholic school.

I was able to witness the fruits of that sacrifice today, as I observed our students enter the church for Mass, walk up to the sanctuary, and place their gifts of food before the altar. I watched as a first grader pulled vegetable cans from every pocket in his coat, another student carefully stacked their cans and reverently genuflected, and yet another who offered the only thing he had – a bag of chips from his lunch. Your children, by their simple acts of generosity, showed that they understand the deep meaning of what it is to be charitable, what it is to be a follower of Jesus.

After Mass, members of the St. Vincent de Paul society collected all the food items that were brought up to the altar. I remember the gracious looks on their faces and the thanks that they conveyed as they sorted the food. Their ministry reminds us that we are all part of the body of Christ. Since we are all connected, when some members of our community suffer, the rest of the community is affected. There are so many families who are struggling at this time, but you have made their crosses lighter, and strengthened the body of Christ through you and your children's gifts.

Our Catholic faith teaches us how to follow Christ, and our parish school helps to pass that faith on to your children. And that is truly something to be thankful for.

P.S. We will have Mass on Thursday, December 1st at 9:30. Grades 3-8 will be participating in the sacrament of confession after Mass. Mrs. Casolari's 4th grade class will be reading and singing. If you have the opportunity, please join us. All are welcome!

May God bless you and your family this Thanksgiving! --Mr. Koester