

Little Flower Catholic Elementary School -- Newsletter for Friday, January 16, 2015

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Last Sunday we observed the **Baptism of the Lord**, so this **prayer** on the calendar seems very fitting: In our baptism, God has given us grace and power to live as God's own sons and daughters, to respond to the call of Christ, our brother. What mission is Christ calling you to fulfill, the one that only you can do?

Tomorrow, Saturday, January 17 is the feast day of **Saint Anthony**. St. Anthony of Padua, known also as the patron saint of faith in the Blessed Sacrament was born in Portugal in 1195. Anthony joined the Franciscans and settled in Italy, and he quickly earned fame as a gifted preacher. His sermons were so moving that people would wait overnight in churches to secure a place, and he later took to speaking in marketplaces where more could hear him. Anthony possessed a deep knowledge of scripture and theology, earning him the title of Doctor of the Church. He is venerated as the patron of the poor and many invoke his name to help find lost objects. Untold numbers of miracles have been attributed to his intercession, earning him the title of "wonder-worker."

Here is an experience of **prayer** and how St. Anthony **has interceded** in peoples' lives: This experience took place a year ago in North Dakota, not too far from here. A relative (who I will call John) called us to relay this story. It was evident that he was very much impressed & affected by the power of prayer that he witnessed that weekend. A good friend of John's had been washed away by flood waters that spring when he drove on a road with water on it that actually was washed out. John's friend's body was never found though there were months of extensive search efforts. There was a funeral Mass for John's friend on a Wednesday in September, and John was an honorary pallbearer. During the Mass the priest asked all in attendance to use a prepared brochure with John's friend's picture on one side and a novena to **St. Anthony** on the other side. They all prayed the novena together, then the priest asked those in attendance to continue praying it after the funeral. Saturday night (only 3 days after the funeral) John got a phone call from his friend's girlfriend that his friend's body had been found—only 1 ½ miles from where his pickup had been in the river. That area had been searched dozens of times before.

John was really affected by this proof positive of the power of prayer. He said as they were praying the novena at the funeral he thought of his grandmother and great aunt who always talked of praying to St. Anthony to find something lost. This time St. Anthony's intercession was powerful in finding John's friend's lost body. At Little Flower School we teach our students about the saints and how these saints, like St. Anthony, can intercede on our behalf; they join their prayers to ours when we ask for that saint's intercessory prayers to God.

+++++ Additional Information for You to Know +++++

+++ **Little Flower PTO invites you to attend the Little Flower Carnival** on Sunday, January 25 at the Rugby Armory; 11:30 AM – 3:00PM. Concessions will be served starting at 11:30! Come for a day of fun, food and games for all ages!!!

+++ Friday, January 30th the students will be ice skating at the Hockey Arena. Please start looking for ice SKATES

+++ **Little Flower School raffle tickets are for sale now!** The drawing will be January 25 at the school carnival. The tickets are \$10 each with the chance to win one of seven prizes: \$1000 cash, Ice Fishing House, Weber Gas Grill, Beats head phones and speaker, \$250 Cenex Card, \$250 Leavers Gift Card, & \$250 in cash.

+++ No school-- January 19, 2015-- Have a wonderful week. God Bless

