

Little Flower Catholic Elementary School -- Newsletter for Friday, November 14, 2014

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We at **Little Flower School**, especially in this month of November, draw our students' attention to the Saints of the Church. The Saints hold a place of honor and devotion in our Catholic Faith. These holy men and women lived the Gospel message to its fullest, in their words and deeds. They bring us closer to God and intercede on our behalf. By their example, they inspire us to imitate Christ more perfectly.

At birth or Baptism time and Confirmation time parents and children consider choosing a patron saint and using that saint's name. **What is a patron saint?** Patron saints are chosen as special protectors or guardians over areas of life. These areas can include occupations, illnesses, churches, countries, causes anything that is important to us. The earliest records show that people and churches were named after apostles and martyrs as early as the fourth century. Recently, the popes have named patron saints but patrons can be chosen by other individuals or groups as well. Patron saints are often chosen today because an interest, talent, or event in their lives overlaps with the special area. Angels can also be named as patron saints. A patron saint can help us when we follow the example of that saint's life and when we ask for that saint's intercessory prayers to God.

We are quite familiar with **Saint Therese the Little Flower**, for whom our school and parish are named. [For more information on her see the article entitled "Little Flower Catholic Elementary School: a Landmark, a Milestone and a Beacon for Rugby Residents" in the Sept. 20, 2014, issue of the Pierce County Tribune.] Here are some other examples of the Saints of our Catholic Faith:

St. Francis of Assisi loved nature and so he is patron of ecologists. **St. Francis de Sales** was a writer and so he is patron of journalists and writers. **St. Clare of Assisi** was named patron of television because one Christmas when she was too ill to leave her bed she saw and heard Christmas Mass -- even though it was taking place miles away. **St. Catherine of Alexandria** prevailed against all the arguments of 50 pagan philosophers who tried to convince her of the errors of her faith; so she is the patron of students. She was martyred and, according to tradition, her body was transported by angels to Mount Sinai, where a church and monastery were established.

St. Michael is called by scripture "the great prince, guardian of your people" (Daniel 12:1), and we revere him as a special protector of the Church, so he is patron of police officers. He and the other Archangels Gabriel and Raphael act as God's most honored messengers. **St. Scholastica**, Sister of Monastic leader St. Benedict, founded the first Benedictine order for women, so is patron of nuns.

[some of above from: <http://www.catholic.org/saints/patron.php>, and the Catholic Church Extension Society 2010 Art Calendar of the Saints]

Who is your Patron Saint? Explore his or her life and you may find a person that could inspire you to imitate Christ more perfectly.

+++++++ **Additional Information for you to Know** ++++++

+++ Reminder: Monthly tuition payments are now due for the month of November. Milk and lunch payments may be made with one check, but please indicate how the money should be divided for lunch and milk.

+++ Assorted packs of 20 Religious Christmas cards are now on sale in the school office. Cost is \$5.00 per box of 20.

+++ Parents: With the onset of colder weather, please make sure your child wears a warm coat, gloves, boots and hat before coming to school or boarding a rural route or activity bus. **DON'T FORGET YOUR SHOES!**

+++ Little Flower School SILENT AUCTION AND SUPPER (Theresa's chicken) on Fri. Nov. 21 Rugby Eagles Club 5:30-7:30PM

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