



Partners in Faith & Action

October 2016



Our Church Family

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

Please join, as a family, with the NDV faith community in one or more of our 8:45 a.m. weekday School or 9:00 a.m. Sunday celebrations of the Mass.

Oct. 4th ó Feast of St. Francis of Assisi: Blessing of the Animals at 8:10 a.m. in the School yard. A parent may bring the animal to the playground, and all live animals will return home after the Blessing.

Oct. 7th --The Second grade will lead the school in a Mass commemorating the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary at 8:45 a.m. in the Church

Oct. 9th -- Family Mass, 9:00 a.m. Sunday, followed by a reception in the Church Hall.

Oct. 16th ó 6th grade students will be readers, gift bearers, and provide a reception after the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Growing in Faith



FAMILIES GROWING IN FAITH

Families Growing in Faith is an opportunity to share and grow in our faith as families and an NDV community. Parents of second grade students preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist and seventh and eighth grade students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation and their parents gather in the Church Hall to share a light supper at 6:00 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m. participate in a program to learn more about our faith. The next program is Friday, October 21st in the Church Hall. Please bring your Bibles.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

We honor St. Francis on October 4th. One of the central themes of St. Francis and Franciscan Spirituality is respect and care for creation. He is the patron saint of the environment. He showed us

by his simplicity how to be more in harmony with creation. He preferred very simple clothing, shelter, and food.

To learn more about St. Francis of Assisi, go to <http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/Saint.aspx?id=1158> http://www.jclubcatholic.org/stories/SaintADay.aspx?sjc_month=9#SALJC_260

POPE FRANCIS & CARE OF CREATION

Pope Francis in his encyclical (letter from the Pope) *Laudato Si'* (Praise be to you) raises the moral imperative of care for creation as part of the practice of our Catholic faith. Pope Francis is the first pope to write an encyclical on the environment. He addressed the encyclical to the whole world, not just the Catholic bishops.

There are several things that we can do to care for our environment. Whenever we think about how we can reuse what we have. Whenever we plan to use paper products, let us think about whether this is necessary and how we might instead use something reusable, such as cloth. We must move away from our throwaway society. (Sr. Mary Elizabeth Clark, SSJ, www.catholicteacher.com)



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

October 7th is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Tradition says that Mary gave St. Dominic the rosary.

This would be a good time to share the mysteries of the rosary with our families. It sets forth the life of Christ and the unwavering devotion of his mother Mary.

The Rosary is made up of tiny beads that go around a circle which is divided into five groups: one group for each of the five mysteries. When praying the Rosary, one reflects on one set of the Mysteries. For each group of beads, you announce the mystery (perhaps reading the scripture regarding that mystery), pray 10 Hail Marys, one Our Father and the Glory Be.

The Joyful Mysteries

- 1) The angel announces Mary's pregnancy (Luke 1:26-38)
- 2) Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-56)
- 3) Jesus is born in Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-20)
- 4) Mary presents Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:22-40)
- 5) Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:41-52)

The Luminous Mysteries

- 1) The Baptism in the Jordan (Mark 3:16-17)
- 2) The Wedding Feast at Cana (John 2:1-11)
- 3) The Proclamation of the Kingdom (Matthew 10:7-8)
- 4) The Transfiguration (Luke 9:28-31)
- 5) The Institution of the Eucharist (Luke 22:19-20)

The Sorrowful Mysteries

- 1) Jesus' agony in the Garden (Luke 22:39-46)
- 2) Jesus is scourged at the pillar (John 19:1-5)
- 3) Jesus is crowned with thorns (Matthew 27:27-31)
- 4) Jesus carries his cross (John 19:16-18)
- 5) Jesus dies on the cross (Mark 15:37-39)

The Glorious Mysteries

- 1) Jesus rises gloriously from the tomb (Luke 24:1-12)
- 2) Jesus ascends into heaven (Acts 1:1-11)
- 3) Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to the Apostles (Acts 2:1-4)
- 4) Mary is taken into heaven (Revelation 12:1)
- 5) Mary is crowned Queen of heaven and earth (Luke 1:46-55)

Other websites to find out more about the Rosary:

<http://www.catholic-kids.com/rosary.htm>
<http://www.loyolapress.com/rosary-activity-center.htm> -- how to make a rosary
<http://www.familyrosary.org/TheRosary/HowToPrayTheRosary/PrayTheRosary.aspx>
<http://www.pinterest.com/catholicicing/rosary-ideas-for-kids/>

WHO WROTE THE HAIL MARY?

There are three parts to the Hail Mary. The first part "Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee" is adapted from the words the angel Gabriel spoke to Mary at the Annunciation in Luke 1:28, which is sometimes called the "Angelic Salutation." The second part "Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb" is based on Elizabeth's words upon greeting Mary in Luke 1:42 (The Visitation). Pope Urban IV (1261-64) added the word "Jesus" to Elizabeth's words.

The third part of the prayer "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death" was added as early as the 14th century, but became official shortly after the Council of Trent (1545-1563). This part of the prayer acknowledges Mary as our greatest intercessor. (October 2015 *Catechist*)

HALLOWEEN



When you think of Halloween, what comes to mind? For a lot of people, Halloween means candy, costumes, scary stuff, witches, ghosts and pumpkins.

Hallowe'en is a contraction of "All Hallows Eve," and it designates the vigil of All Hallows Day, more commonly known as All Saints' Day. "Hallow" as a noun is an old English term for saint and as a verb it means to make something holy. All Saints' Day, November 1, and the vigil have been celebrated since the early 8th century when they were instituted by Pope Gregory III in Rome.

Check out the following websites for more about Halloween and its roots:

<http://www.americancatholic.org/features/default.aspx?id=23>

http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/10_2.cfm

<http://www.catholicicing.com/?s=Halloween>

THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

As we think about Hallowe'en and All Saints' Day, we realize that there are approximately 10,000 names of saints recorded in Church archives. Hundreds of saints are honored on our official Church calendar. But Catholics in each country also honor some saints known only in their particular country. Throughout the year other days focus on celebrating the events in the life of Christ, his Church, and his mother Mary.

No matter which saints happen to be on the calendar, feast days are observed for the same reasons: to point to Jesus, to cheer us on in our own efforts at holiness, to remind us that we can "with God's love and grace" accomplish in our own lives what the saints of the past accomplished in theirs. We can center our lives in Christ, love God, and live for others. The saints "big ones and lesser ones" all managed to do these things. All saints live in communion with God and all the saints in heaven and earth. (from the editor of the *Catechist Handbook Planning Guide 2016-2017*)

THOUGHT FROM ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

"Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing."