



March 16, 2017

Dear Parents,

Lenten salutations! I'd like to share a short Lenten thought with you. God's request for us to improve ourselves doesn't need to be grandiose; it just needs to be personal and honest.

***Lent is a good time to cultivate humility. This doesn't mean telling ourselves we're worthless. After all, Scripture tells us we're made in the image and likeness of God. Humility also doesn't mean mouthing phony sentiment about how everyone else is better than we are. Instead, humility means telling it like it is. It means taking a realistic view of ourselves. It means making an honest assessment of our shortcomings, owning up to our faults, then dusting ourselves off and getting on with the daily business of trying again. We do this to honor the God who made us. We do it knowing we participate in our own creation. We do it because we are not finished yet.***

Thank you to the families and parishioners who represented our parish school by walking in the Southside Irish Parade last Sunday. Your commitment and pride are truly noble, and I know the Lord will bless such generosity of heart and spirit.

Congratulations to the many students who earned Second Trimester recognition for attendance, conduct, and/or honor roll! Please see the names of these students in the information that's coming home today. While everyone may not have made it on a list, the teachers and I are always proud of each student who uses his/her God-given gifts and talents and strives to learn each day.

A few informational items for the week:

Students in grades 3-8 will experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation within the next 2 weeks.

Green and Jeans Day will be celebrated tomorrow, March 17<sup>th</sup>, for all students.

Vision and hearing testing will continue tomorrow for our students.

Our Second Annual 5K Walk/Run is coming in April. We're looking for volunteers, as well as walkers and runners.

Opportunities to help bolster our school's financial security are coming home today. Consider patronizing Miller's Ale House and/or Portillo's the last week of March.

Our World's Finest Chocolate Candy Drive is in process. Payment and orders are due **Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**! Please make an effort to purchase/sell an item or two.

Blessings on your Lenten journey! Please love your family enough to worship with us at Mass this weekend!

Peace and all good!

*M. Stephanie*