



"Fruits of the Spirit"

# October Newsletter

St. Joseph Parish School of Religion

Well we have been busy over the past month. Our second graders started our first service project with the Interfaith Hospitality Network by asking all grades to bring in fruit. Since our theme this year is 'Fruits of the Spirit' it seemed appropriate to make a basket for the families that stayed in the Convent the week of Oct 4-11<sup>th</sup>. Look at how proud these girls are!



What is Interfaith Hospitality Network? It is a non-profit cooperative endeavor between the religious community, volunteers, and social agencies committed to providing cost effective living and comprehensive support services and programs for homeless children and their families during temporary homelessness enabling them to regain their

independence. We are blessed to be a HOST Church and to be part of this program. We provide shelter, 3 meals per day,

and transportation to homeless children and their families so we look for more opportunities to fulfill the scripture Matthew 25:35 by serving our brothers and sisters in need.

We had an overwhelming number of volunteers from the parish and it was a great success. Look for more info to follow in the church bulletin on how you can be involved in this great ministry.

*Matthew 25:35  
For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.*

Well it's that time of the year again and we are helping Be Concerned. They are keeping it simple and asking us for two items: **Stove Top Dressing** and **Cranberry Sauce** for their Thanksgiving program. So if all students bring in one or both items a lot of families that are served by this program will be thankful. Please return by **November 1<sup>st</sup>**.



## Be Concerned Mission

Be Concerned is deeply committed to honoring the dignity and humanity of all persons.

Its purpose is to assist low-income people of Northern Kentucky in obtaining basic necessities for life.

Don't forget to take the **Board of Total Catholic Education Survey**. There are surveys in the back of church or you can complete one online. [www.stjosephcoldspring.com](http://www.stjosephcoldspring.com) then click on CHURCH and under announcements you will find the link to the survey. Living our Catholic faith to the fullest is what it's all about and we must walk the walk. That walk of course is with Christ! We know as parents the best role model is an active one!

Our third grader's received their



Scapular's on September 13<sup>th</sup>! They were really excited and Fr. Lang blessed the scapulars in the Convent

### Important Dates to Remember!

- October 18 **Class, Mission Sunday**
- October 25 **Class**
- Closing of 40 HOURS**
- November 1 **Class, Last day to bring in Stove Top Dressing or Cranberry Sauce for BE CONCERNED.**
- November 4 **Confirmation Parent Meeting 7:00 p.m. Church**
- November 8 **Class**  
**Confirmation Commitment Mass 9:30 a.m. Mass**

Chapel and presented these to the children.



A **scapular** (from Latin, *scapula*, "shoulder") is a religious pendant of cloth worn under the clothing, which are usually adorned with the picture of a saint as a part

of Roman Catholic devotion. Scapulars have their historical origins in larger, tunic-like garments that were once worn by Roman Catholic monks, which were adapted for the use of the Roman Catholic laity.

The scapular in its original sense forms a part of the habit of many monastic orders. Other orders and numerous religious congregations (both male and female) have also adopted the scapular from the monastic orders. It is usually worn over the habit or cassock.

Reduced versions of these scapulars are worn by lay persons with a certain degree of connection to the spirituality of a certain religious order. These are typically worn under the clothing. By far the most common scapular is the Brown Scapular of Mount Carmel.

Though many different specific scapulars are recognized by the Church, the best known is the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, also known as the **Brown Scapular** or even "the Scapular." It is probably the oldest scapular and served as the prototype of the others. According to Catholic tradition, the Blessed Virgin appeared to St. Simon Stock at Cambridge, England, on Sunday, 16 July, 1251. In answer to his appeal for help for his oppressed order, she appeared to him with a scapular in her hand and said: "Take, beloved son this scapular of thy order as a badge of my confraternity and for thee and all Carmelites a special sign of grace; whoever dies in this garment, will not suffer everlasting fire. It is the sign of salvation, a safeguard in dangers, a pledge of peace and of the covenant".

The Brown Scapular thus carries with it the promise never to die without the opportunity to confess or otherwise achieve forgiveness of sins. It also carries the second promise of being freed from Purgatory on the first Saturday (the day of Mary) after death. Like the rosary, the Brown Scapular has become the badge of the devout Catholic and the true servant of Mary. Any priest can invest a layperson with this scapular.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders received their bibles. We had a brief ceremony in the chapel and Fr. Lang shared some thoughts with the children. He asked the students if they ever got lost.

How did they find their way? Some of the answers were they just found their way back on their own, GPS, and GOD! Wow, we were hoping someone would say GOD eventually but that was actually the first response!

Fr. Lang said that sometimes we may get lost or lose our ways but no matter what God will always be there to show us the way. The bible is our personal GPS which shows us the way to God!

So take time to read the bible to your child – they are eager to know what God has in store for us. The bible truly is our GPS and if we follow what it teaches it will only draw us closer to our faith and GOD. So whether it is a chapter or a verse – take time for GOD with your child.



As you carve your pumpkin, read the prayer in bold and follow the steps; while following the steps read the Bible verse together. When you finish carving, pray the Pumpkin Prayer together with others in your family!



**Dear Jesus, as I carve my pumpkin, help me pray this prayer:**

**Open my mind so I can learn about you:** (Cut the top off the pumpkin) *Know that the LORD...is God.* (Psalm 100:3)

**Take all my sin and forgive the wrong that I do.** (Clean out the inside.) *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us.* (1 John 1:9)

**Open my Eyes so Your love I will see;** (Cut eyes shaped like hearts.) *Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.* (Psalm 119:18)

**I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at what You've given to me.** (Cut a nose in the shape of a cross.) *Create in me a clean heart, O God* (Psalm 51:10)

**Open my ears so Your Word I will hear;** (Cut ears shaped like the Bible.) *Incline your ear, and come to Me* (Isaiah 55:3)

**Open my mouth to tell others You're near.** (cut the mouth in the shape of a fish.) *I shall...declare the works of the Lord* (Psalm 118:17)

**Let Your Light Shine in all I say and do!** (Place a candle inside and light it.) **Amen.**

Jesus said "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

Ask God to fill you up so He can shine brightly through you. Share your faith with your friends and neighbors as you tell them about your special pumpkin!