

We are all called to be saints!!

Dear Father Andrew White Families,

Today, at Father Andrew White School, we invited our students to dress as a favorite saint. The students researched people that the Church has identified as those worthy of the title of saint. You may wonder how the Church makes this determination. First, a deceased person is recognized by the Pope as having lived an extremely heroic and virtuous life. Then the Church looks for miracles that are attributed to that individual after people have prayed to ask for the saint's intercession. After two miracles occur, the Church recognizes the saint as living in heaven.

It is important to note that we are all called to be saints (I Corinthians 1:2). God desires that each of us live virtuous lives for him and that we intercede for each other through prayer and other sacrifices. We look forward to one day living in heaven with all the holy men and women who love God!! Maybe one day, you or one of your children will be identified as someone who lived an extremely virtuous life and that we ask to pray for us!!

In CHAT groups this quarter, students have been studying biographies. Reading about the saints is an opportunity to learn more about some of these holy men and women. St. Francis loved animals and was responsible for creating the first nativity. Mother Teresa is a saint within our lifetime who cared for the poor and dying of India. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the first

American saint in North America and began the system of Catholic Schools. She is a convert from the Episcopal faith and one of her sons was a midshipman at the United States Naval Academy! St. John Bosco helped orphan boys and is often pictured as juggling!! Encourage your children to read the lives of the saints that will inspire them to follow God more closely!

This week we saw many wonderful writing assignments from our students! First graders wrote about who they were dressing up for on Halloween. Second graders did a persuasive writing piece on whether students should be assigned homework. Fifth graders also wrote a persuasive writing piece, trying to convince others to buy their haunted house with all of its spooky features! Third graders wrote about their favorite saint, fourth graders wrote a personal piece about themselves and middle school students described themselves using Spanish!! There were beautiful pieces of artwork displayed as well! There were many faces of jack-o-lanterns from our PK students and pumpkin creatures from our Kindergarten students. First graders created apples with various line designs and second graders made beautiful pumpkins with line variations and secondary colors!

We would like to extend our appreciation to all those who assisted in making our Fall Fun Day such a successful event! The students enjoyed participating in many games and fun activities and the older students particularly enjoyed having the freedom to explore and make choices on their own. Mrs. Pietsch deserves special thanks and recognition for organizing this fun-filled day!

Please see the newsletter for our annual financial report and the email attachment for a letter from Kelly Branaman, Secretary of Catholic Schools.

Enjoy your Hallowed Eve, the evening before All Saints Day, and stay safe with your families and friends!

Sincerely, **Janet Szoch** Principal