

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

Catholic School Vision Clears the Way to the Lord!!



As we begin Catholic School's week it is, once again, a great chance for me to reflect on the culture of "Seeing with Eyes of Faith" that I was fortunate to be a part of for 12 years! Long before the slogan "WWJD" there were Catholic Schools. What

would Jesus do is a cute slogan but if you do not know who Jesus is and what he did... How can you do what he did?



Scanning my heart's mind with my Catholic School vision, I vividly remember every crucifix, painting of Mary and statues of the saints that hallowed



the halls and classrooms of our Schools. Your eyes could not wander far from the sanctity of Catholic life and Tradition. Instead of having the feeling of being "watched" I felt like I was being guided on the path of what it meant to be a follower of Jesus. We prayed, studied and put into practice the life of Jesus that was read to us from the Sacred Scriptures. We were challenged to find the virtues in every story as well as the "pitfalls" to avoid! We were truly guided by those who had eyes of faith and were always given examples of how to love, forgive, encourage and pray by our teachers.

The classroom was only one of the vehicles used to strengthen our resolve to know Christ for we encountered him through the Sacred Mass and the frequent opportunity of the Sacrament of reconciliation. We also learned how to recognize the needs of our classmates and to count on each other at school, play and in our local neighborhoods. Catholic School kids were treated differently because of our faith and we treated others differently (WWJD) which sometimes made them uneasy.

When you look at a beautiful stain glass window your eyes can be overwhelmed by the many colors and facets of its beauty but with a trained eye (with spiritual vision) you see the symbols, images of Christ and various saints as a school and support system on how to love, to pray, to preach the gospel with confidence and conviction!

Catholic Schools still gives this kind of vision to its students! What can be overwhelming in the light of our world today becomes common place and attainable through the day to day familiarity of the Truth and the way of Jesus' life shared within the walls and hearts of all who lead the Catholic School experience!

The Motto: "Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed." Is a vision that is instilled into students! Learn from Jesus, Serve as His apostle, Lead as a model citizen and Succeed in the world and the Kingdom of God!!!



INVITE, ENCOURAGE AND DISCERN THE OPTION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



If you have children who are presently in Catholic Schools or have completed the experience, invite friends, neighbors and family to consider sending their children to Queen of Angels. If a child is struggling in the public-school system because of size of the school, classroom curriculum or making friends that matter (WWJD) then encourage them to try a new start at our school. If your children are pre-school age children please pray and discern to consider the Spiritual Vision that can be given on the way through life to heaven that can be experienced with Catholic Education!!!

MORAL VISION SEES CLEARLY FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE!!!

SAVE THE DOLPHINS!!!



Call me naive but when I was growing up right from wrong was evident through the guidance that I received from my parents and teachers. Morality and Ethics were simply equivalent to love God and neighbor. Sure we all had hard choices to make as kids, but they seemed to be just that, choices between right and wrong, sin and grace. So, I was a-bit taken back when I entered an Ethics class in college and found that things were not always black and white for

everyone but different shades of gray. In fact, my teacher who seemed to be a former 60's flower girl, was beginning to help me question the distinction between Divine Law and Human Freedoms. While I was constantly criticized by my teacher for not "thinking for myself" and ridiculed for a faith-based morality that she called archaic. One day following class, as I walked across campus, I watched my teacher get into her car. As she pulled away and I stared at the rear bumper of her car the truth was revealed. Perhaps without even knowing it, the two bumper stickers on the back of her car illustrated and reinforced what I knew all along. One sticker read: "**Pro Choice**" the other read: "**Save the Dolphins.**"



I remember thinking to myself kill the babies and save the dolphins. Does this, even for the simplest of men, make sense? This **IS** black and white. At least in this case of the unborn vs. selfishness. At least in this case Divine Law over Human freedoms. The familiar mantra that I heard preached and prayed thousands of times since January of 1973 came to me... It came from the pounding of my heart to my head with conviction and to my lips in a form of a prayer: "Lord, help us all to love and protect and respect all life... From the moment of conception until natural death." **LORD HELP US ALL!**

PRAYERS FOR THE UNBORN THREATENED BY THE CHOICE OF ABORTION

'SPIRITUAL ADOPTION'

To help stop the anti-life push in the world the late great Bishop Fulton J. Sheen encouraged the spiritual adoption of an unborn child. This is done by praying that one particular but unknown child's life be spared abortion and be allowed to continue to live. To help accomplish this, it was recommended, that an individual say the following daily prayer for a period of nine months:



"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion. Jesus may your peace and your love embrace the hearts, minds and souls of the family, friends and loved ones who encourage this abortion and lead them all to your sacred loving heart."

PERSONALIZING YOUR PRAYER AND CHILD - It is also recommended to give a name to the child you are praying for during the first months of their life. This child may only

be known to God but in the world to come it is hoped that you will meet the souls your prayers saved and spend eternal happiness with them.

PRAYER IS AWARENESS – When we pray for a special intention such as an individual soul of the unborn brings about two things: First It allows us to place our trust in the all-powerful and merciful God who responds to our plea on behalf of the abandoned; and Secondly it also brings a greater focus and awareness to a particular atrocity that can become common place. We must never allow ourselves to forget that this is a heinous act against individuals one at a time... chosen by the parents and chosen to be performed by a doctor....

THE OTHER VICTIM OF ABORTION -We cannot forget that the mother of the aborted child more often than not causes herself irreversible spiritual turmoil wondering if there could be forgiveness and healing for her. Please pray all women who are afflicted with the sin of abortion will seek God's forgiveness and love through Project Rachel. If you are unaware of this program please look at this Hopeafterabortion.org

CHANGE OF HEART - We must believe that our witness to love of life can change the hearts of those who have disregarded its sacred value. Pray for conversion.



Pray to end Abortion