# **Catechist Notes**

April 17, 2019

Saint of the Week: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini



### April Virtue Obedience

Saying "Yes" to the loving will of God and those He has set over us



April 17 will be The Holy Week/Triduum Family Event "Journey to Jerusalem": Teachers of each grade level will present a center explaining or experiencing that day. The children will progress through the centers accompanied by older grade buddies and /or parents. Areas are being set up. If you can come early to help set up that would be great! . 7<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> will go as buddies. 8th grades will be disciples to help lead along the journey, so Jesus and disciples will process through school with palms during first 5 minutes of class and immediately after attendance each grade will go to assigned first center. We will be again asking parents to escort children.

Center	Activity	Grade A	Grade B	Location	Items Needed
Palm Sunday	Jesus and disciples will process through school, aid classes	8A 8C	8B		Leftover palms, costumes
Holy Thursday Washing of Feet	wash feet or sign cross	3A 3C	3B,4B	Outside gym lobby /cafeteria	Bowl and Pitcher of water, towels, chairs
Holy Thursday Last Supper	Institution of Eucharist	2	2	Cafeteria	Bread & grapes, candles, chalice, paten/ciborium, grape juice/sm. Cups on trays, matzah in baskets.
Prayer in Garden	Bracelet and prayer	1A1C	1B	Hallway connection	Bracelets, picture, reflection
Good Friday	Stations,	4C	5B	Concession/Gym	stations, music.
Good Friday	Veneration of cross	7A 7C	7B	Gym	Large Cross, red fabric, crown of thorns,
Easter Vigil Easter	explanation of symbols, empty tomb	6A 6C	6B	Lobby,	Oils, Paschal candle, Holy water, folded burial cloth, candles, grocery bags



FORMING DISCIPLES; LEADING ALL TO CHRIST



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Some of the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders need banner kits...please check.

*Not much class time left:* 

April 17 - Journey to Jerusalem

April 21 Easter!!!!!

April 24 - Regular Class and Confirmation Interviews

April 27 - Confirmation, Cathedral Basilica 1:30 pm

April 28 - Confirmation Celebration Dinner with Youth Group, Social Hall 6-8pm

May 1 - Regular Class and First Communion practice

May 3 - Edge

May 4 - First Communion 1PM

May 5 - First Communion -Spanish Mass, 2PM

May 8 - Closing Mass 6:30 pm

Report Cards ... This is the link to a Google docs spreadsheet to fill out for the PSR report cards. It has not yet been updated for present students, but I hope to have that done by next week.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1lxnGnR50pwtDbPr--

#### UD5skm4 M4YvUPIBhSoyag66D8/edit?usp=sharing

You will simply scroll down to find your class and then you can enter the information in each box. When you are finished you just have to close the page and it will be saved. Margo and I will enter the absences and tardies. You will need to mark

for Understanding of Material, Participation, Assignments, and Conduct using the grades of VG= Very Good, S = Satisfactory, NI = Needs Improving, and U = Unsatisfactory.

You are encouraged to make comments, and I will make sure it all fits, even if we go to back of page. I need these completed by May 4. At the very latest! Thanks, I will need them completed by May 6

### The final PSR class will be Mass celebrating the end of the school year on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 6:30 PM in Church for Both Session "A" and Session "B".

All students are asked to attend this final session Mass along with their families. Students will be seated with their families for Mass. The St. Patrick Award will be presented at the end of Mass.

All First Communion and Confirmation students will be honored and can wear their special clothes. All students should be dressed for church!

Report cards, First Communion Certificates and Attendance Awards will be available at the Ice Cream Social in the Social hall after Mass. Each grade will go to special grade-level table to pick up report cards and awards. Please remind your students now of the time and date! I will need servers, readers and gift bearers from 6, 7 or 8 grades!



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## Weekly Thoughts by Dr. Barbara Blackburn

#### HARD WORDS TO HEAR

For one week out of the fifty-two weeks of the liturgical year, we pause to reflect more intently on the events of the Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus. As we enter Holy Week, the story unfolds on Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. We all know the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and his Last Supper with the apostles. We know the story of his agony in the garden and his arrest. We know the story of his Crucifixion. But once each year we focus on this story as if it were the first time we have shared the powerful remembrance of Jesus' great love for us.

As we read the passion narratives, and often participate in the narrative, there are parts of the story, words that never get any easier to hear or to utter. Why is it that the congregational narrative includes those horrible words CRICIFY HIM? Each time I get to that part of the story I find it too hard to say the words. After all, I didn't tell anyone to crucify Jesus. I would never yell such an awful statement. To say it aloud is just too disturbing.

Maybe it is intended to be hard to hear and hard to say, disturbing, awful and difficult to imagine. Maybe it is the only way for me to realize the pain I can inflict on someone when I am part of a crowd or a group involved with bullying or damaging someone's good name or reputation? We can crucify someone without nails and a hammer. We can crucify someone with our words or even our inaction. If I stand by, like the Roman centurions, and do nothing to stop the crowds, then I am guilty by association. I can crucify the environment by not doing my part to conserve and recycle. I can crucify the socially disadvantaged by not speaking up for justice.

If it is so difficult for me to say CRUCIFY HIM, then how can I be so insensitive to the harm I do to other people? As hard as it is to say the words during the passion narrative, maybe the words will shock my sensibilities and help me understand the passion of so many people in our world today.

Lord, help me see you in people who suffer pain and injustices at the hands of others. You share in their pain. You are crucified in the injustices done to them. By your grace, please do not let my words or inactions be responsible for their pain. Give me courage to defend and support those in my school or parish or family who suffer persecution and hurt. Never let me be guilt of saying

**CRUCIFY HIM!** 



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