

Fr. Martin's Reflection – 08/29/21 Bulletin

“Moses said to the people: ‘Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understand.’” Deut 4:1-2, 6

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Many of our young people will be heading back to school this coming week or the week after. On Saturday, Sept. 11, we will mark the beginning of our Religious Education program for the 2021/2022 year with Mass at 5pm in St. Mary Church and with some food and activities after. This is to welcome everyone home and reintroduce parents, children, and teachers to each other and to begin our Religious Education year on a positive note. I would like to take this opportunity to invite all our Religious Education parents, children, teaching staff, and support staff to join us on Saturday, September 11 at the 5pm Vigil Mass.

I would also like to announce to all our moms of Religious Ed students a wonderful program that will run alongside the Religious Ed classes. The program is called, **‘Walking with Purpose.’** Even though we are delivering this program parallel to the Religious Ed classes, it is open to all women. There will be more information coming in the next couple of weeks.

In time we will find and deliver an equally exciting program for dads and men, watch this space. In the meantime, I would like to direct your attention towards the Knights of Columbus, a wonderful, faith-filled, fraternal organization of charitable men.

A prayer for all who are going to school for the first time and for those who will be changing school or leaving home for the first time to study away from home.

Prayer for a New School Year

Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of body and mind and heart; you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to guide your people in all their ways. At the beginning of this new school year, we implore your mercy: bless the students, teachers, and staff of all places of education, that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love as we learn from you and each other how to follow your Son, Jesus. Expand the horizons of our minds, that we may grow in wisdom, understanding and knowledge; deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways; and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need. Amen (USCCB)

May God bless you and keep you forever in God’s love and care.

Fr. Martin