

Fr. Martin's Reflection – September 4, 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Welcome to September. With different start dates for our schools, I know I am late in wishing all our students a very happy, healthy, learned year. Going back to school can mean so many different things to our students. For some, it is filled with excitement and adventure. For others it can be a very hurtful experience, leaving memories that scars their lives forever. So, what can make it so different? All of us and how we treat each other. How we greet the newcomer, the language we use towards others, making 'fun' about someone's size, height, or skin color. For those who see beginning school, or changing schools, or attending college for the first time as exciting and adventurous, that is the experience all our students should be experiencing. Let us reflect on the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:34-36.

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 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, I needed clothes, and you clothed me, I was sick, and you looked after me, I was in prison, and you came to visit me."

Religious Education

September also begins our new Religious Education program for the year 2022-2023. We have a welcome back celebration on Saturday, September 10 beginning with mass at 5pm and followed with some fun and games and food. I hope all parents and students can attend. It is an opportunity to meet other parents and to meet the teachers of your daughters and sons. I also want to welcome back all our RE staff, and special welcome to our new members. Thank you for your dedication and commitment. Looking forward to meeting you all on September 10 and throughout the coming year.

Labor Day

I truly hope you have a wonderful Labor Day celebration with family and friends. I would like to remember all who work and thank them for their service to the world, their country, and their local community. I am also conscious of those who are finding it difficult to find work – let us pray for the unemployed, may they continue to search, and may their search find fruition and employment that gives dignity, respect, and a sense of fulfillment.

God, the Builder of all things, please help me build positive relationships with my coworkers. Empower me to be an encourager and bring joy to those I work with. Assist me in being friendly, helpful to people when they need assistance, and supportive of their projects and ideas. Enable me to be a good team player that others enjoy working with. Give me insight on how to deal with colleagues who have negative attitudes, a poor work ethic, or who are gossips or unkind. Help me make every effort to do what leads to peace and building others up. Amen.

Fr. Martin