



SS. Peter & Paul Catholic "Connection"

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JANUARY 2024

*Feed your Faith - and your
fears will starve to death.*



Jan 1 – Solemnity of Mary Mass at 10:30am
Jan 4 – Adoration & Confession after 9am Mass
Jan 7 – Faith Formation 9:00-10:30am
Jan 10 – Encounter Youth Group - 6:30-8pm
Jan 11 – Finance Council Meeting at 6pm
Jan 13 – St. Anne's Meeting at 3:15pm
Jan 13 – KC's Meeting at 5:30pm
Jan 14 – Faith Formation 9:00-10:30am
Jan 14 – Spanish Mass at 2:00pm
Jan 18 – Mass & Diocesan Holy Hour at 9:00am
Jan 21 - Faith Formation 9:00-10:30am
Jan 28 - Faith Formation 9:00-10:30am
Feb 1 – Adoration & Confession after 9am Mass

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

SS. Peter & Paul, Weyauwega
New Year's Day, January 1 at
10:30am

Sacred Heart, Manawa
New Year's Day, January 1 at
8:00am



Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Greetings in Christ!

As we bid farewell to 2023 and welcome 2024 let us thank the Lord for all the good we have done and have received in the past year. Let us ask God to teach us how to live this New Year, in peace and joy following and serving Him.

New beginnings can be both exciting and intimidating. They represent a chance to start fresh and make positive changes in our lives, but they also require us to let go of the familiar and step into the unknown. Don't worry about the future. Pray! Prayer can be our greatest supporter in both our joys and sorrows. As Christians, we can find hope and strength in knowing that God is with us in all things, including the new beginnings we face. In Isaiah 43:19, the Lord says, "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" God is constantly at work in our lives, creating new opportunities and possibilities for us.

Ending a year and starting a new one makes us think about the passing of time. Time is marked by the most critical events in our lives. It is the time that the bible calls Kairos. Some events change our sense of time, such as when two people marry and form a family; when a child is born; when a loved one dies; or when something extraordinary happens. These are all events that profoundly mark our meaning of time. As Catholics, our faith tells us that the passage of time leads us towards the kingdom of heaven. Jesus is the fullness of time; He is the fullness of God's gift to humanity. His love has made us children of God and when we experience His love, time receives a new and positive meaning. Let us be humbled knowing He holds us in the palm of His hand. Without Him we are nothing. There is a saying, "joy cannot be measured in moments of time but in timeless moments." Each day on earth is a blessing. Remember when "one door closes another opens."

Always count your blessings, not your troubles.

Always do your best. The "best" is all God expects from each of us. We can make it through all our pain and suffering by the grace of God, which comes one day at a time.

The birth of Jesus assures us that our history is firmly anchored in God's hands. The history of humanity, despite the still present evils and tribulations, is covered in the mercy of the Lord, who has created us for happiness. He created us to love and be loved. We don't know what will happen in this new year, but we are sure that it will be a year for the Lord to grow in love and experience the freedom of being children of God. We are called to be new creatures and to be witnesses of Jesus in our families and the lives of those we encounter.

Dear brothers and sisters, as we enter this New Year let us strive to remain united as the Lord has commanded us. Loving one another as God loves each one of us.

I'm overwhelmed with joy and humbly thank our Heavenly Father for taking care of us through 2023. As we enter into 2024, I pray that your good days will be so many that this time next year, you will be praising God for the great year you just had.

Wishing you peace and joy always. Happy New Year!

Blessings to you all,

Fr. Kris





The Weymont Food Pantry would like to thank all our volunteers who have worked and helped at the pantry this past year. Also thank you to all who donated food and cash. This is what keeps the pantry running!

THANK YOU! The pantry is in need of brown paper bags at this time. They can be left by the basket by the door on driveway side of church. Our Annual meeting is Thursday, January 11th at 6pm at the pantry.



WEYAUWEGA-FREMONT GIVING TREE

The Weyauwega-Fremont Christmas Giving Tree would like to thank all the Parish members who donated money, took a tag and purchased presents for all the families. We helped 45 families this year with a box of food, gift cards and presents! This included 55 children who will now have presents to open and 77 adults.

Thanks to the Knights for helping, the Confirmation Kids who gave their time as part of the service for the church, two special Elves who went shopping and got all the presents for the kids in the bags. With all your help it went quite smooth! Thanks to Carol for the meal we had, and for Kelly & Carol for helping to keep things going.

I hope all of you had a Blessed Christmas, and 2024 will be great for all of you and your families.

God Bless, Santa

Encounter Youth Group

We will be meeting **Wednesday, January 10** at 6:30pm. All 6th -12th grade students are invited for a fun and inspirational evening of games, snacks, connecting with others, a talk, discussion and prayers. Invite your friends of all faiths. All are welcome!

KC'S NEWS

The Knights of Columbus will be having a Chili Cook Off in place of their monthly meeting on January 13th, after the 4:30pm Mass. All the men of SS Peter & Paul are welcome to join us, and bring your favorite chili! It will be an evening of Faith, Food & Fraternity! We will wrap up by 7:30pm.

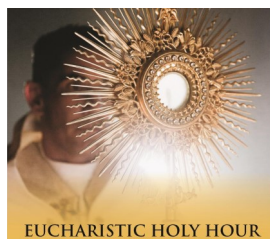


La Misa en Español

14 de enero de 2024

Diocesan Holy Hour

Thursday, Jan 18th
after the 9:00am Mass.
A great opportunity for
adoration & confession!



EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR



If you know of someone in need of prayers, or you would like to be a Prayer Warrior (on the prayer chain) Call the church office at 920.867.2179

To have someone (or yourself) remembered in prayer during General Mass Petitions, sign the book on the narthex stand.

Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church Financial Statement

November 2023

Nov-23

Statement of Activity

Revenue

Church Support
Liturgy and Worship
Other Revenue
Faith Formation & Youth
Fundraising
PPP Loan Forgiveness
Total Revenue

Operating Expenses

Salaries and Wages
Payroll Taxes, Insurance Benefits
Liturgy and Worship
Pastoral Care and Outreach
Faith Formation & Youth
Buildings and Grounds
General Office
Diocesan Assessment
Other Payments+CapEx
Total Payments

Restricted Donation Revenue
Restricted Donation Expense

Net Excess(Deficit)

407



STEUBENVILLE CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." - John 1:5

Calling all high schoolers! In our ever-changing world, Jesus is the answer to the longing of our hearts for meaning, fulfillment, security, and love. Join hundreds of Catholic teens at Steubenville-St. Paul to be illuminated in the light of Christ.
(More info. at SteubenvilleConferences.com/Youth)

When: July 26-28, 2024 (Fri-Sun)

Where: St. Paul, MN

Cost: \$50 (due with registration)

Register: Contact Steph Hansen at 920-277-8844 for a registration form.



STEUBENVILLE
CONFERENCES

Looking for a New Year's Resolution to Bring More Joy and Less Stress?

Heaven Speaks about Stress ([Direction for Our Times](#))

My children, why do you hurry so? Why do you feel you must move so quickly through your days? This is not the way I intended the children of God to live. You may tell Me that you have many things to do. I respond to you by saying that you are trying to do too much. You will not be holy if you move so quickly.

I want My beloved apostles to move more slowly and thoughtfully through their days. I want you to make decisions on what I am asking you to do and what you are busy-ing yourself with that is not from Me. I want your way of life to change and I am asking you to make this change now. In the next week, think about each activity and decide, with Me, if it is something I want you to do or something you want to do. My dearest apostles, I ask that you begin to remove activities that do not further My will.

I want more time in silence, as you know. I want more time with families, without noise blocking you from each other. I want prayer, yes, but also conversations that are not hurried and stressed between husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, and parents and children. These are the souls I have decided you will walk through your life with and you have obligations to them. If you are too busy with your own will, you are not seeing to Mine and you are missing opportunities both to learn from others and to assist others in learning about Me.

If you do not pay heed to Me, who will? In order for the renewal to come, My beloved apostles must begin to seek only heaven's will in their days. And I am talking to you and calling you My apostle. Do not look to someone else or assume I am speaking to others. I am speaking to you.

2024 Faith Formation Calendar

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

If class needs to be cancelled due to bad weather, we will make every effort to contact you. Please feel free to call Steph Hansen (920-867-5067 or 920-277-8844) if you are wondering about a possible cancellation.

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Jan. 1 - Feast of Mary the Mother of God

Feb. 14 - Ash Wed. Mass

March 16 - Wis. Catholic Youth Rally (in place of class the next day for gr. 7-12)

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16*
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

March 17 - No class for gr. 7-12

March 31 - Easter Sunday Mass (no classes)

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

April 21 - First Communion at Sun. 10:30 mass (tentative)

May 5 - Last Day of Classes

May 5 - Confirmation 2:00 at St. Mary Magdelene Parish in Waupaca

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 17-21 Totus Tuus

Vacation Bible School type event 9-2:30 for kids going into gr. 1-6. Youth group event each evening 7-9 pm (M-Th) for teens

	Class
	No Class
	Holy Day or Special Day
	Encounter Youth Group

We are in the process of updating our files. Please let the church know if you have an email address that we could sent you updates, and if you don't have your landline phone anymore please give us your cell number so we can contact you.

Update
your
Information



PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Dear Lord, at the beginning of this New Year, I remember that you are a God of beginnings and endings. You created the world, with all its eternal patterns.

Winter begins in frost, and ends in Spring's thaw. Spring begins in new, green life, ending in Summer's heat. Summer begins in sunshine, and ends in Autumn's breezes. And Autumn's color leads to the white of Winter again. As another year ends and begins in our lives, help us to remember that you have made a world of cycles. When fortune turns to trials, or hardship turns to joy, help me take delight in the life I've received from you. Remind me that I will one day pass from this world and enter a new life like those who've gone before me. Amen.



Join us this summer for 3 days of serving those in need (soup kitchens, home repair for low income families, shelters, food pantries, etc.) and a weekend of experiencing God through a youth conference (like a mini Steubenville conference). We'll road trip to TN and stop at some beautiful places/fun sites.

For more information check out Aliveinyou.com

Who: Anyone (you don't need to be Catholic) currently in gr. 8-12.

When: June 25-30 (We may add 2 days to have time to drive and see sites.)

Where: Nashville, Tennessee

Why: To grow in faith, serve those in need, meet new friends, experience the love of God & have fun.

Cost: \$100 (This is due with registration please, and it is non refundable - unless someone takes your spot) For scholarship info ask Steph.

The rest of the cost for the trip will be covered by fundraisers and grants. The camp is \$380. There may be an additional \$100 needed for overnight accommodations, food and admission costs to various sites on the way.

Please register with Steph as soon as possible so we can reserve our spots!

Knights of Columbus Council 13702

Family of the Quarter



In an initiative to support the family, the Knights of Columbus will be selecting a family from St. Peter and Paul's each quarter to highlight what they are doing to support our church and community.



The family selected for the fourth quarter of 2023 is the Kiedrowski Family! Dan and Martha have been married for 24 years! They have three wonderful children: Victor, Lia and Meredith!

The Kiedrowskis have been members of St. Peter and Paul's since 2018 and have been active in serving our church. Martha is one of the leaders of the St. Lucy's Group, which is a faith sharing group for the young girls of our parish. She is also a substitute teacher for our faith formation classes. Martha, Lia, Meredith, and even Dan on occasion, have been song leaders and greeters. Lia and Meredith are both altar servers and members of the St. Lucy's Group. Lia helps with the Christmas program put on by K-5 students in faith formation. Victor is a lector at Mass. He has also been a longtime member of the Squires, a faith sharing group for the young boys in our parish. Victor was instrumental in getting the Squires and St. Lucy's Group signed up for the Adopt-A-Highway program. Twice a year, the Kiedrowskis are involved in helping with the barn sale, which is a fund-raising event for the Squires and St. Lucy's Group. The proceeds are used by the two groups to donate locally and do group activities.

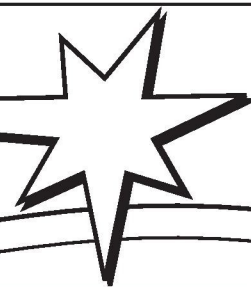
Dan plays an important role in our community as a teacher at Weyauwega-Fremont High School. Dan also coaches middle school boys' and girls' basketball. Martha is a program coordinator for the Emmaus Center for Spiritual Life & Vocation at St. Norbert College. This center helps students explore and deepen their faith. Victor, Lia and Meredith are active in the community by being members of the Squires and St. Lucy's Group. Raking leaves for the elderly and making meals for those experiencing food insecurity are just a couple of the activities these two groups do to help our community. The kids are also involved in the community through various school programs and organizations.

Please join me in thanking the Kiedrowski Family for all they do at St. Peter and Paul and for the Weyauwega-Fremont community!

Family of the Quarter recipients will receive a prayer icon of the Holy Family, be able to choose the special intention for two Masses (paid for by the Knights of Columbus) and will be featured in the church newsletter.

If you would like to nominate a family for Family of the Quarter, please feel free to contact Anthony at anthonyr@rynishforestry.com.

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

January 2024

S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Thoughtful Moments

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

Born at Troyes, France in 1620, St. Marguerite desired early on to become a missionary. A friend introduced her to the mayor of Ville Marie (now Montreal, Canada) and, at his invitation, St. Marguerite traveled to Canada to teach the children of the colony. She was later joined by several women – all consecrated to God and devoted to teaching and Works of Mercy. In 1676, she gained approval for her order, the Congregation of Notre-Dame de Montreal.



Fishers of Men

Some of the first apostles were fishermen working in the Sea of Galilee. The fish there were known for their quality and commanded a high price. Next time you eat fresh fish, remember Peter and Simon, James and John, the hard-working fishermen who left their boats to follow Jesus.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17).



Shape children's hearts with virtues

A key element of Catholic parenting is to shape the hearts of our children, not just manage their behavior. One way to shape a child's heart is to offer opportunities to grow in virtue:

Modesty: "Modesty protects the intimate center of a person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden"

(Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), #2521). Modesty awakens in youngsters a respect for the human person. Teach them to dress, speak, and take in entertainment that is wholesome, uplifting, and respectful of themselves and others.

Faithfulness: When children see that their parents are faithful to one another, for example, they intuit that

faithfulness or fidelity means to act in a way that honors a commitment. Children may not always hear what we say, but they are influenced by what they see us do.

Meekness: Meekness is not timidity. It fuels self-control. St. Thomas Aquinas cautioned against expressing physical anger because it makes anger outsized. Guide and model how to use meekness to manage anger. Meekness will help prevent evil from ruling actions.

Charity: "If I...have not love, I gain nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:3). Charity is giving love without an expectation of receiving in return. Teach children to put others' needs first. They will find that as they grow in charity, they will be happier and more joy-filled.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

As a Sacrament, Baptism conveys grace and the "washing away" of sin and the "rebirth" of the baptized as a child of God. It starts us on the surest path to salvation: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will

Why do Catholics have infants baptized?



be condemned" (Mark 16:16).

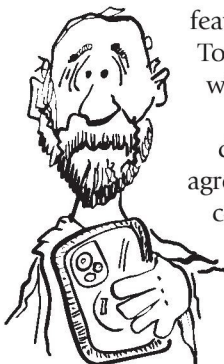
Catholic parents, desiring the best for their children, baptize them as infants, believing it will give them the best chance of true joy in this life and eternal life in the next.

If the saints had social media, what would they post?

Is there a “holy” way to use social media? Consider these suggestions from the saints:

To friend or unfriend? St. Teresa of Ávila cautioned that parents “be very careful whom they allow to mix with their children when young.” Although socially outgoing and fun-loving, she didn’t try to be liked by everyone, but sought the close friendships with those who encouraged her in holiness.

“Kind comments, only.” St. Philip Neri advised someone who gossiped to pluck a chicken and scatter the feathers in the wind. Those far-flung



feathers were like rumors – impossible to take back. Today, he would warn us to be careful what we post; who knows how many will see it.

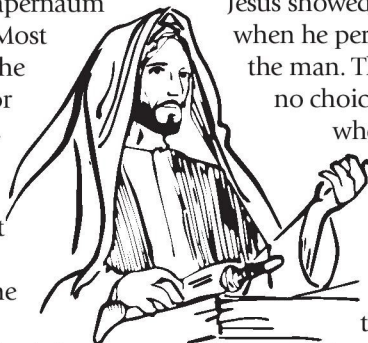
Disagree, but charitably: St. Thomas Aquinas debated often and won admiration, if not agreement, from his adversaries for his respectful conduct. “We must love [those who agree and disagree]...for they help us in the finding of [the truth].” For those in online debates, he would advise all to respond with charity and humility while still seeking the Truth.

Scripture LESSON

Mark 1:21-28, Jesus is no ordinary teacher

In this Gospel reading, we read that Jesus entered the synagogue at Capernaum with His apostles to teach. Most teachers would draw from the writings of other scholars for authority, and would begin, “Thus says the Lord...” but Jesus said, “I tell you...” As God, He already knew what the Scriptures meant without leaning on someone else’s teaching.

Jesus taught as one who had the authority of God and that astonished His listeners. Even the unclean spirits who were torturing a man at the synagogue recognized Jesus as “the Holy One of Israel.” Clearly, this was



no ordinary teacher!

Jesus showed His authority again when he performed an exorcism on the man. The unclean spirits had no choice but to obey Him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance.

What can a parent do? Jesus shows us that God’s power and love are greater than any evil. Teach children that they can talk to Jesus about anything that happens, good or bad. At the same time, stress that Jesus is God and deserves to be worshipped and obeyed.

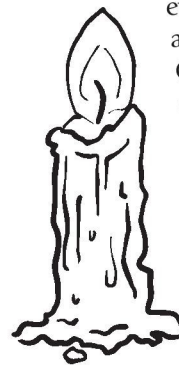
Parent TALK

Our busyness was crowding out family time. Between homework, practices, and playdates, we hardly ever had family dinner or attended Mass together. One Sunday when my daughter expected to skip Mass for a soccer tournament, I realized we needed a reboot.

That Saturday night we gathered around the table. I lit a candle and announced that Family Day had begun. I said that God wants us to keep Sunday holy, so Family Day starts at sundown on Saturday and goes through Sunday.

Now Sunday morning begins with church music while we dress for Mass. There are muffins or coffee cake made the night before so we can enjoy them and still observe the Communion fast. Then we attend Mass together and have a meal afterwards.

Then, whatever we do during the day, we do together. After dinner we blow out the “Sunday Candle” and feel ready to face the week.



Feasts & Celebrations

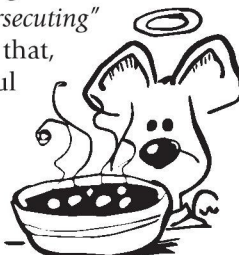
January 3 – Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus. “...At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth” (Philippians 2:10). Today, a deep bow of the head at the Name is an accepted form of respect.

January 7 – Epiphany of Our Lord. Epiphany is Greek for “manifestation.” When they honored the infant Jesus, the three wise men bore witness to the fulfillment of God’s promise of a savior.

January 21 – St. Agnes (304). St.

Agnes consecrated herself to God. Reportedly she was betrayed for being a Christian by a suitor whom she refused to marry. She maintained her faith and was executed as a result.

January 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul. Formally called “Saul” he persecuted the Christians until Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus, saying, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting” (Acts 9:5). After that, Saul became Paul and traveled around the known world, preaching the Faith.



Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

Compañeros en la fe



Ayudando a nuestros hijos a crecer en la fe católica

Enero de 2024

S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Momentos para pensar

Santa Margarita Bourgeoys

Nacida en Troyes, Francia, en 1620, santa Margarita deseó muy pronto ser misionera. Fue presentada al alcalde de Ville Marie (la actual Montreal, Canadá) y, por invitación de este, santa Margarita viajó a Canadá para enseñar a los niños de la colonia. Se le unieron después varias mujeres, todas consagradas a Dios y dedicadas a enseñar las Obras de Misericordia. En 1676 obtuvo el permiso para su orden, la Congregación de Nuestra Señora de Montreal.



Pescadores de hombres

Algunos de los primeros apóstoles eran pescadores que faenaban en el mar de Galilea. El pescado de allí era conocido por su calidad y se vendía a precios altos. La próxima vez que coman pescado, recuerden a Pedro y a Andrés, Santiago y Juan, los esforzados pescadores que abandonaron sus barcas para seguir a Jesús.

"Por tanto, el que está en Cristo es una nueva creación; pasó lo viejo, todo es nuevo" (2 Corintios 5:17).



Forjen los corazones de los niños con virtudes

Un elemento clave en la educación de los hijos es forjar los corazones de nuestros hijos, algo que va más allá de gestionar su comportamiento.

Una forma de forjar el corazón de los niños es ofrecerles oportunidades de que crezcan en virtud:

Pudor: "El pudor preserva la intimidad de la persona. Designa el rechazo a mostrar lo que debe permanecer velado". (Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica (CIC), #2521). El pudor despierta en los jóvenes respeto por el ser humano. Enséñenles a vestirse, a hablar y a divertirse de manera sana, edificante y respetuosa hacia ellos mismos y los demás.

Lealtad: Cuando los niños ven que sus padres se son fieles, por ejemplo, intuyen

que la lealtad o la fidelidad implican actuar respetando un compromiso.

Puede que los niños no escuchen siempre lo que decimos, pero les influye ver lo que hacemos.

Mansedumbre: La mansedumbre no es timidez. Aviva el autocontrol. Santo Tomás de Aquino advirtió sobre la expresión física de la ira porque amplifica la ira. Guíen y den ejemplo de cómo usar la mansedumbre para gestionar la ira. La mansedumbre contribuirá a impedir que el mal gobierne nuestros actos.

Caridad: "Si no tengo caridad, nada me aprovecha" (1 Corintios 13:3). La caridad es dar amor sin esperar recibir nada a cambio. Enseñen a sus hijos a pensar primero en las necesidades de los demás. Descubrirán que según crecen en caridad serán más felices y más jubilosos.



¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

¿Por qué bautizan los católicos a los recién nacidos?

El sacramento del Bautismo transmite gracia así como el "lavado" de los pecados y el "renacer" del bautizado como hijo de Dios. Nos inicia en el camino más seguro hacia la salvación: "El que crea y se bautice, se salvará; el que se niegue a creer será



condenado" (Marcos 16:16).

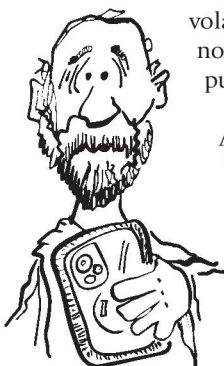
Los padres católicos, como desean lo mejor para sus hijos, los bautizan al nacer, creyendo que esto les presenta la mejor probabilidad de auténtico júbilo en esta vida y de vida eterna en la próxima.

Si los santos tuvieran redes sociales, ¿qué publicarían?

¿Hay una forma “santa” de usar las redes sociales? Tengan en cuenta estas sugerencias que nos dan los santos:

¿Seguir a no seguir? Santa Teresa de Ávila advirtió a los padres que tuvieran “cuidado con quienes permitían que se juntaran con sus hijos pequeños”. Aunque ella era muy sociable y alegre, no intentaba agradar a todos, sino que buscó amistades íntimas con quienes la animaban a crecer en santidad.

“Solo comentarios amables”. San Felipe Neri aconsejó a alguien que chismoseaba que desplumara un pollo y esparciera las plumas por el viento. Esas plumas que



volaban eran como rumores, imposibles de recuperar. Hoy nos aconsejaría que tuviéramos cuidado con lo que publicamos: quién sabe cuántas personas lo verán.

Discrepa, pero benévolamente: Santo Tomás de Aquino participaba en debates con frecuencia y se ganó la admiración de sus adversarios, aunque no estuvieran de acuerdo con él, por su conducta respetuosa.

“Debemos amar [a aquellos con quienes estamos de acuerdo y en desacuerdo]... porque nos ayudan a encontrar [la verdad]”. A los que participan en debates en línea les aconsejaría que respondieran con caridad y humildad sin dejar de buscar la Verdad.

Lecciones de las Escrituras

Marcos 1:21-28, Jesús no es un maestro cualquiera

En este pasaje evangélico leemos que Jesús entró a la sinagoga en Cafarnaúm con sus apóstoles para enseñar. La mayoría de los maestros buscaban autoridad en los escritos de otros eruditos y empezaban diciendo: “*Así dice el Señor...*”, pero Jesús dijo: “*Yo les digo...*” Como Dios sabía lo que significaba la Escritura sin apoyarse en las enseñanzas de otros.

Jesús enseñaba como alguien que posee la autoridad de Dios y que impresionaba a sus oyentes. Hasta los espíritus impuros que torturaban a un hombre en la sinagoga reconocieron a Jesús como el “Santo de Israel”. ¡Estaba claro que no era un maestro cualquiera!



Jesús mostró de nuevo su autoridad cuando realizó un exorcismo en el hombre. Los espíritus impuros, a pesar de su resistencia, no tuvieron más alternativa que obedecer a Jesús cuando les ordenó que salieran del hombre.

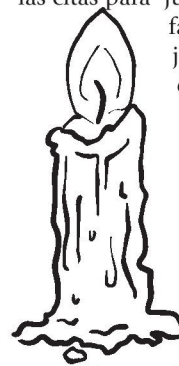
¿Qué pueden hacer los padres?

Jesús nos enseña que el poder de Dios y el amor son más grandes que cualquier mal.

Enseñen a sus hijos que pueden hablar con Jesús sobre todo lo que les pase, bueno o malo. Al mismo tiempo, hagan hincapié en que Jesús es Dios y se merece que lo adoremos y lo obedezcamos.

Hablan los padres

Nuestras múltiples ocupaciones estaban arrinconando el tiempo en familia. Entre los deberes escolares, los entrenamientos y las citas para jugar, apenas cenábamos en familia o íbamos a misa juntos.



Un domingo, cuando mi hija dio por descontado que se iba a saltar la misa para asistir a una competición de fútbol, me di cuenta de que necesitábamos replantearnos las cosas.

Ese sábado por la noche nos reunimos alrededor de la mesa.

Encendí una vela y anuncié que había empezado el Día de Familia. Dije que Dios quiere que santifiquemos el domingo, así que el Día de Familia empieza el sábado al anochecer y continúa todo el domingo.

Ahora la mañana del domingo empieza con música religiosa mientras nos vestimos para ir a misa. Hay magdalenas o bizcochos hechos la noche anterior para que nos dé tiempo a disfrutarlos y a observar el ayuno antes de comulgar. Luego vamos a misa juntos y después comemos. Luego, hagamos lo que hagamos durante el día, lo hacemos juntos. Después de la cena apagamos la “vela del domingo” y nos preparamos para hacer frente a la semana.

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Fiestas y celebraciones

3 de enero – Fiesta del Santísimo Nombre de Jesús. “... Para que al nombre de Jesús, se doble toda rodilla en el cielo, en la tierra y en los abismos” (Filipenses 2:10). Hoy día, se acepta una inclinación de cabeza como forma de respeto ante el Nombre.

7 de enero – Epifanía de Nuestro Señor. Epifanía es una palabra griega que significa “manifestación”. Cuando adoraron al Niño Jesús, los tres Reyes Magos fueron testigos del cumplimiento de la promesa de un salvador que había hecho Dios.

21 de enero – Santa Inés (304). Santa Inés se consagró a Dios. Se cuenta que fue traicionada por un pretendiente con quien se negó a casarse. Mantuvo su fe y por ello fue ejecutada.

25 de enero – Conversión de san Pablo. Llamado oficialmente Saulo, persiguió a los cristianos hasta que Jesús se le apareció en el camino a Damasco diciendo: “*Yo soy Jesús, a quien tú persigues*” (Hechos 9:5). Tras esto, Saulo se convirtió en Pablo y viajó por el mundo conocido, predicando la fe.

