



Dear Families of our PREP and our School,

As we enter the season of Lent year after year, we are constantly reminded of our need for spiritual renewal and growth. The practices of penance (“giving something up for Lent”), prayer, and almsgiving are meant to humble us and remind us of our need for God in the midst of our sinfulness. This year, as we celebrate the 100 year anniversary of our great parish, there is a wonderful opportunity for us to grow in our faith together as a community.

On October 5, 1930, to commemorate the Shrine of Saint Theresa of the Little Flower (the statue is now located inside our chapel), over 40,000 people came to worship and some dressed up as saints in elaborate costumes and presented a performance based upon the saints lives. Honestly, we find it remarkable during that time period, 40,000 pilgrims would journey all the way here to worship. What faith!



We would like to celebrate that great expression of faith by having another “Pageantry of Saints” using the children from both the school and the PREP. The date for this procession will be on Palm Sunday, April 14, after the 11 AM Mass. This day is of great significance for our Lenten journey as it is the Sunday before we enter Holy Week.

If you can imagine for a second the significance of this day in our faith, the day our Lord was welcomed into Jerusalem as a King while people were throwing palm branches at His feet...what better way can we celebrate our faith in Jesus than to honor saints who laid down their lives for the King as though their very lives were palm branches.

Each of our classes in both the PREP and the school have been given two saints to research and pray to; one male and one female saint. We would like all of the children to dress up as their class saint and come to the 11 AM Palm Sunday Mass where there will be a Eucharistic procession after Mass around the property and ending with Benediction where our new Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto is behind church. As we celebrate the 100 year anniversary of our parish community, we encourage all of our children with their families to participate in this wonderful opportunity to remember our past as we celebrate the present faith of our Church. Please know of our prayers for you as we enter the Lenten Season.

May the Lord give you and your families His Peace.

In Christ,
Monsignor Nicolo, Father Kozak, and Father Bob