

October 28, 2011

Dear Parents,

Last Friday night, many of us enjoyed the pasta dinner and Hoedown. I always enjoy watching families socialize and spend time together with their children. I am very grateful to Erin Garay for organizing every detail of the Hoedown and to Lisa Maguire and Tisha Costantini for coordinating the pasta dinner.

On Monday, the students in grades 3-8 attended the Opera a la Carte presentation of "Elixir of Love" starring five members of the San Francisco Opera. We were all very impressed with our St. Pius actors and actresses: Sofie Suracco, Alison Lazaruk, Katie Luttringer, Gianna Morales, Chris Gilardi, Riley Frates, Brandey Fitzgerald, Sam Brennan, Molly Saxelby, Alexander Zabaneh, Olivia Dumas and Alayna Seki. Special Thanks to Miss Leitch and Miss Bauarschi for working with the students prior to this performance.

Congratulations to the St. Pius Trivia Team who competed against 9 other schools in the 27th Annual Serra High School Trivia Contest. Many thanks to co-captains Eva Hernandez, Drew Healy, David Ibarra, and Danielle Carle, faculty moderators Mrs. Brinkman and Miss Leitch, and the many students and families that were a part of this success. They put forth a valiant effort!

Today ends the first quarter of the school year. Report cards will be coming home next Friday in grades 1-8. Kindergarten parents will receive their child's report card at their Parent/Teacher Conference. As you might remember, last year St. Pius School piloted a new Department of Catholic Schools report card. That report card, with a few minor changes, is now the official Archdiocesan report card. Probably the main change is that behavioral expectations and learning skills will be marked on a 1-4 scale with no + or -. At this time, parents in grades 5-8 do not have access to PowerSchool. This is always turned off while the teachers finalize report cards.

In your brown envelope that was sent home today is a form with your Parent/Teacher Conference date and time. If you are unable to keep your scheduled appointment, please call the school office (368-8327).

We will celebrate Halloween and Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart on Monday. Students may come to school dressed in appropriate costumes, or they may wear red and white free dress. We will have a Halloween parade and performance by each class at 8:15 am. You are welcome to join us in Fitzsimon Center. After the parade, the children will have classroom activities. Thank you to the room parents who will be providing treats. The students will participate in the Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart beginning at 1:30 pm. (Be sure to sign the permission slip on the flap of the donation envelope so your child can participate

on the day of the event.) Prior to this time, the children will change from their costumes into red and white free dress. Children wearing a costume to school on this day should be sure to bring red and white free dress to change into for the afternoon. It looks like an enjoyable day where we will have fun and help others. Any donation your child collects for the American Heart Association is very much appreciated.

Next week, after Halloween, we will collect any extra candy you may have to donate to our St. Vincent de Paul Society. They will give the candy to those they help in our own community.

On Tuesday, November 1, the students will attend a 9:30 am Mass to celebrate All Saints' Day. Hopefully you will be able to join us.

November 2 is All Souls Day, also known as the Day of the Dead. During this month of November, we remember those have gone before us in faith. We invite you to send pictures or mementos of your beloved dead for our office prayer table of remembrance so that we might join the prayers of our school community to yours in thanking God for the blessing of their lives and for God's eternal care for them. Join us in Fitzsimon center for a brief prayer service on Wednesday at 8:05 am. At this time children will have an opportunity to place any items they bring on the prayer table.

A week from Saturday, on November 5, is the PTG sponsored school auction, "St. Pius By The Bay". I hope you will support this event by your attendance, raffle tickets, bidding, and/or working this event. The proceeds benefit all the children so we should all participate in whatever way we can to make this a success.

Thank you for supporting the Kindergarten, 3rd and 8th grades October charity drive, for spare change for cancer research. I continue to be amazed at the generosity of our St. Pius School Families.

Important dates this coming week are:

Sunday, October 30	8 th Grade Pancake Breakfast
Monday, October 31	Halloween
Tuesday, November 1	Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart
Wednesday, November 2	All Saints' Day Mass at 9:30 am
Thursday, November 3	PTG Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
Friday, November 4	School Tour at 8:30 am
Saturday, November 5	7 th and 8 th Grade Field Trip
	School Board Committee Meetings
	2 nd Grade Lunch for St. Pius Seniors
	St. Pius By The Bay Auction at 6:00 pm

Blessings on your weekend.

Sincerely,



Rita Carroll
Principal

SCHOOL TOUR: Do you know a family member, friend or neighbor who may be looking for a school where "The children receive a well rounded education enriching their lives intellectually, spiritually and socially?" (*quote from a St. Pius School Family*) If so, please invite them to join the school tour on **Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at 8:30AM** in the foyer of Fitzsimon Center. There are tours scheduled monthly through February so watch the newsletter for more dates.

DAY OF THE DEAD: Wednesday, November 2, is All Souls Day and the students will celebrate "Day of the Dead". All families are invited to join the students for prayer that morning. We will gather in Fitzsimon Center. If you would like to remember a loved one at our "Table of Remembrance", please bring a picture or other memento that was significant to the person. Be sure you put your family name on the item so we can return it at the end of the month. We will keep the table in the office through the month of November and remember these family members and friends in our daily prayer.

THANK YOU: A huge Hoedown hurrah for everyone who made this year's Hoedown such a success! It was wonderful to watch all of the children having a blast and seeing so many families bond throughout the night. Big thanks to Tisha Costantini, Lisa Maguire & crew for the delicious dinner! Thank you so much to everyone who helped bring all the details together and to the huge clean-up crew who not only cleaned up our party but helped Jaime with the floor. Thank you so much to Lisa & David Sawyer, Carrie & Steve Philpott, Courtney & Rick Caccia, Alicia & Scott Young, Monica & Kalle Wik, Julia & Jason Lyssand, Michelle Lewis, Debra Rossi, Christian Fex, Dena & Quetzal Grimm, Cynthia Mattis, Helen Hueg and Tommy Hyland for an amazing set-up and the quickest tear down in St. Pius history. Many hands did make for light and fun work. Thank you! Can't wait for next year! Yeehaw! Erin Garay

PTG AUCTION NEWS: St. Pius by the Bay is next weekend! Look in your email for a PDF version of the auction catalog. You will get a printed copy sent home with your oldest next week. Take a look at all of the great items you would like to have and the great activities for your children. Start to get friends together to bid on the amazing parties that are offered! If you haven't bought your ticket to the biggest event of the year, get them in today! It is going to be an event you don't want to miss. Great food, great company and excellent music! Contact **Heidi McLalan** at heidimclalan@yahoo.com for questions.

POINSETTIA SALE: Poinsettias are available again this year. Direct from the grower that morning into your hands - they "holiday up" your home and make great gifts. Please turn your order in by **Monday, November 21st** for delivery on **Friday, December 2nd**. 6" plants in red or white for \$10 and 8" plants in red only for \$20. Questions, please contact **Kristin Bright** at 364-1768 or e-mail krvbright1@yahoo.com. Order forms available in this newsletter and in the school office.

WOMEN'S CLUB NEWS: Please join the Women's Club for a Night of Recollection on **Wednesday, November 9, 2011, from 6:30 - 9:00 pm.** Each November, the Women's Club sponsors an autumn gathering. It is a wonderful time to get together in faith with the women of St Pius. The evening will consist of a lecture from Father Rossi, which will be followed by a question and answer session. There is no cost to join us and we will provide light refreshments. Please come and join us!

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This Tuesday, November 1, is All Saints Day, a Holy Day when Catholics have the obligation to celebrate our call to holiness, our call to the communion of saints, sharing eternal life with our Lord. I welcome you to celebrate Mass--the schedule is: 8:00 and 9:30 AM, 12:10 and 6:30 PM. I encourage all parishioners to celebrate on November 2, the Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day) with Mass at 8:00 AM. Throughout the month of November, parishioners will have the opportunity to record the names of their beloved dead in the Book of the Dead, which will be placed in the church. In this way, all those coming to Mass can keep in prayer all those whose names are recorded in this special book for All Souls Day.

There is a 2nd collection today for the support of our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society -- your financial offering helps those who are presently struggling within our community -- thank you for your support. Remember to bring nonperishable food items each Sunday to be placed in the boxes at the entrance of the church.

This weekend I am inviting parishioners to step forward and help formalize our usher/greeter ministry. I see a need in our Sunday gatherings to have parishioners, faithful stewards, who are willing to share their time and talent by helping create a warm and welcoming environment when people enter our church. To make sure that people are welcomed, are given a Sunday bulletin, that our financial gifts are collected in a timely and orderly manner and brought to the altar ahead of the bread and wine as the gifts of the people, that people with special needs are assisted, and the church pews and environment are clean and tidy so as to prepare a welcoming and hospitable space for parishioners coming to the following Mass---these are some of the duties of ushers/greeters at each and every Mass. This ministry is an important one in the life of our parish and I hope men and women, boys and girls will actively respond to my invitation. I will meet briefly after each Mass this weekend to sign up those willing to assist with this ministry. We are planning a training session for next Saturday, November 5, from 9:00-10:00 AM in the church. If you are unable to attend this session, we will schedule another in the near future. Thank you for considering this invitation!

We continue our preparation for the 3rd edition of the Roman Missal, to begin the First Sunday of Advent, with our focus this weekend on the Eucharistic Prayer, with attention paid to the Holy, Holy, Holy and the Mystery of Faith. Beginning this weekend musical settings of the new translation of the Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) and the Mysterium Fidei (Mystery of Faith, or memorial acclamation) may be sung.

As we heard last week, the Liturgy of the Eucharist begins with the Preparation of the Altar and Procession of Gifts. After the gifts of bread and wine have been prepared and the assembly now standing, the priest says (or sings) the Prayer over the Gifts, at the end of which the assembly acclaims: "Amen." The Preface of the Mass, which accentuates a thematic setting, perhaps corresponding with the Liturgy of the Word, or a theological teaching, is now prayed by the priest after inviting the assembly into this Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer. The priest says (or sings) the following dialogue: "The Lord be with you." The assembly responds: "And with your spirit." The priest: "Lift up your hearts." The assembly: "We lift them up to the Lord." The priest: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The assembly -- and this is a revised, literal translation of the Latin: "IT IS RIGHT AND JUST." After the Preface is proclaimed, the whole assembly sings (or says) the Sanctus--Holy, Holy, Holy---and the one change is LORD GOD OF HOSTS, instead of "God of power and might." This acclamation of Holy, Holy, Holy proclaims there is one, Jesus Christ, who comes in the name of the Lord; who both brings God's holiness into people's lives and who brings people into God's holiness. Hosana! Save us now! Entering into the great Eucharistic prayer through the gateway of the Holy, Holy, Holy is to be drawn deeply into the mystery of Christ by the Holy Spirit.

As the priest prays the Eucharistic Prayer, after the institution narrative and consecration, when the priest repeats the words of Jesus from the Last Supper, he will now sing (or say): "THE MYSTERY OF FAITH". The sung acclamation from the assembly expresses and affirms our belief that the whole mystery of the Crucified and Risen Christ is present and active in the celebration of this assembly. Notice that these are acclamations, not proclamations. Acclamations are prayers addressed to someone, proclamations are made about someone. The three revised acclamations are: "We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again", "When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again", "Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free." Notice that "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again," the one most know, is not included in the revised acclamations and will no longer be used.

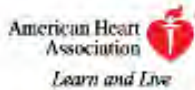
I ask that you help tidy up around the pew where you sit so that your brothers and sisters coming to the following Mass will have a clean and welcoming environment---this is another sign of a welcoming and hospitable community here at St. Pius.

Remember -- NEXT Saturday night -- turn clocks back one hour -- time to Fall Back and recover that one hour of sleep!

Peace to you all,

Fr. Paul Rossi

**JUMP ROPE/HOOPS FOR HEART is coming up
on OCTOBER 31st!**



**IT TAKES HEART
TO BE A HERO!**

Did you know? Many children are alive today thanks to treatments that were not available even 10 years ago. Your support helps fund research and medical advances that save and improve countless lives. Thank you!

Visit www.heart.org/jump or
www.heart.org/hoops to:

- Join the St. Pius on-line team
- Send an e-card to family & friends
- Find Tips for Parents on 'How to Make a Healthy Home'



WE JUMP. WE SHOOT. WE SAVE.

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WE JUMP. WE SHOOT. WE SAVE.

Join Us for a Delicious Pancake Breakfast



Sunday, Oct 30

After the 8:00 and 9:30 Masses

Homer Crouse Hall

Pancakes, Sausages, OJ, and Coffee



**All funds raised go toward the 8th Grade
Yosemite Trip**



2011 Winter Fundraising Program

Pre-Sell Flyer



Truffles
1 lb. \$18.90 (#902)



Assorted Chocolates
1 lb. \$16.50 (#318)



Milk or Dark Chocolates
Milk (#326) • Dark (#330)
1 lb. \$16.50



Nuts & Chews
1 lb. \$16.50 (#334)



Toffee-ettes®
1 lb. \$16.50 (#316)



Peanut Brittle
1 lb. 8 oz. \$15.90 (#355)



Assorted Molasses Chips
8 oz. \$8.25 (#360)



Assorted Peppermints
8 oz. \$8.25 (#358)



Assorted Gourmet Lollipops
1 lb. 5 oz. \$15.80 (#296)



Jolly Snowman Box
4 oz. \$6.50 (#9127)



Mini Holiday Fancy Box
4 oz. \$6.50 (#596)



Gift Certificate
Continental: 1 lb. \$16.50 (#767)



ST. PIUS 8TH GRADE YOSEMITE FUNDRAISER

Return to the St. Pius Office by Friday, November 4.

Get a jump on your holiday shopping and help the 8th graders go to Yosemite. Prices are equal to or lower than retail--and we deliver!
CANDY DELIVERED THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21 (in time for Thanksgiving).

Name:		Child's Grade(s):			
Address:					
Phone:					
WEIGHT	DESCRIPTION <i>(Items marked with † are wrapped in an appropriate Holiday Gift Wrap)</i>	ITEM#	QTY.	DISC. PRICE	TOTALS
1 lb.	Truffles	902		\$18.90	
1 lb.	Assorted Chocolates †	318		\$16.50	
1 lb.	Milk Chocolates †	326		\$16.50	
1 lb.	Dark Chocolates †	330		\$16.50	
1 lb.	Nuts & Chews †	334		\$16.50	
1 lb.	Toffee-ettes ® (Can)	316		\$16.50	
1 lb. 8 oz.	Peanut Brittle	355		\$15.90	
8 oz.	Molasses Chips - Assorted	360		\$8.25	
8 oz.	Peppermints - Assorted	358		\$8.25	
1 lb. 5 oz.	Gourmet Lollypops - Assorted	296		\$15.80	
4 oz.	Jolly Snowman Box	9127		\$6.50	
4 oz.	Mini Holiday Fancy Box	596		\$6.50	
	Gift Certificate (1 lb. box)	767		\$16.50	
TOTAL					

Cash or checks accepted. Please make checks to: St. Pius School.

Questions? Contact Cindy Pearson: pearsonc@stanford.edu, 650-521-3473.

THANK YOU!

The St. Pius School PTG invites you
to its 2011-2012 Annual Fundraiser



Featuring the band "Ticket to Ride"

November 5, 2011
At 6:00 in the evening
Fitzsimon Center
St. Pius School

Silent Auction begins when doors open and closes at 9:30 pm
Casual evening attire

Tickets \$45.00 per person
Drink tickets \$4.00 per ticket (\$5.00 at event)
Raffle tickets \$5.00 per ticket or 3 for \$10.00

Please fill out an RSVP form and return it to St. Pius School with payment by
October 28

For questions please contact Kelli Crowley at kelli.crowley@cnb.com, 650-812-0219
or Heidi McLalan at heidimclalan@yahoo.com, 650-722-2040

St. Pius School 1100 Woodside Road, Redwood City, CA 94061 Phone: 650-368-8327 Fax: 650-368-7031



ST. PIUS SCHOOL
 RSVP
 "St. Pius by the Bay"
 November 5, 2011 ♦ Fitzsimon Center



Please RSVP by October 28, 2011

Yes, I/we will be attending (please place the number of tickets you would like to purchase):

_____ Tickets at \$45 per ticket

Yes, I/we will be attending and would like to sponsor the event (please place an X next to the level you are interested in):

_____ **\$100 - Marina Sponsor** - Two tickets to St. Pius by the Bay Auction and an acknowledgement in the auction catalog. *Per IRS guidelines, the non-deductible amount is \$90.*

_____ **\$250 - Presidio Sponsor** - Two tickets to St. Pius by the Bay Auction and a quarter page ad in the auction catalog. *Per IRS guidelines, the non-deductible amount is \$90.*

_____ **\$500 - Nob Hill Sponsor** - Two tickets to St. Pius by the Bay Auction and a half page ad in the auction catalog. *Per IRS guidelines, the non-deductible amount is \$90.*

_____ **\$1,000 - Pacific Heights Sponsor** - Four tickets to St. Pius by the Bay Auction; five drink tickets; a reserved table for you and your friends at the auction; and a full page ad in the auction catalog. *Per IRS guidelines, the non-deductible amount is \$200.*

In addition, add the following to my purchase (please place the quantity of tickets you would like to purchase):

_____ Drink tickets at \$4.00 per ticket (\$5.00 if purchased at the event)

_____ Raffle tickets at \$5.00 per single ticket or 3 for \$10.00

_____ Sponsor a teacher to attend the event (\$45.00 per ticket)

No, I/we will not be attending, but please accept my/our donation to St. Pius School PTG supporting the students of St. Pius School. \$ _____.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ payable to St. Pius School PTG.

*THANK YOU for your generosity - these events are not possible without your continued support.
 If you sponsor the event, an acknowledgement letter will be emailed to you.
 Please keep a copy of this form as your receipt.*

Questions? Contact Kelli Crowley at kelli.crowley@cnb.com

1100 Woodside Road, Redwood City, CA 94061 Phone: 650-368-8327 Fax: 650-368-7031

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

6" pot - red or white - standard plant \$10.00 each
 8" pot - red only - 2 plants 24" 28" tall \$20.00 each

Name	# of 6" red	# of 6" white	Total # of 6" x \$10.00	# of 8" red	Total # of 8" x \$20.00	Total Amount Due:
<i>Molly Mustang (example)</i>	3	1	\$40.00	2	\$40.00	\$80.00

PAYMENT IS DUE WITH ORDER. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: St. Pius PTG

Family Name _____

Telephone Number _____

Please return order form & payment to school office NO LATER THAN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21st!!!
Pick Up is Friday, December 2nd
 Any questions contact Kristin Bright at 364-1768 or krvbright1@yahoo.com

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

November 2011



Thoughtful Moments

A new year begins

Each year the Church begins a new liturgical year on the Sunday closest to the feast of the apostle Andrew (November 30). This year the first Sunday of Advent is November 27th. We begin Year B in the liturgical cycle.



A family meal

After-school activities and work schedules can render family dinners a thing of the past. Yet, coming together over a meal several times a week is the best way to stay connected, and reinforce family values. If dinner time isn't practical, try substituting family breakfasts or bedtime snacks. The important thing is to do it regularly and as a family.

All Saints Day

In the early Church, parishes often celebrated a different saint or martyr each day. Persecution of the Church led to more saints and martyrs than days of the calendar, so Pope Gregory IV initiated Nov. 1st as All Saints Day. It is a holy day of obligation.



Let the saints put your children on the right path

Cardinal Virtues are four virtues the Church has identified that will help us get to Heaven. When we teach our children to live by these virtues, we put them on the right path. Try explaining these virtues using saints as examples.

Temperance – This virtue teaches moderation and self-discipline.

St. Therese of Lisieux got everything she wanted as a child. Through temperance, she gave up her selfish ways and put her trust in Jesus. She is known for doing little things with great love.

Justice – Justice teaches us to respect the rights of others. St. Peter Claver used to meet the ships docking in Columbia

burdened with people to be sold as slaves. He brought the passengers food and medicine and assured them of their dignity and God's love. He baptized almost 300,000 slaves.

Fortitude – This virtue gives us the courage to do what is right despite difficult circumstances. St. Gianna Beretta Molla was a pediatrician and mother. When she became ill while pregnant, she refused to end her unborn child's life even though it meant her certain death.

Prudence – St. Joseph, the husband of Mary, demonstrated the virtue of prudence – making the right choices to do good. He followed the instructions of the angel and married Mary, fled to Egypt to protect his family, and was a faithful husband and father.

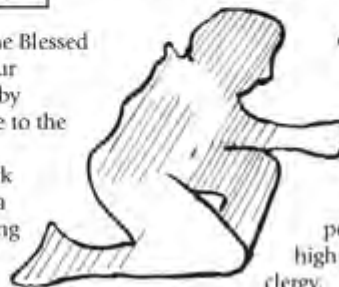


Why Do Catholics Do That ?

Why do we genuflect on the right knee?

In the presence of the Blessed Sacrament we show our respect and reverence by bending the right knee to the floor. The practice of genuflection dates back thousands of years as a sign of respect for a king or emperor.

In the Catholic



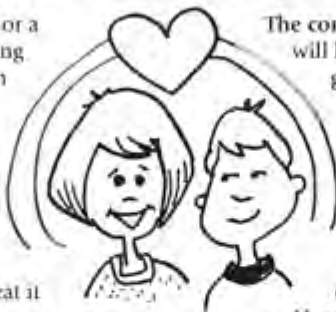
Church, we reserve the right knee for the Blessed Sacrament.

The left knee is used when genuflecting as a formal greeting for a prelate such as a pope, bishop, or other high ranking member of the clergy.

Is Heaven worth the wait?

To many children, a day off from school or a family vacation is heaven in itself. Sacrificing and doing penance to work toward Heaven after death is too abstract a concept to motivate them toward holiness. So how can we help youngsters understand how great Heaven really is?

All good things start there. "Every good endowment and every perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17). If all good things on earth come from Heaven, imagine how great it is at the source.



The company is best there. When we get there, we will have joyful reunions with beloved grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends who have died before us. Best of all, we get to mingle with the saints, angels, and with Jesus, himself.

The one who loves us best is there. As much as earthly parents love their children, it's nothing compared to the love God has for each of us. He is the perfect parent – our true Father – and he is waiting for us in Heaven.

Scripture LESSON

**Mark 13:33-37,
Be watchful, be alert**

This gospel is from the first Sunday of Advent. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of Our Lord, his first coming.

But Advent is a time for us to prepare for the Second Coming. We don't know when this will happen. Jesus' message is to be watchful and alert for his coming. To be watchful involves getting our lives in order. Christ gave us the sacraments so we can do this, especially the Sacrament of Penance. Being in a state of grace means we're ready to meet Jesus.



However, this preparation involves each of us gathering the harvest. It means each of us being a missionary in our lives so everyone may come to know and love the Lord when they come face to face with God.

What can a parent do? This Gospel gives parents a chance to explain to our children what the Second Coming means: that Jesus will come to earth again. This should not be something to fear. Rather, it will be as wonderful as Christmas itself since it means we'll be with God forever.

Feasts & Celebrations

Nov. 10 – Pope St. Leo, the Great (461). Pope St. Leo helped the Church stay united despite attacks from false teachers and warring tribes. He is famous for his explanations of the faith.

Nov. 11 – St. Martin of Tours (397). The patron of soldiers, St. Martin was forced to join the army at the age of 15 but left to become a priest. He founded a monastery near Poitiers, France, and later became bishop of Tours.

Nov. 12 – St. Josaphat (1623). Born in the Ukraine, St. Josaphat converted to Catholicism, became a

Basilian monk, then a priest, and was named Bishop of Vitebsk (now in Belarus). He worked for unity in the Church but was martyred.

Nov. 13 – St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (1917). Mother Cabrini started the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Italy and founded 67 institutions to care for the sick and forgotten in Europe and the Americas. She died in Chicago and was the first U.S. citizen to be canonized.



Parent TALK

Whenever Rachel and I need to talk, we go out to the garden. So it was no surprise to me that we spent countless hours out there this summer after my mother died.



Rachel was having a hard time understanding why God would take her grandmother away and missed her terribly. I, too, was struggling, so it

was hard to make her understand. It wasn't until one day when I was carrying in some cut flowers that I knew what to say.

I told Rachel that Grandma was like a flower God took care of. He made sure that she grew a little each day until she became the person he wanted her to be. That's when she had finally bloomed and he took her to live with him in his house in Heaven.

That made Rachel smile and she finally understood that death on earth meant life in Heaven.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
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<http://www.growinginfaith.com>
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