

Messages from Some of Our Catechists

From Mrs. E: "I wanted to let you know how much I miss your smiles, questions, and funny stories. I am so sorry that our time together got cut short. But my hope for you is that you are taking time to enjoy the "Happy Surprises" of the current situation. Spending time in your safe homes with people and pets that love you, hopefully taking time to watch nature happily turning into Spring and listening to all the birds singing their beautiful songs. Say your prayers, dear students. I can't wait to celebrate your First Holy Communion with you! Our smiles and joy will be even bigger, once we are back together again."

From Col B: "Your home is a holy place, a fundamental place to learn about Jesus Christ, the Trinity, Jesus' Mother Mary (remember ending every class with the "Hail Mary"?), and the Angels and the Saints. Here we first learn how much God loves us.

While we see suffering in our friends and neighbors, there is always so much good that we can do. For instance, we have instantly joined the Cloistered communities around the world. These are holy monks and nuns living in small spaces 'away from the world', for 1,000 years and more. In their prayerful quiet spaces, these holy people witness to the whole world of the primacy of Prayer in the Church, and heroically they intercede for others before God. We have joined these heroes in prayer, in our quiet spaces at home. As you find the time, look up 'cloistered' and "Prayer of Intercession" in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2634-36; 2647). You've joined an ancient prayer army. Pray; praise God; share your feelings with God; ask God for anything; pray for others in need; pray for those who have no one to pray for them; listen to God. Include the Blessed Mother and your Guardian Angel, and the saints in your prayers.... as you intercede for others, they intercede for you."

From Mr. Joe.: "And, I know I mentioned more than once that we would be making necklaces with Saints' medals in class. Under the circumstances I decided to make them for you! Each Saints' medal was selected just for you by me. There are more than one medals per necklace so you can easily mix & match and personalize it even more. Each necklace and medal have been dipped in rubbing alcohol before being blessed by our own Fr. Ben!"

From Ms. Marilyn.: "I pray daily that you each continue and grow in your love...passion for God with your family and that you remember what we have shared in our class. Our God is gracious, merciful, loving. HE is there for you to calm your fears in these unusual times.

Seek him out in prayer...listen to God's word in the online mass...Open your Bible and share with your family... read Psalms for encouragement like we've done in class... Our Lord is here... Be safe...Be blessed...and pray for our healthcare workers, essential workers, those battling COVID 19 and their families, and for our government officials to work together harmoniously for the good of the people."

From Mr. J: "Praying by talking to God is an extraordinary way to grow your relationship with Him. He loves hearing about your day, your thoughts and dreams and just spending time with

you. But listening is also a big part of loving friendships. How better to get to know God than by reading about His Son Jesus in the Gospels. Remember to put yourself in the setting of each Gospel story. Imagine being there as one of his Apostles or followers or someone else in the reading. Quiet, one-on-one time with God opens up your heart to the Holy Spirit who helps you speak, think, and act the way Jesus did. And never forget to ask Jesus' 'Most Blessed Mother Mary for help too. Her whole focus is to lead you to her Son.'"

