

**Saint Peter
School News
February, 2023**

Dear Parents,

We will soon begin the liturgical season of Lent. It is a time to deepen our relationship with Jesus and examine our lives to make the necessary conversions to become more Christ-like. We will also take part in weekly Stations of the Cross and Benediction to enhance our spiritual lives and grow closer to Jesus. Pope Francis encourages us to enter whole-heartedly into this liturgical season: "Lent is a favorable time for personal and community renewal, as it leads us to the paschal mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For our Lenten journey we will do well to reflect on Saint Paul's exhortation to the Galatians: "Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all" (Gal 6:9-10)... "Let us not grow tired of doing good" Christ's resurrection enlivens earthly hopes with the "great hope" of eternal life, planting the seed of salvation in our present time. Bitter disappointment at shattered dreams, concern for the challenges ahead and discouragement at the poverty of our resources, can make us tempted to seek refuge in self-centeredness and indifference to the suffering of others. Indeed, even our best resources have their limitations: "Youths grow tired and weary, the young stumble and fall". Yet God "gives strength to the weary, he strengthens the powerless... Those who hope in the Lord will regain their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles; though they run they will not grow weary, though they walk they will never tire". The Lenten season calls us to place our faith and hope in the Lord, since only if we fix our gaze on the risen Christ will we be able to respond to the Apostle's appeal, "Let us never grow tired of doing good". *Let us not grow tired of praying.* Jesus taught us to "pray always without becoming weary". We need to pray because we need God. Thinking that we need nothing other than ourselves is a dangerous illusion.. No one attains salvation alone, since we are all in the same boat, amid the storms of history; and certainly no one reaches salvation without God, for only the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ triumphs over the dark waters of death. Faith does not spare us life's burdens and tribulations, but it does allow us to face them in union with God in Christ, with the great hope that does not disappoint, whose pledge is the love that God has poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. *Let us not grow tired of uprooting evil from our lives.* May the corporal fasting to which Lent calls us fortify our spirit for the battle against sin. *Let us not grow tired of asking for forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation,* knowing that God never tires of forgiving. ...*Let us not grow tired of doing good in active charity towards our neighbors.* During this Lent, may we practice almsgiving by giving joyfully. God who "supplies seed to the sower and bread for food" enables each of us not only to have food to eat, but also to be generous in doing good to others. While it is true that we have our entire life to sow goodness. let us take special advantage of this Lenten season to care for those close to us and to reach out to our brothers and sisters who lie wounded along the path of life ... "If we do not give up, we shall reap our harvest in due time." Each year during Lent we are reminded

that "goodness, together with love, justice and solidarity, are not achieved once and for all; they have to be realized each day". Let us ask God to give us the patient perseverance of the farmer, and to persevere in doing good, one step at a time. If we fall, let us stretch out our hand to the Father, who always lifts us up. If we are lost, if we are misled by the enticements of the evil one, let us not hesitate to return to God, who "is generous in forgiving". In this season of conversion, sustained by God's grace and by the communion of the Church, let us not grow tired of doing good. The soil is prepared by fasting, watered by prayer and enriched by charity. Let us believe firmly that "if we do not give up, we shall reap our harvest in due time" and that, with the gift of perseverance, we shall obtain what was promised, for our salvation and the salvation of others. By cultivating fraternal love towards all, we are united to Christ, who gave his life for our sake, and we are granted a foretaste of the joy of the kingdom of heaven, when God will be 'all in all'."

Congratulations to our Newly Baptized

We rejoice with our students who have recently received the Sacrament of Baptism. May God continue to guide them on their faith journey: Jayleen & Max Valerio Jazlyn Covington (2)
Jonayelis Gil (K) Jorge Rodriguez (4)
Jonael Gil (2) Nyleah Connor (5)

Sacramental Talk--First Penance

There will be a meeting for all parents of students who will receive the Sacrament of Penance this year on Mon., Feb.6 in church at 6:30pm. Your attendance shows your commitment to share in the sacramental life with your children.

Saint Peter School Book Club

Thanks to Mrs. Vida, our faithful librarian and Mrs. Searfoss we have a wonderful gathering of students and teachers who read a specific book and then have a discussion on it. It is truly an enriching experience. Our current members are: Mrs. Vida
Ennybel Mejia (8) Gabriela Rosas (7)
Ianthe Morales (8) Mrs. Searfoss
Brittney Martinez (7) Sister Anna

Re-Registration/Financial Aid for 2023-2024

Please remember to send back the re-registration papers for the 2023-2024 school year. We most especially look forward to welcoming our new Kindergarten students. If you have a child who is 5 years old or will be 5 by September 30, 2023, please call or come to the school for a registration packet. Also please follow the link on our webpage to apply for financial aid through Simple Tuition Solutions. You must re-apply every year for financial aid.

Catholic Schools' Week

Please read the attached paper of our daily activities as we celebrate Saint Peter School during Catholic Schools' Week Jan.29-Feb. 3.

