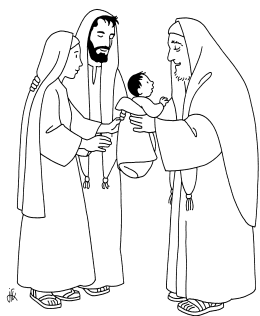


WE ARE ALL
"NAMED, CALLED,
CHOSEN".

From the
Saints:

"I asked a favour of you and you refused. I asked it of God and He granted it."

-St. Scholastica



IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY

Feast of the 2
Presentation of
the Lord

Memorial of St. 5
Agatha

Memorial of St. 10
Scholastica

Feast of the 22
Chair of St.
Peter

Memorial of St. 23
Polycarp

Optional Me- 26
morial of the
Blessed Virgin
Mary

From the Chaplain's Office

A Supplementary for the Catholic Educator at St. Edmund Campion Secondary School

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"Therefore I tell you, do not worry..."

It's not a revelation of particular wonder that being a Catholic teacher comes with great responsibility. And often with great responsibility comes the stress and anxiety of fulfilling this vocation in a way that is pleasing not just to our own eyes but in God's eyes as well.

We're charged with the nurturing and development of the soul as well as of the mind and body, and that is a monumental task indeed! But does worrying about our own effectiveness, in light of what we perceive to be our weaknesses, really do anything to help us be better Catholic educators?

In Matthew's Gospel Jesus simply says no: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life...Can

any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span?"



We are all called to do our best wherever we are with whatever we have. We can't be all things to all people and we're not even called to do that! We are called

to be whomever it is God made us to be. And that knowledge, along with a recognition of God's working hand in all that we do will help to bring about the Kingdom of God in our own little corner of the great classroom that is Catholic education.

And that's just the beginning of the adventure! It's been my experience that every day spent in a Catholic school reveals something to me about myself that contributes to the larger picture of both myself as a creation of God and the even greater picture of creation as a whole. So who am I to try and control every aspect of my life?

"Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given unto you."

So what exactly do you believe?

There is a temptation in the modern world today by some Christians to humanize Jesus for the express purpose of making him more "accessible" to people familiar with the Gospel story, especially young people. It would be enough, apparently, to present Jesus as more of an activist for social justice than focus on His role as Saviour and Redeemer. His miracles, from healing the sick to being raised from the

dead are explained rationally, with greater emphasis on the human consequences of these events rather than the spiritual ramifications.

It's important to remember as Catholic educators that we are to present beliefs in keeping with the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Yes, Christ was an activist who advocated for the poor. But just as impor-

tant (and even more so), Jesus came to earth to redeem humanity from their sins and open the door to eternal life in heaven with God. Jesus was and is so much more than a "good man" who taught everyone to love one another. Belief in the message of the Gospel means we also recognize what is at stake when heeding the theology implicit in the New Testament: nothing less than the fate of the soul itself.