

WE ARE ALL
"NAMED, CALLED,
CHOSEN".

From the Chaplain's Office



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

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From the Saints:

"Let me get through today, and I shall not fear tomorrow."

-St. Philip Neri



IMPORTANT DATES IN MAY

Divine Mercy Sunday/
Beginning of Catholic Educa-

Feast of St. Philip and St.

World Day of Prayer for Vo-
cations

Memorial of St. Philip Neri

Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

If you're considering alternative forms of prayer to begin your classroom day, why not consider the Rosary? The rosary is a powerful form of prayer that invites meditation and contemplation on the life of the Lord and the role of the Blessed Mother in our everyday lives. Mary leads us to Jesus. As the Mother of God, Mary points the way to her Son, reminding us that the life, death and resurrection of Jesus offers us something that the world outside cannot give us.

Consider for a moment what Mary gave up when Jesus died on the cross. Mary watched her only Son die on the cross, an innocent man condemned to die in the most violent and dehumanizing way possible. In that moment Mary offered up Jesus

through her own pain of watching her Son die. This human offering on behalf of Mary is perpetual and it is an offering extended to us today: Follow Jesus



and you will know the Way, the Truth, and the Life!

In the film "The Passion of the Christ" there is a particularly powerful scene that juxtaposes

to moments from the life of Jesus. As Mary watches Jesus fall under the heavy burden of the cross he carries to his crucifixion, the film flashes back to when Jesus stumbles as a little boy and skins his knee. Mary rushes to the little boy's aid and consoles him. Yet the Mary who watches her Son being led to his death cannot offer him the same consolation.

Likewise Mary is present in the lives of all our students, rushing to their aid when they stumble, and offering up the direction that points to her Son Jesus. Mary's presence in the classroom can be a loving reminder of the human Jesus who had a human mother; a mother who consoles us and loves us and wants us to share in the gift that is Christ Jesus.

Our Lady of the Classroom

A Role Model of Virtue

It's my sincere belief that young people today are hungry for authentic role models. By authentic I mean people who demonstrate what it means to be virtuous, unafraid of living out a life that demonstrates piety, loving kindness, and holiness. Secular culture can offer up role models who are decidedly lacking in virtue, who ridicule the ideals of self-control, patience, or faith. It's the Blessed Mother who can offer up an example of virtuous living, especially for the young

women in our schools. Mary's "yes" answer to God placed her in the role of an unwed pregnant teenager, whose status in society put her in great peril. But Mary knew that what the Lord intended for her surpassed any other expectations of demands of the culture in which she lived. Perhaps this example can help young people trump secular culture's demands with the loving demands that come from a God who wants young people to hear His voice at work in their lives.

