

Dear Parents,

This next week our Lenten Virtue is courtesy (being thoughtful to others). We will discuss manners, politeness and how we show this virtue at home and school. We can see this virtue in the polite please and thank yous we hear from your children.

Some fifth graders are studying water scarcity for their IB exhibition presentation and are promoting donations to the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl this year. The CRS, Catholic Relief Services, does much work to promote water security. We have a rice bowl box in our classrooms and will talk to the children about how the money they have already brought in will be used. Please consider donating to the rice bowl this year! They will be available until Holy Thursday.

Another way we can give during Lent is to support the food drive. Once again, the need is great, and this supports our St. Luke Community members. Let's all work together to fill the food pantry. Please donate what you can; we would love 100% participation from our 3rd-grade classes. Look for more information to come up with items they are in particular need of. The food drive ends Friday, March 17th.

Students began an Explore America math project where they were taking a trip around the five regions of the United States. Each student has a budget of \$2500 as they travel to each city. Using their budgeting and math skills, they choose lodging, souvenirs, food, and activities in each city. The goal is not to run out of money. We will be working on this project each Friday for a few weeks.

Students have been busy researching and creating slideshows about their region of the United States. Each student is creating about three slides for their group's slideshow. Groups will begin presenting on Monday, March 13th. We've extended the due date because they needed more time to complete them after getting feedback from us. Please let your children know about the change. They are welcome to work on these at home but remind them they may **NOT** touch anyone else's slide. Each child will be graded on **their** portion of the slideshow. We will not have class time to work on the slides again, so students need to ensure their slides are done before Wednesday.

Hopefully, you are working with your child on their state floats. Remember, the floats are not due until Tuesday, March 14th. We are happy to print off pictures for you and will print one document for each child if they need it. Each child has read about their state and is in the process of completing an online book report in slideshow format. This book report will be finished next week, and we will then move on to a unit on poetry.

#### **Upcoming Events**

PE classes will begin Jump rope for heart soon. This is always a fun way to raise money for the American Heart Association.

3/6 - Third Grade visits church with Father Brad

3/8 - Region Presentations begin

3/10 - Teacher In-Service - NO SCHOOL

3/13 - Lenten Reconciliation Service

State projects DUE

Region Presentations begin

3/17 - End of Food Drive

3/24 - Report Cards

3/31 - FREE DRESS DAY

Have a great weekend,

Valerie Sheehan and Susan Smith