

Let Your Voices Be Heard!



Well, the students and staff are back and so is winter! I trust that everyone had a joyous and happy Christmas. I marvel every year at how almost everybody wants to celebrate Christmas and yet, when you see interviews and surveys that ask people what they think the real meaning of Christmas is, well over half of them don't even mention the name of Jesus. Oh, lots of adults will talk about living in peace and harmony, good will towards our fellow humans, and all the platitudes that sound so nice. And when kids are asked what do they say? It's the presents! So many people today don't connect Christmas with Christ.

And, it's getting worse. Go back just a few years and it wasn't like that. Even people that didn't regularly go to church at least recognized that Christmas was when Jesus was born. Go back a few years more and you had people who belonged to a church and even went somewhat regularly. A few years farther back even more people were regular church goers who professed a Christian belief. Times sure have changed.

When I look at society today it's scary and it's sad. Many, many young people today are growing up without attending any kind of church. How do you suppose they will be raising their kids?

We have a job to do people. Our school mission statement is "to grow in spirit, mind, and body as disciples of Christ." This is the type of growth we try to foster in our students. This is our ministry. It follows our parish's mission to "go and make disciples." You see the school is a ministry of the parish and it is our job to fulfill that mission. What better way is there to make disciples than to work with them while they are young and growing up?

It is our job to turn the tide of what we see happening in society today. A strong Catholic School system is one great way to do this. But, there are many hurdles to jump to make Catholic schools strong again. One of the ways that we can help do this is by making our voices heard. In order to make our voices heard, we need to be informed about what is going on in our country so that we can speak out about specific issues. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has a website where you can register for updates on issues of importance to you. Some of these are education issues, but they report on other issues as well. They keep up-to-date on pending legislation and they will even give you verbiage on what to write to your elected officials.

Think about all of the non-Christian groups that scream and cry out for their "rights." Their advocacy has made a difference in society, but so can ours. It is time for all of us to make our voices heard. This is one way for you to support our mission. I urge you to go to <http://cqrcengage.com/catholicbishops/action> and

create a free profile for yourself so that you will receive important alerts and have an opportunity to have your voice heard.

Remember, together we can do great things!

In His Service,
Jim Makey, Principal