

Weekly Word From St. Patrick School

SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

WEEKLY MESSAGE

In the Gospel this weekend, you will hear a parable told by Jesus. The parable is from Matthew 20:1-16a. It is the parable of the vineyard workers. It tells a story of a vineyard owner going out and hiring workers at the beginning, middle, and end of the day. In the evening, the owner paid all of the workers an equal amount.

At first glance, it is easy to look at it as being an unfair situation to those who worked the vineyard all day. Why should someone who worked less, get the same amount as someone who worked all day? We have been conditioned as a society to constantly look at "fairness".

However, we may not always understand what God is talking about. This parable to me is an example of one of those times.

My personal look at the parable is one of encouragement. I believe that God is telling us that He loves all of his people whether they were the first people to believe in him or the last.

FALL FESTIVAL

The St. Patrick Parish Fall

Festival is October 9 from 11:00 to 2:00. There is a meal, games, silent auction, raffle, and a country store. Please mark that date on the calendar and plan to attend. It is very important that we show our support for Parish functions.

150TH ANNIVERSARY

The 150th celebration is September 25 at 4:00. We are celebrating 150 years as a Parish. The children will be performing a song at the beginning of Mass. The Archbishop is celebrating Mass. More information about this is attached to this newsletter.

PICTURE DAY

Picture day is Wednesday September 21. We sent home order forms earlier this week. If you did not get an order form, please let us know.

FOOD FUNDRAISER

Just a reminder that on Monday we will be starting our fall fundraiser. We are selling food from "Joe Corbi". This food was sampled during our open house.

Parents:

St. Patrick's Church is celebrating our 150th Anniversary. **Sunday, Sept 25** there is a special mass at **4:00 pm** (no 10:30 mass that day) to celebrate this occasion. The Archbishop and many other priest and sister will be attending this celebration. After mass there will be a social in the church hall, which everyone is invited to. This is a BIG DEAL!

In appreciation of all the support we get from the church, the school elementary students will be performing a song right before mass. We would like the student to dress nice...their "Sunday" best!

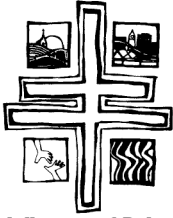
We need to know if your student will be able to attend this mass on Sept 25. Either send a note to their teacher, or call, text or email Lynn by Wed. Sept 21.

Lynn cell – 319-551-2139 (text or call) dbq005ym@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us

Thank you for your support and hope to see you Sunday, Sept 25.

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Attached to this newsletter is the first of a five part series of parent NewsNotes from the Office for the Protection of Children from the Archdiocese of Dubuque. The purpose of these publications is to help all of us be more informed of the issues and topics related to the abuse of children. It is our sincere hope that by partnering together we can continually provide the safest possible environment for all our young people to grow into healthy, Christ-filled adults. Future NewsNotes will be distributed during the months of October, November, January, and February. Additional resources can be found at the Virtus website at <http://www.virtusonline.org>.



Archdiocese of Dubuque

Office for Protection of Children

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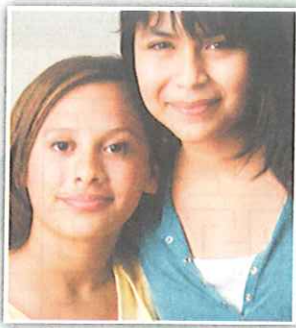
Email: dbqcopc@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us

In 2011, the John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York released the results of a landmark study which examined the causes and context of the clergy sexual abuse crisis in the U.S. Catholic Church. The report concluded that there was no single cause or predictor of sexual abuse by Catholic clergy and that situational factors and opportunity to abuse played a significant role in the onset and continuation of abusive acts.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops prepared the following statement outlining the key points of the John Jay study. The full report can be accessed at www.usccb.org/ocyp

1. **Most abuse occurred in the 1960s and 1970s.** No single factor led priests to abuse. The increased frequency of abuse is consistent with the patterns of increased deviance of society during the 1960s and 1970s. The social influences intersected with vulnerabilities of individual priests whose preparation for celibacy was inadequate.
2. **There has been a huge decline in sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clerics.** More than 90 percent of the known cases of sexual abuse of minors occurred more than 20 years ago. The Catholic Church is no longer in the middle of a sexual abuse “crisis.” Statistical analyses show that most newly reported cases today are based on abuse that took place decades ago.
3. **Approximately four percent of priests had allegations of abuse from 1950-2002.** That percentage seems to remain the same now given that most allegations that surfaced after 2002 were allegations against priests who had already been accused. Since 2002, there have been about 500 men ordained annually and abuse is quite rare among men ordained in the 21st century. There is no evidence that priests abuse at higher rates than men in the general population or in any other groups.
4. **Celibacy is not to blame.** Abuse increased in the 1960s and then declined in the 1980s. Commitment to celibacy was constant over that time period. Also, most sex offenders in society are not celibate clergy. Most are married or in another relationship with an adult.
5. **Most offending priests are not pedophiles,** a group defined as having intense, recurring, sexually arousing fantasies about prepubescent children. The more likely victim of abuse by an offending cleric has been an adolescent. Pedophilia, even among clergy offenders, is rare.
6. **This is not a homosexual issue.** John Jay reports that while the majority of youth abused by clergy were boys (81 percent), no evidence exists to suggest that sexual orientation by itself contributes to sex crimes against children. This is a crime of opportunity.

7. **Even before 2002, most bishops who learned of an allegation of abuse addressed it.** Responses included administrative leave, assessment and psychological treatment. Often in the 1980s and 1990s, clergy abusers were treated and returned to ministry when “rehabilitated.” Claims of the efficacy of psychological treatment were not unusual then. Few priests were removed from the priesthood until recently because laicization required consent from the Vatican and/or cumbersome canonical procedures. Treatment and reinstatement were complicated also because when priests had multiple allegations of abuse, not all of the allegations were known before the priest was returned to ministry.
8. **The Catholic Church is a safe place for children.** Almost all of the cases discussed in the press today are from the 1960s through early 1980s. Both John Jay studies showed that cases of sexual abuse by priests decreased dramatically starting in the early to mid 1980s. Abuse of minors by Catholic clergy today is extremely rare. Since 2002, the Church has maintained a zero-tolerance policy so that all credible cases of child abuse are reported to civil authorities, internally investigated, and presented to a local review board of mostly laypersons. Those with credible accusations are permanently removed from ministry.
9. **The Catholic Church has taken steps so that a sexual abuse crisis does not happen again.** All Church workers (including priests, volunteers and parents) must go through safe environment training and virtually all dioceses are audited yearly by an independent, secular auditing firm to assure compliance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The Catholic Church commissioned the Nature and Scope study and the Causes and Context study to better understand the problem – an unprecedented self-scrutiny, unique among child-serving institutions in the United States, whether religious or secular.



If you could **GIVE** your daughter:

- ▶ The **COURAGE** she needs to pursue her dreams.
- ▶ The **CONFIDENCE** she needs to achieve them.
- ▶ The **CHARACTER** she needs to make good decisions.
- ▶ The **CONNECTIONS** and experiences that will open doors.

Would you?
You can.

Find out more. Join today!

Girl Scout Parent Information Night

Date: Tuesday, September 27th, 2011

Time: 6:30-7:30pm

Location: Strawberry Hill Elementary, commons
203 Hamilton Court
Anamosa, IA

Who: All Anamosa girls in K-12

Contact: Rachael Olsem at (563) 583-9169 or
RachaelO@GSEIWI.org

Come learn about the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, a girl-led leadership program where girls discover who they are, connect with others, and take action to make the world a better place. *Learn how you can participate in your girl's leadership experience.*


girl scouts
1912-2012

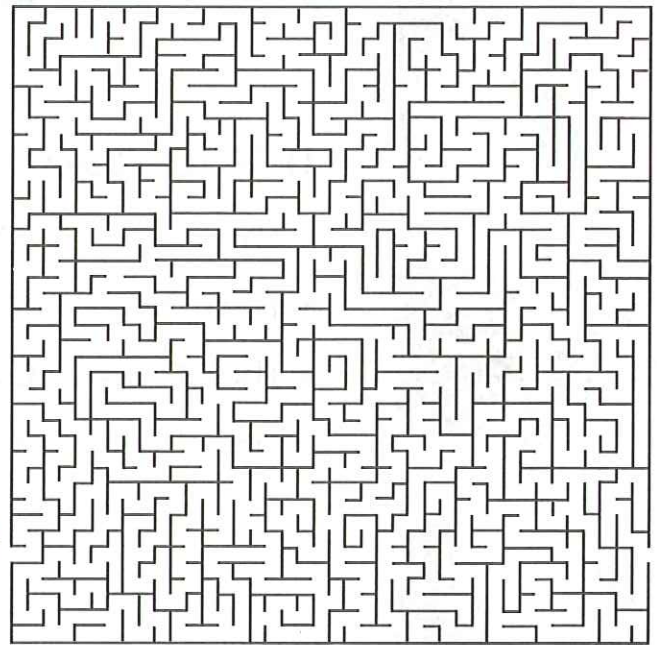
celebrating 100 years
of girl scouting

GirlScoutsToday.org



girl scouts 1912-2012

EXTREME FUN!



*Help Brownie Elf find her way
to the 100th Anniversary Logo!*

Check out our web site @
www.girlscouts.org and click on
"For Girls" for more
fun activities to explore!



S H O R T B R E A D E G T Y E
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Can you find all these words above?

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| ADVENTURE | DAISY | LEADERSHIP |
| ADVOCACY | FRIENDS | LEMONADES |
| CARAMELDELITES | FUN | SHORTBREAD |
| CHARACTER | GIRLSCOUTS | SISTERHOOD |
| CONFIDENCE | GOALS | SLEEPOVER |
| COOKIEBOOTH | GREEN | THANKSALOT |
| COURAGE | JOURNEYS | THINMINTS |
| | JUNIORS | |

GirlScoutsToday.org

