

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PASTOR'S CORNER



"The children now love luxury; they have bad manners, contempt for authority; they show disrespect for elders and love chatter in place of exercise. Children are now tyrants, not the servants of their households. They no longer rise when elders enter the room. They contradict their parents, chatter before company, gobble up dainties at the table, cross their legs, and tyrannize their teachers." So said Socrates many centuries before Christ. Is there anything new under the sun today? Perhaps not much, which is why I want to share with you some rules to help your children mature in faith and life with the help of God's blessings and your unconditional love for them:

1. **Be deliberate.** A young person who seeks to become mature must have a vision of the person he/she desires to become and must be unquestionably committed to making this vision a reality. This will require sacrifice, work and commitment.
2. **Seek God.** God must be the center of life. Your children must make friends with God, who is so often seen as an obstacle or a hindrance. Jesus Christ must become their most faithful companion. Otherwise, they will not have the strength and grace they will need to work into the future.
3. **Know your parents.** It is so simple and so difficult at the same time, because your kids take so many things for granted. They should know who you really are for them, provided the relationship is positive and life giving.
4. **Find a mentor.** A mentor is indispensable to them if they are to negotiate the pitfalls and negative influences of today's culture. Youth is a time for learning and defining oneself. This work is more effectively accomplished under the guidance of a connected and influential adult.
5. **Do not trust everything you hear and see.** Someone wrote, "I teach my kids to have a 'sacred cynicism' about most things, especially things learned in social media." Certainly, counterproductive and conflicting agendas permeate our lives today. This is why it is so crucial that a child must be able to discern what is good and what is to be avoided.
6. **Expect more of yourself.** Your children are quite capable of striving for excellence. A mentor can encourage, push, inspire, admonish, and hold them to a higher standard. Young people usually respond well to such direction. The challenge tells them intuitively, "This person sees that I am worthwhile."
7. **Set goals for yourself and strive to reach them.** A child cannot be expected to reach excellence in a vacuum. Goals keep them focused and deliberate. Goals can raise them to higher standards and help them arrive at new heights, although they must be supervised and must set goals that are both challenging and realizable.
8. **Read...read...read good books.** This will help them explore while being continually curious about the world and everything in it.
9. **Fear drugs and alcohol.** One parent said, "I told my kids that I had never tried drugs because I was intensely afraid I would like them. Asking them to say NO to alcohol or drugs without any explanation is just an invitation to explore drugs or underage drinking."
10. **Choose friends wisely and don't yield to peer pressure.** Of course, it is easier said than done, but, in the long run, it will help them realize that peer pressure is for the weak and characterless.
11. **Keep sports in perspective.** Sports can consume young people. They are good and worthwhile, but your children should not live or die by the success they have on the court or on the field. There is more to life than pain and sweat.
11. **Limit the use of technology (texting, Netflix, Facebook).** *It goes without saying that solid relationships and real friendships are not supported by technology. Perhaps technology is unavoidable, but it is to the detriment of our humanity to be consumed by technology. Do you really want them to learn this the hard way?*
12. **Learn a foreign language, a musical instrument, or a skill.** These activities are more easily learned the younger one begins. They are skills that will be valuable and useful for their entire life.
14. **Pray every day and go to church every Sunday.** Remember your children look up to you. Pray with them every day, even if it is only for a few moments, and they will follow you to Sunday Mass.

Finally, all these directives will require your daily uncompromising encouragement. Again, you will not succeed in convincing anyone of the merits found here if you yourself are not living well. Personal integrity is a prerequisite for facing the prospect of the challenges found here. Do not be afraid to challenge your children with well-reasoned and dispassionate arguments for your own sake as well as theirs.

Fr. Slawek

FEBRUARY 5, 2023



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Turning concern into action

"The reward for Christian charity is the joy that one feels after having performed a good deed." - Don Bosco

In all the ordinary and the extraordinary things that we do to bring comfort, the hope and joy to the less fortunate in our community, we give witness and thanks to God's love and compassion.

Thank you for your contributions to the Poor Box after Mass.

ANOTHER WAY TO DONATE TO OUR PARISH

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan—Pre-Authorized Giving is a very simple procedure. When you participate in Pre-Authorized Giving, your offering will be withdrawn from your account on or about the 20th of the month. This amount will then be deposited to the Parish's account.

This amount will be receipted at the end of the year for tax purposes.

Application forms are on the table at the back of the church.

ATTENTION: All Candidates and Parents Important Dates for Confirmation and First Holy Communion:

Sunday, February 5 at 11:00 a.m. Mass will be the Rite of Enrolment for Confirmation candidates

Sunday, February 12 at 11:00 a.m. - **Confirmation candidates MUST attend the Mass** and classes will follow after the mass.

Sunday February 19 at 9:00 a.m. - Children's Liturgy and communion classes will follow after the Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS



Tuesday, February 7

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of David Emer req. by the Emer Family.

Wednesday, February 8

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Imelda Melanie & Basil Keil req. by the Dejong Family

Thursday, February 9

9 a.m. Private Intentions.

Friday, February 10

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Cecile Berube.

Saturday, February 11

4:30p.m. Repose of the soul of Dorothy Johns req. by the Johns Family.

Sunday, February 12

9 a.m. Intentions of all Parishioners.

11 a.m. Intentions of Thanksgiving req. by Joriza Porcal.

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH OFFERING/ JANUARY

JANUARY 1, 2023

Initial Envelope Offering	\$ 1, 075.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 1, 615.00
Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 3, 325.00

JANUARY 8, 2023

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 3, 347.00
Building Fund Offering	\$ 1,320.00

JANUARY 15, 2023

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 3, 345.00
Building Fund Offering	\$ 359.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 150.00

JANUARY 22, 2023

Regular Envelope Offering	\$2, 795.00
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JANUARY 29, 2023

Regular Envelope Offering	\$2, 845.00
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Thank you for you continued generosity

2022 Tax Receipt

Attention all Parishioners 2022 Tax receipts will be mailed out at the end of February.

YOUR HEALTH

As cold and flu season approaches, to ensure the health of the entire community, parishioners are encouraged to stay home from Mass and parish functions if they are experiencing symptoms of the flu virus, colds, etc. Respect and concern for the common good takes precedence.

Thank you for your cooperation! To minimize risks please use the hand sanitizers that are located at each entrance!



Two old ladies Dolly and Ruby were talking about their grandchildren. Dolly said, "Each year I send each of my grandchildren a card with a generous cheque inside. I never hear from them... never receive a thank you message." Ruby replies, "I too send my grandchildren a very generous cheque I hear from them within a week after they receive it. In fact, they each pay me a personal visit." "Wow! How come?" remarked Dolly. "Very simple solution... I don't sign the cheque"