



# SAINT MARIA GORETTI

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## CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

January 31, 2020

Dear SMG Families,

Today we met with our Faith Families! Our focus this month are the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and the virtue of cheerfulness.

In our whole group session, we learned about the works of mercy; what they are, how we can live them, and examples of how others have lived them. We also talked about the virtue we will be focusing on during the month of February, *Cheerfulness-Looking on the bright side*.

In addition, we briefly addressed Kobe Bryant, whose tragic passing has been on the minds and hearts of many of us, including our students this week. We simply discussed the fact that Kobe Bryant was a practicing Catholic and though not perfect in anyway, we can remember him not only as a basketball super-star and an incredible athlete, but as an example of someone who turned to his Catholic faith for mercy, forgiveness, and help in overcoming decisions he made in his life. We also discussed the examples of corporal works of mercy that he displayed through the philanthropic work that he did off the court. As one of the spiritual works of mercy is *Praying for those who have died*, we discussed why as Catholics we pray for people who have died, and together we prayed the *Eternal rest, grant unto them, oh Lord....* prayer for all of our family and friends who have passed away.

Finally, our sweet Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade student ended the whole group assembly by singing *What a Mighty God We Serve*.

Students then moved on to their small Faith Family groups where teachers reviewed the works of mercy and focused on one work of mercy with their group to create a portion of a February display that will be in the cafetorium titled, *"They will know we are Christians by....."*.

They also then worked on an all school service project related to the works of mercy, creating fleece throws and place mats for Mission Arlington. Please check out our Facebook page and the Trojan Times this weekend for pictures from today's Faith Family assembly.

I hope the children will remember that there are many ways that they can do Jesus' work here on earth as we continue to grow as Disciples of Christ.

Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Thank you for valuing Catholic education and for supporting your children in their faith formation.

Blessings,

Laura Behee, M.Ed.  
Principal

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