



COUNSELOR'S CORNER



St. Clement
Catholic School

November 2011

Thankful for Our Many Gifts

The Attitude of Gratitude

Thanksgiving is the time to appreciate all the good things in life. It is a time to acknowledge the good deeds of others and to be thankful. Celebrate Thanksgiving by showing an attitude of gratitude.

- Make a Blessing Basket. Place a basket containing a pencil and pad of paper in an easy-to-reach location and encourage family members to jot down ways God has blessed them. Read these together and give God thanks each day or set aside some time on Thanksgiving Day.
- Trim a Tree of Thanks. Draw and cut out a large paper tree with lots of loose leaves in autumn colors. Ask your family to write things they are thankful for on paper leaves, filling the tree by the end of the month
- Host a Thank You Contest. Make a colorful chart containing the names of family members. Talk about the importance of expressing gratitude to God and those around us. Throughout the month of November, every time a person is thanked, he or she can put a sticker beside the name of the family member who said thank-you. At the end of the month, the biggest "thanksgiver" receives a small reward.



Celebrating Career Month

November is National Career Development Month. The focus of career development at St. Leo's is career education. Career education teaches youth to celebrate their own unique qualities, to appreciate the contributions of others, to understand the importance of "community", and to value the dignity that comes from work.

This month we will be incorporating career education and stewardship into the monthly guidance lessons. Students will learn how to turn their interests and talents into meaningful careers that will give back to others.

Students in grades 5 and 8 will participate in online career inventories through Virginia Career View. Students in all grades learned about the importance of all work as they explored their own interests and talents to share.

Career related activities are available for children in grades K-12. Please check out their website www.vaview.vt.edu!

November is STEWARDSHIP Month

Stewardship is...

- *Scripture Based* Stewardship is not a new fad, or environmental word. Stewardship is the way God has expected His people to live since the beginning of time.
- *Dependence on God* Stewardship is recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God.
- *Gratitude* Stewardship is living a life of gratitude – taking the time every day to recognize the gifts that God has given and to be grateful for them.
- *Giving Back* Stewardship is returning a portion of our gifts to God. The gifts we return are our time, our talent and our treasure.
- *Sharing Talent* Stewardship involves sharing talent. Recognizing that God has given each individual unique skills and talents so that together we can do the work of Our Lord.
- *Giving Treasure* Stewardship involves giving treasure. Giving time and talent does not excuse us from giving treasure.
- *Trust in God* Stewardship is trusting God. We believe that our generous God will always provide for us. None of us will ever have all that we want, but we will always have all that we need.
- *Thankfulness* Stewardship calls us to be ever grateful for the gifts that God has given.
- *Discipleship* Stewardship is discipleship. We strive to put God first in all things and to follow where Our Lord might lead.

How to show Stewardship

- Conserve. Only use what you need.
- Share your talents and gifts with your family, school, church, and community.
- Recycle and keep the earth clean.
- Show your children stewardship by giving at Mass. Teach your children the importance of giving to the Church.

Stewardship at Home

- Have a discussion about stewardship in your family. How does your family show stewardship and service?
- Teach your child about money and budgeting.
- Volunteer. Let your child select the kind of charitable work he or she would like to support.
- Work with your child to donate toys he or she no longer plays with. Adopt a "one-in, one-out" policy with toys and games: when your child gets a new toy or game, help them select an older one to donate.



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