

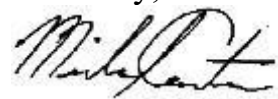
Dear Parishioners,

I can vividly recall an early conversation I had with our Pastor, Fr. Jack, shortly after he arrived. He suggested that I ask the teachers to research a Saint and name their classroom after that Saint. Soon after that, Fr. Jack toured and blessed each classroom and took time to talk with the students in each of the classrooms about their Saint. The blessing established a tradition that we continue every year. This year, Fr. Jack will bless each class on September 16th. As principal, I really appreciate that he takes the time to do this. The students really enjoy the blessing activity and the interaction with Fr. Jack.

I also choose a Saint for my office, St. Gregory the Great, whose Feast Day is September 3rd. I choose him because he is the Patron Saint of students, teachers, and musicians. I also choose him as he was an exemplary administrator, ambassador, evangelizer, and Pope. Though he preferred monastic life, he embraced his call to the pontificate. His motto, to be a Servant of God. He was also renowned for his care of the poor and customarily ate with a dozen poor folks every day. He admonished his clergy to help the poor as part of their primary responsibility. If they refused, he assigned new clergy in their place.

We start the new school year after Labor Day this year. I humbly ask for your prayers for our teachers, students, and their families. I thank you in advance. The theme I choose for this year wraps around a classic Catholic hymn: *Holy God We Praise Thy Name*. We enter into a new school year with great hope and trust in God and pray for the intercession of the many saints that serve to intercede for each classroom of our school.

Sincerely,



Michael Cantu
Principal