



FROM THE DESK OF FR. MIKE

Today you will see that I am focusing my article on celebrations at our Blue Ribbon School, and an effort in the Vicariate hosted by St. Joseph's in Libertyville for those desiring more information about the worldwide synod.

Every January our Blue Ribbon School celebrates Catholic Schools week. The following schedule provides you with some information of the events that will take place in the church, at the Upper Grade Center, and at the Primary Grade Center. As we enter Catholic Schools Week please join me in praying for our dedicated administration and faculty at our School. For information about the School of St. Mary you can reach out to Dr. Julie Brua, Principal, Mrs. Kathy Thompson, Assistant Principal, or Mrs. Mandy Castle, Director of Admissions.



Catholic Schools Week — January 31 - February 6

- Sunday, January 30, 2022 - Celebrating our Parish
- Monday, January 31, 2022 - Celebrating our Community
- Tuesday, February 1, 2022 - Celebrating our Students
- Wednesday, February 2, 2022 - Celebrating our Parents and Volunteers
- Thursday, February 3, 2022 - Celebrating the Vocations
- Friday, February 4, 2022 - Celebrating our Faculty & Staff

May God continue to bless our parishioners and benefactors of the parish and our three times recognized Blue Ribbon School.



Pope Francis is calling the universal Church to participate in a world-wide synod. There will be a Special Presentation on Saturday, January 29, 2022 titled: *Let's Walk Together - Exploring the 2021-23 Synod Through Scripture*. The presenter is Dr. Felipe Legarretta-Castillo, PhD. Professor at Loyola University Chicago's Institute of Pastoral Studies.

The presentation is from 9:30am-11:00am on Zoom®. Register online for the Zoom® link and meeting information at stjoseph-libertyville.org/synod.

Last weekend, I asked the congregation streaming and in person in the Church of St. Mary, "If you had 5 minutes, to share your concern, what would you fill those five minutes with, in a conversation with Pope Francis?" How would you describe your faith journey? What does your faith mean to you today, in January 2022? How has the Church helped you grow in faith? How has the Church failed you in your faith journey? Might those be some probing questions to present to family members? Both family members active in the Church and family members that have stepped away from the Church?

May God bless you in 2022!

Fr. Mike Naciri