

## Preschool Bulletin Article for 8.23.20

*“Let the young children come to me; do not try to stop them.”* [Mark 10:13, 14.](#)

Great news-our teachers are back! They returned this past Monday and have been hard at work preparing for the arrival of our students. It has been so wonderful to not only have them back in the buildings, but also to have some sense of “normal” again. There are sounds of copies being made, bulletin boards are being put up, and there is some laughter echoing in the hallways-hooray! After being so quiet and desolate for weeks, there is some life within our walls again. The joy will not be complete, however, until our precious preschoolers return on Monday, 8/24. This is what we are all eagerly awaiting! Our teachers are bursting with enthusiasm to begin the year! They are all deeply passionate about the children. Having the students back is really what makes everything so worthwhile and rewarding!

As I’ve watched the teachers bustle about getting everything ready, I have found myself wondering what Jesus did to prepare for teaching the children that came to Him. I’m sure that he didn’t need to bother with lesson plans, but did he have them gather for questions and answers? Did he build things with them given his carpentry background? Did he run and play games with them? I can imagine that Jesus had an almost mesmerizing presence with the little children. I am sure that He had a way about Him that drew the children to Him and made them eager to want to listen to all that He had to share about God and how to follow in His footsteps.

As preschool educators, we strive to build children’s excitement about learning and to maintain their enthusiasm for coming to school. As Catholic preschool educators, we get to do this all under the overarching umbrella of our faith. Building and strengthening, children’s faith journeys is a special privilege for us. Our own faith guides and helps to shape our lessons and interactions with the children in our care. We aim to help a child know that God loves and cares for us in so many ways. He wants us to grow into kind people who work to follow His message in heart, mind, and deed.

I can’t help but think that God meant for Jesus to have a special relationship with children. He intended for Jesus to be known as the “Great Teacher” so that He would be an example and inspiration for those who have been called to be teachers. I also like to believe that God keeps an extra special watch on teachers, especially those working with the youngest members of our community; He knows that they are instrumental in reinforcing and expanding His hopeful message of salvation, mercy, and love.

As the new school year gets underway, particularly during these uncertain and stressful times, let us pray for our teachers. Let us ask God to continue to watch over them as they dedicate their lives to helping children become the best of what He wants them to be. May God grant our teachers serenity to appreciate the uniqueness of each child and wisdom to help each identify and embrace the gifts that they have been given. Let

God provide our teachers with an abundance of patience, strength and perseverance, for we are living in challenging times. May God also help our teachers to continually inspire children to become faithful and loving members of His greater family.

To learn more about the wonderful opportunities that we provide, please visit our website at [www.preschoolatstfrancis.com](http://www.preschoolatstfrancis.com) or contact Shelley Freeman at: [shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org)

With Joy,

Heidi Hobler, Director

(Photos are below)

