

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

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“One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and father of all...” (Ephesians 4)

We had such fun this past week celebrating Catholic Schools Week! The preschoolers participated in spirit days and projects that not only celebrated our school, but also demonstrated our oneness in faith.

We began the week with a spirit day celebrating our school. All of our students and staff were able to celebrate our school by wearing our playground t-shirts. They marked the day that Msgr. Clay blessed our playground. This occurred on the feast day of St. Marianne Cope to whom the playground was dedicated. St. Marianne was the last American Franciscan to be canonized a saint. She provided great care to young children in Hawaii and those affected by Hansen's Disease or leprosy. Much like

St. Marianne, we as Catholic educators work pass to pass on our faith, care, and Catholic teachings to our children. Although our 4 and 5-year old students couldn't be physically present with the 4th grade students from The Franciscan School at daily mass this past Wednesday, they still were present in spirit. Each preschool class also decorated a pre-cut puzzle piece. Each piece then fit together to form one big poster celebrating our school and faith.

Part of a Catholic education involves putting our faith into action. The children did this by not only collecting some of our favorite books to share with other children through the Wake Up & Read program but also in decorating notes for Caring Connections here in our parish.

Red, white, and blue were the colors that we wore to recognize our nation and remember that we are all one people, one people created in the image of God. This seems particularly important at this time in our country's history.

This past week was a nice reminder of what our Catholic schools have to offer. It was a beautiful reminder that in big and small ways all that we do and say should always be with through the lens of our faith and by keeping God's message of love in the forefront.

Registration for the 21-22 school year is NOW underway! To learn how to join our amazing preschool, please visit our website at: preschoolatstfrancis.com or contact Shelley Freeman at shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org.