

Care & Vigilance

New Faculty Orientation

Let us remember that we are in the Holy Presence of God.

Our Voice

All: What is a greater work than to direct the minds and form the character of the young? I hold with certainty that no painter, no statuary, nor any other artist does such excellent work as they who mold the minds of youth.

L: See that you despise not one of these little ones, for their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father and because I have come for their sake, and such is the will of my Father.

R: He has made us more loving that we may care for and protect the little ones. You see what powerful ramparts he has erected for their protection; what care he shows, lest they be lost.

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De La Salle's Voice

One of the main duties of fathers and mothers is to bring up their children in a Christian manner and to teach them their religion. You, then, whom God has called to this ministry, work according to the grace that has been given to you to instruct by teaching and to exhort by encouraging those who are entrusted to your care, guiding them with care and vigilance, in order to fulfill toward them the principal duty of fathers and mothers toward their children

St. John Baptist de La Salle,
Meditations for the Time of Retreat

The Lasallian Experience

I have made it a habit to stand in front of school to greet students and parents as they arrive. One morning Salvador came to me, lifted my arm, and put it around his shoulders. I am used to Salvador's affectionate nature, but this was a bit much even for him. When I would remove my arm, he would put it back. Finally, I asked him what was going on. He responded, "I left my coat at home. Today, you are my coat." I couldn't keep from thanking a wise God who has given us Lasallians a chance to be a coat to Salvador.

Brother Rob Wallace, F.S.C.

Today's Voices

I have come to the frightening conclusion that I am the decisive element in the classroom. As a teacher, I possess tremendous power to make a child's life miserable or joyous. I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration. I can humiliate or humor, hurt or heal. In all situations, it is my response that decides whether a crisis will be escalated or deescalated, and a child humanized or dehumanized.

Hiam Ginott,
Teacher and Child

What good teachers do to help others to grow is this: look -- look hard -- for the small, perhaps awkward, groping, weak attempt to grow. It is often almost covered over with something else that is ridiculous or embarrassing. But to learn, we all have to make the first attempt, however wide of the mark it may be. Only by doing and correcting and doing again do we zero in on the target. It is not your responsibility to do the learning for the other person, but it is your human, perhaps sacred, responsibility to respect that first tentative movement, to find in it what is right and to nurture the person so that the next attempt is better.

Kaleel Jamison,
The Nibble Theory and the Kernel of Power

To "really see" someone, especially someone who looks up to you, is to give that person an important blessing. In a gaze of recognition, of understanding, in an appreciative look, there

is deep blessing. Often, it is not so important that we say much to those for whom we are significant, but it is very important that we see them. Today, the young are not being seen enough in this way. Our youth are acting out in all kinds of ways as a means of getting our attention. They want to, and they need to, be seen by us -- parents, adults, teachers, priests, coaches, leaders. They need our blessing. They need to see, right in our eyes, the radical acceptance of their reality, and they need to read in our eyes the words: "You are my beloved child; in you I am well-pleased."

The Catholic Herald

For Silent Reflection

Ponder silently the words of Brother Bill Mann, President of St. Mary's University of Minnesota: "Young people need us to help them lay claim to the goodness that they really are."

Shared Prayer

All: "And the Lord said, "Whom shall I send?" Then I said,
"Here I am. Send me."

For whom and for what shall we pray?

The Lord's Prayer

**St. John Baptist de La Salle, pray for us.
Live, Jesus, in our hearts, forever.**