

St. John's Lutheran Preschool Press



St. John's Lutheran Preschool

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Washed

One of my responsibilities in our home is to wash the dishes. Yet, to be honest, there are times when I miss a few spots. I get into surface-cleaning mode, scrubbing only the spots I can see and quickly wipe away. And too often the stains remain. My wife has to repeatedly remind me to slow down and do a "thorough cleaning." Experience has taught me that washing dishes properly involves time. The edge and bottom of a dish must be carefully inspected. The soap has to soak into the areas that have become plastered with chunks of food. And, the scrubber must scrape away any remaining pieces.

How often in our spiritual lives are we content to do a surface cleaning? We do a quick outward cleaning, but inside our lives are a mess. Jesus said to the religious leaders in Matthew 23:25b, "For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence." Aren't we the same way? We put on a good façade, pretending that we have our lives together. Yet, inside our lives are torn apart by dirty little secrets and sinful habits. The stain of sin remains.

Lent gives us an opportunity to slow down and experience the thorough cleaning that comes from Jesus' death on the cross. Take a moment to carefully inspect your own life. Examine the dark corners. Take a tour of the places that have been corroded by your self-centered ways. Maybe you're still holding a grudge. Maybe you're constantly worrying about life. Perhaps it's a problem with pride or greed or fear. Don't rush through this experience. Yes, you'll discover things you don't want to see. Yet, when you do, let the words of David's prayer flow from your lips: "Create in me a clean heart, O God." Allow God to thoroughly clean your spiritual dishes! Let Him reach in and scrub clean the parts of your life that have become plastered by chunks of sin. He won't miss a spot! 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

-written by Pastor Josh Bernau

Dates to Remember:

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

March 17

April Tuition Due

March 20

Spring Break

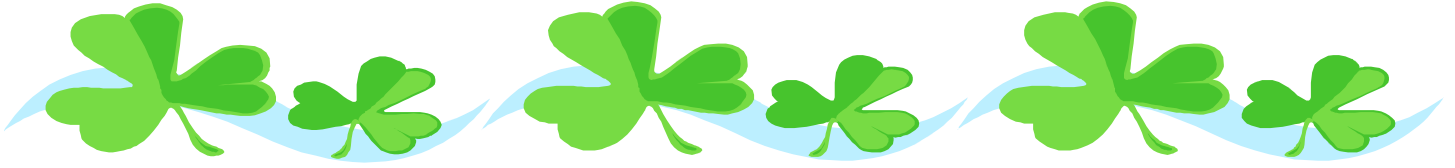
NO SCHOOL

April 6^o April 13

Classes Resume

Tuesday, April 14





Your spare change is needed!

Start checking your car, couch cushions, pockets and the bottom of your purse for spare change.

More details will follow on when to bring your spare change to the Preschool.



Missing

A parent of the Yellow Room has lost their cell phone. The cell phone was last seen was on Tuesday, February 17 at the Preschool. The phone was a white Palm Centro. If you find the phone please return to the Preschool Office





Family Page



Think About This

Seize the Day

Today—you have the chance to show love to your child.

- Say, “I Love You”
- Cuddle with him
- Hug her
- Give him a “high-five”

Today—you can choose to enjoy your child

- Play a game
- Read a book
- Ask her about her day in school. What was the favorite part of her day?
- Together, discuss his dreams. Let him know you will help him along the way

Today—your child can feel safe and secure

- Find quality childcare when you cannot be with your child
- Make your home safe for your infant and toddler who want to explore
- Choose to treat all family members with respect. Stop yelling. Do not call names



-adapted from www.parenthelpline.org

Building Skills for Families

Children gain confidence by doing things on their own. Show your youngster how to do these tasks by slowly and carefully doing them while she’s watching. The more she does for herself, the more she’ll be able to do!

- Prepare cold cereal
- Make a sandwich
- Choose her clothes for the next day
- Tie her shoes
- Answer the phone politely
- Set her alarm clock
- Write a short thank you note
- Hang up her wet towel in the bathroom

“ I can do it! ”

-Adapted from *Early Years* publication, 2007

Springfield Area Happenings



March

- 14· St. Patrick’s Day Marching Band Parade. 2pm. Downtown Springfield
- 21· Shamrock Games. 8am-10pm. IL State Fairgrounds. Free
- 21 & 22· Swan Lake. 2pm. Sangamon Auditorium
- 21· April 11· Easter Bunny and Easter Train. White Oaks Mall.
- 25 & 26th· Designer Look-A-Like Sale. Centennial Hall at St. John’s Hospital. Benefits Children’s Miracle Network
- 28· Fitacular Fun Fair. 10am-3pm. White Oaks Mall.

April

- 24, 25 & 26th· American Girl Fashion Show. Springfield Hilton

The Month of March

“The March wind roars
Like a lion in the sky,
And makes us shiver
As he passes by.

When the winds are soft,
And the days are warm and clear,
Just like a gentle lamb,
Then spring is here.”

—Author Unknown