

“A Crown for Our Lady”

When we met on Parent-Teacher night, I told you of the wonderful blessing our school community has received of being invited to participate in the “Worldwide Children’s Eucharistic Holy Hour” at the Basilica of our Lady’s Immaculate Conception, in Washington, DC. The Holy Hour is this Friday, 10:00am, and it will be aired live on EWTN and replayed in the afternoon. Monet Souza, one of our 6th graders will address the children of the world during the Holy Hour. The Souza family, Mrs. Hawley and I will be there as well. Additionally, the crown that will be used to adorn our Lady will be donated in the name of the children of St. Catherine’s. The story behind our participation, especially the crown, is truly amazing, and I would like to share it with you. It is a good example and reminder that we should always place our trust in God’s providence and his mysterious ways.

This past August, I made a retreat in Fatima, Portugal. Prior to the retreat, I was asked by Mrs. Lynn Kenn, who is the Co-Director of the World Apostolate of Fatima – Boston, to buy a crown in Fatima for their statue of the Blessed Mother. I said sure, not a problem. As I was purchasing it, I thought of all the blessings that have come our way through our Lady’s intercession these past years. “How can we repay her” was my next thought. And then an idea came to mind. If the Apostolate was agreeable, would they accept the crown as a donation from and in the name of our children. Upon my return, I made my request to Lynn and she gladly accepted. She picked-up the crown and tried it on their statue. Then, I received a phone call. Lynn called to tell me that the crown did not fit! I was devastated, but that is when God’s providence and mysterious ways kicked-in.

As Lynn and I spoke, we agreed that God had some plan for this crown. “What are we going to do,” we asked each other. Several ideas were immediately dismissed, and then she mentioned one more possibility. Her friend, Connie Schneider, who is the founder and Director of the Children’s Eucharistic Holy Hour. Lynn called her to see if she needed a crown for their statue. They did. I then spoke with her, and asked if she would accept it on behalf our children, and I shared my reasons why. She could not have

been more agreeable. In fact, she was so agreeable, that she extended the invitation to have us come to the Holy Hour, make the presentation and have one of our children (Monet) speak to the children of the world. That's how we have ended up going to Washington.

I thought that I had bought the “wrong” size crown for our Lady, but it was the “right” size crown for God. God's providence and his mysterious ways. When we decide to let go and let God, we are never steered in the wrong direction. Please join me in thanking him for the sacred occasion he has bestowed upon us. And let us continue to call up the intercession of our Blessed Mother, who is always leading us to her Son. This is a blessed opportunity to offer her our thanks and ask her continued intercession for the many prayers and intentions we have as a school community. All of you will be in our prayers when we are in Washington, and know our 5th graders will do the same when they attend the Archdiocesan Holy Hour at our Cathedral, this Friday.

“To Jesus through Mary”

Fr. Currie