



Roots & Wings

A publication of the Infant Jesus of Prague Catholic Life Committee

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Wonder and Awe

The gift of wonder and awe enables us to love and revere God. It entails the profound respect for God's majesty and helps us to realize that we are merely creatures of God and are deeply dependent upon Him. This gift helps us to do God's will and avoid sin since we do not want to offend God because of our love for Him. Sometimes this gift is called "fear of the Lord." This "fear" is not based on the fear of punishment from God if you do not do the right things. Instead, this "fear of the Lord" is a filial or reverential fear which moves a person to do God's will and avoid sin because of love of God, who is all good and deserving of all of our love" (Saunders 2003). To put it another way, this "fear" is the type of fear that a child may have about hurting or losing his relationship with his father. Therefore, this gift of wonder and awe makes us aware of how much God loves us and how much we do not want to lose that relationship with Him (Cameron 2002).

The gift of wonder and awe brings perfection to the virtue of hope. When we love and respect God, we trust in His will and look forward to

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Wonder and Awe

Reverence

Knowledge

Courage

Right Judgment

Understanding

Wisdom

eternal life with Him (Hardon 1994; Saunders 2003). We have confidence that the Holy Spirit will guide, strengthen, and assist us as we love God and others.

Works cited:

Cameron, O.P., Fr. Peter John (2002). "The Gifts of the Holy Spirit According to St. Thomas Aquinas." www.kofc.org. Accessed 10/18/08.

Saunders, Father William (2003). "Gifts of the Holy Spirit." *Arlington Catholic Herald*. www.catholiceducation.org. Accessed 6/28/04.

IDEAS from the Catholic Life Committee (and its friends!)

www.actsofkindness.org

"One kind word can warm three winter months"
–*Japanese Proverb*

The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation is a resource for people committed to spreading kindness. The website provides a variety of activity ideas, lesson plans, project plans, teacher's guides, project planning guides, publicity guides, and workplace resources – all free of charge.

From the www.actsofkindness.org website:

WAYS TO GIVE BACK DURING THE HOLIDAYS

The Holiday's are just around the corner and there are plenty of people who could use a little cheering up and kindness, so we have compiled a list of a few ideas to brighten someone else's day!

- Volunteer at a soup kitchen
- Donate old children's books
- Go to a nursing home and sing holiday carols
- Donate canned goods
- Send out holiday cards telling people why they are special
- Donate blood
- Shovel your neighbor's walkway or driveway
- Drop off baked goods for your neighbors
- Donate gently worn winter coats
- Buy a Christmas tree for a family that can't afford one
- Invite an acquaintance over for the holidays who doesn't have family close by
- Drop off a bag of groceries for a family that is in need

The Shrine of Christ's Passion

The Shrine of Christ's Passion in St. John, Indiana is an interactive half mile winding pathway that follows the Passion of Christ. There are 40 life size bronze statues. Each setting has a listening station. There's a new visitor center with a large book and gift store. Tours and class trips are welcome.
info@shrineofchristspassion.org

Phone: 219-365-6010.

Address: 10630 Wicker Avenue, St. John, IN 46373.



Thanksgiving Reminder

Thanksgiving Baskets for Seniors



The IJP community adopted over 70 seniors and is providing Thanksgiving bags full of goodies through the Horizon Hospice Center. Don't forget to deliver your bags to Horizon Hospice by **Friday November 14.**

Prayer for November

"God surprise me with
your presence
and grant me the
grace to experience
a sense of awe
and wonder!
Amen."



SPIRITUAL EDUCATION

Awe and Wonder Book List

These books are available through your public libraries and the Metropolitan Library System.

Ages 5-8

Bunting, Eve. **Hurry! hurry!**

All the animals of the barnyard community hurry to greet their newest member, who is just pecking his way out of an egg.

Bunting, Eve. **One Green Apple**

While on a school field trip to an orchard to make cider, a young immigrant named Farah gains self-confidence when the green apple she picks perfectly complements the other students' red apples

Monks, Lydia. **Aaaarrgghh! Spider!**

Summary: A clever spider is lonely and longs to become a family pet.

Murray, Marjorie Dennis. **Little Wolf and the Moon**

Every night, Little Wolf looks up at the moon and wonders why it is the way it is.

Polacco, Patricia. **Mr. Lincoln's Way**

When Mr. Lincoln, "the coolest principal in the whole world," discovers that Eugene, the school bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance.

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. **Cookies : bite-size life lessons**

Defines words such as cooperate, patient, proud, modest, respect, compassionate, and others with sentences about cookies.

Rylant, Cynthia. **The Wonderful Happens**

Describes some of the things that bring happiness and awe into our lives, including a baby bird, fresh-baked bread, snow, clocks, the moon, and more.

Ages 8-11

Holm, Jennifer L. **Penny From Heaven**

As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny

gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death.

Ages 10-13

Key, Watt. **Alabama Moon**

After the death of his father, ten-year-old Moon Blake is removed from the Alabama forest where he was raised and sent to a boy's home, where, for the first time, he has contact with the outside world and learns about friendship, love, and humanity.

Wilson, Diane L. **Black Storm Comin'**

Twelve-year-old Colton, son of an African-American mother and a white father, takes a job with the Pony Express in 1860 after his father abandons the family on their California-bound wagon train, and risks his life to deliver an important letter that may affect the growing conflict between the North and South.

Park, Linda Sue. **Project Mulberry**

While working on a project for an after-school club, Julia, a Korean American girl, and her friend Patrick learn not just about silkworms, but also about tolerance, prejudice, friendship, patience, and more. Between the chapters are short dialogues between the author and main character about the writing of the book.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. **Drums, girls, & dangerous pie**

When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.

Ages 13+

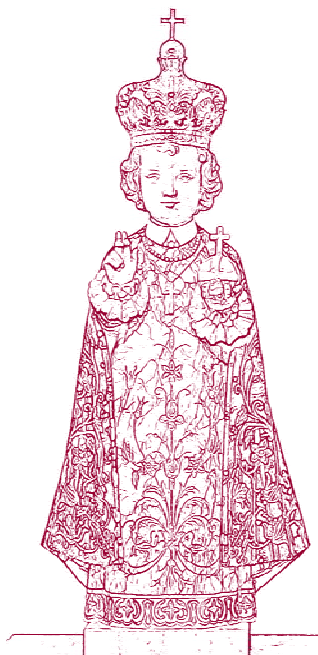
Larson, Kirby. **Hattie's Big Sky**

For most of her life, sixteen-year-old Hattie Brooks has been shuttled from one distant relative to another. Tired of being Hattie Here-and-There, she summons the courage to leave Iowa and move all by herself to Vida, Montana, to prove up on her late uncle's homestead claim. Under the big sky, Hattie braves hard weather, hard times, a cantankerous cow, and her own hopeless hand at the cookstove on her quest to discover the true meaning of home.

Sherlock, Patti. **Letters from Wolfie**

Certain that he is doing the right thing by donating his dog, Wolfie, to the Army's scout program in Vietnam, thirteen-year-old Mark begins to have second thoughts when the Army refuses to say when and if Wolfie will ever return.

We will be using this prayer throughout the year (at the end of the school day, at school functions, etc.) and our hope is that our whole community will learn it.



AN OFFERING TO THE HOLY CHILD

O Dear sweet Infant Jesus,
I offer You my will that You strengthen it,
my mind that You inspire it,
my memory that You fill it,
my wishes and desires that You cleanse them.
I sacrifice to You my intentions that You guide them,
all my inner and outer activities that You make them sacred.
All I am and all I have is Yours.
Your love for me is my hope and trust.
Hear me and grant that I may never leave you.
Amen.

Kingsmen ROCK

This year our School instituted a Kingsmen ROCK program which helps our school community emphasize **R**espect, **O**wnership, **C**atholic Spirit, and **K**nowledge. Over the last few weeks, the school has been focusing on these themes for all school settings. The following "rules" shared with our children are important reminders for all of us:

Help/share with others
Be kind to All
Be Truthful
Be Reverent
Remember Manners

Be Friendly
Say Please and Thank You
Be Patient
Work Cooperatively



"There are two lasting bequests
we can hope to give our children.

One is roots,
the other wings."

Hodding Carter II