



November 28, 2018

Our First Grade Retreat Was Today! 😊

Dear Parents,

The first graders participated in a wonderful class retreat today! We hope that you ask your child about their experience and how they grew closer to Jesus and brought the Gospel to life through the activities. Here is a little bit of information about our retreat. We chose the Thanksgiving season for our retreat as it lends itself well to prepare our hearts with a theme of thankfulness. Our afternoon retreat was filled with opportunities for reflective prayer and engaging activities related to our theme.

We:

- read Bible stories (from WWJD for Kidz by Mary Hollingsworth) and acted the stories out
 - o The Feeding of the Five Thousand: Jesus' Miracle after Thanking God (John 6: 1-15)
 - o The Healing of the Ten Lepers: One Returns to Thank Jesus (Luke 17: 11-19)
- made thank you notes for people who are a blessing in our lives
- learned a song, "We Are Thankful to Our God", and added our own blessings as lyrics
- received our own "My Daily Thankfulness Journal" to use in school and at home
 - o also includes a "Prayer of Thanksgiving for Blessings" and the lyrics for the "We Give Thanks to Our God" song which is to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It"

We hope that you help your child to extend their retreat experience by continuing to develop a spirit of thankfulness in their thoughts, prayers, words, and actions every day. The Bible passages, prayer, song, journal, and act of writing thank you notes can be referred to and used again and again to lift your child's spirit and the spirits of those around them and to joyfully put the virtue of gratitude into practice.

Blessings in Christ,

Mrs. Mary Freeman
Retreat and Outreach Coordinator

Ms. Allyson Henes
First Grade Teacher

Ms. Pam Klesko
First Grade Teacher

