**Grade 6, 7, 8 Make-Up**

**Monday, February 5, 2018**

Please submit thoughtful answers to the numbered items below ***in an email*** to

[rburbrink@saint-max.org](mailto:rburbrink@saint-max.org) within 2 weeks of the missed class.

***Time with the Gospel***

1. Think back over your week and recall a time when someone expressed a need and asked for their help. What feelings did you experience when you were asked to help? How did you respond? Are there times when you would rather not get involved when someone asks for your help?

***When someone asks us for help, we are faced with a choice. We can choose to help, or we can decide not to help. In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus is faced with such a choice when a man with leprosy asks for his help. Let’s listen carefully to this Gospel.*** Read Mark 1:40–45.

1. What did the man ask Jesus to do?
2. Why might Jesus not want to do this?
3. How does the Gospel describe Jesus’ response to the man’s request for help?
4. What did Jesus choose to do?

***Jesus felt compassion for the man with leprosy, and he chose to show his compassion by his actions. When we hear of the needs of others, we often feel compassion toward them. Then we must choose how we will respond. We show ourselves to be true Christians when, like Jesus, we demonstrate compassion by our actions, giving help when we are able.***

1. Why do you need to forgive? From who do you need to ask forgiveness?
2. Why do Catholics often seek forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation before they share the Sacrament of Eucharist? How are these sacraments related?

***Beyond the Gospel***

***Holy Communion Calls Us to Become a Holy Community***

1. What does praying the Lord’s Prayer together at Mass mean to you?
2. What does exchanging a sign of the peace of Christ mean to you?
3. How does Holy Communion make us holy community?

***U.S. Catholic Bishops Speak Out Against Racism. Almost 40 years ago the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops published a letter about racism, Brothers and Sisters to Us, in which they wrote: “Racism is a sin: a sin that divides the human family.”***

***Last fall, the bishops announced the formation of a new Committee Against Racism that will work to find solutions to racism. In the announcement, the bishops wrote: “Prejudice can lurk unnoticed in the soul. Without prayerful reflection, it can feed on the fear of what is different. It can grow into overt racism…Let us not allow the forces of hate to deny the intrinsic dignity of every human person.”***

1. Why is racism a sin?
2. Think about a prejudice you might have about a person or group. Where do you think this prejudice came from? How do we change our negative views about others?