

Catholic Schools Week Reflection 2019

“Be My Witness”

By: Ginger Browning (SRS Parent)

In this journey called life, we as Catholic Christians are called to be His witness through our acts of love and the example we set by living joyfully that virtue of hope. It is more than just doing our best and surviving the ups and downs of everyday life - it is about being that **light** for others to see and living out that depth of heart we call **hope**.

The shepherds herald this message of hope within their untold story at the first Christmas. Their journey was towards a light and it wasn't until they encountered the Christ Child that they received the gift of hope. It was a hope renewed and lived out afterwards when they returned to their regular lives. We too return to ordinary times after Christmas, and Catholic Schools Week falls neatly into that slotted time where we are reminded to echo that spirit of Christmas hope and to be His witness of what we live in hope for. After Christmas, the decorations are put away and the sparkle that once was is now dull and cold. But we have a job to do in being His witness, it means being that light in the darkness, echoing that message of hope just like shepherds did when they returned to their fields.

As you walk the decorated hallways for Catholic Schools Week, take notice of that little symbol of hope - a little bird resting in the wintry branch awaiting the promise of Spring. The bird rejoices as its song pierces the quietness of winter, so too can our hearts rejoice in what is promised in a life with Christ, that is the essence of our hope. The word hope only has meaning if God is truly real in our lives. The closer we stay in relationship with God, inviting Him to hold our hearts and the hearts of those we love, we then can't help but see the signs of God's grace breaking through our troubled world.

So, look upwards this week and see the signs of God's love and grace all around you and with your “chin-up” attitude you will just naturally be the witness of hope the world needs right now. Look up and be hopeful - it's that simple.

