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# THE WORD

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"Become who you are." - St. JP2

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## Confirmation

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For all those entering grades 9-12, Confirmation classes begin Sept. 11th from 6:00pm - 7:30 pm. Be sure to register with the Parish office by Sept. 11th.

## Religious Ed.

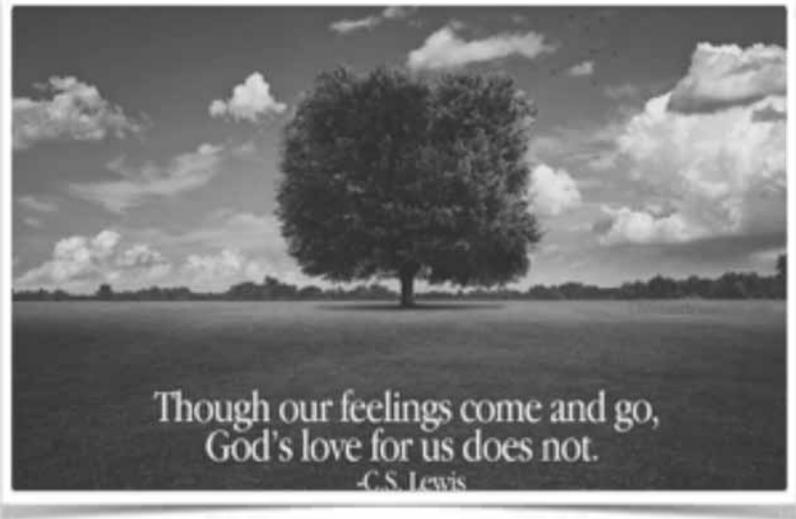
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Religious Education classes for grades 1-8 begin Wednesday Sept. 14 from 6:30pm - 8:00pm. Be sure to register with the parish office.

## Youth Group

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Youth group is available for grades 7-12. Stay tuned for events and other activities.



## Bankrupt Without Love

"If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing." 1 Corinthians 13: 1-3

The other day I was listening to a Christian radio station and a song came on which quoted the above scripture. The translation was different but it ended with the phrase "I am bankrupt



## Saint Faustina

"Pure love... knows that only one thing is needed to please God: to do even the smallest things out of great love - love, and always love." - St. Faustina



Saint Faustina (1905-1938) was a Polish nun who received a message from the Lord to spread His message of mercy to the world. She devoted her life to offering up her sufferings for the atonement of other's sins. She was given a vision of the now famous image of Divine Mercy (see below).



without love". This phrase has been stuck in my head for days now so \*cue dramatic music\* I decided to write about it!

Anyone who knows me has probably noticed that obedience is not exactly my forte. I tend to do things my way and that is exactly how I approached my year serving with NET Ministries... especially the first half of the year. I did things because I had to and in my heart I was not completely invested. Coming back from Christmas break I knew I needed to make a change. I did not know what this change would be or how it would affect me but I had to do something, anything. During January training, after going to Confession and pouring my heart out in front of the Blessed Sacrament, everything seemed to change. There was a desire to serve and to invest in every aspect of "NET life".

There was a desire to love others and a desire to trust and allow God to change my life and lead me on this journey. I could never really explain what happened that night but I now believe that I had finally

been emptied of myself and filled with God's love.



The truth is I was bankrupt. I was trying to "cash checks" with no money in the bank. I knew

how to walk and talk the faith but I did not have love in my heart. I was so focused on how I could do this or that to improve my faith/life when the answer was always right in front of me... right there on that Cross. The Crucifix... the very definition of love itself. So instead of trying to fix my life on my terms and merits I placed it at the foot of the Cross, the foundation of love, and let go. And the best part is, when you let go, He catches you.

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