

Mission Educators Bulletin

Connecting Us in Mission

St. Cloud Mission Office

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"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light..." Isaiah 9:1

All of us can be a light for the world in even our own simple and ordinary life. If we love our sister and brother, our neighbor, the stranger... we live in the light. When we choose to walk in the light, be prepared that we might become a contradiction to others because now we are going against the culture we live in. Without the light in our lives, we don't know where we are going because the darkness actually takes over and blinds us. By being a light, we are living out God's command to love. The writer, James Joyce, adopted the ancient Greek word 'epiphany' to stand for those lightning



-like moments of illumination that can change the course of our life as we have gained an insight and an understanding about so many things that we didn't have before. The darkness becomes light. The thing is it's what we do with that revelation that is what can make each one of us extraordinary.

Homelessness among district students. . .

A representative of the St. Cloud school district, speaking at a panel presentation on homelessness in the greater St. Cloud area, noted that more than 500 students had already been identified as experiencing homelessness at some point in the current school year. The District 742 School Board received an update at its recent meeting on transitional educational services, which cater to homeless students. The agency estimated that, by the end of the school year, more than 700 students will have experienced homelessness at some point during the year. Of the students currently identified, 60 were "unaccompanied youth", meaning they were not with family members or relatives, and were living "on their own".

January Dates to Remember:

****Poverty Awareness Month**

1st: World Day of Peace

6th: Feast of Epiphany

11th: Human Trafficking Awareness Day

16th: Religious Freedom Day

19th: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

26th-30th: Catholic Schools Week

27th: Holocaust Memorial Day

POVERTY ISN'T JUST ABOUT INCOME-It's about access. Access to opportunity. To housing. To stability. To dignity. These are some of the things that poverty takes away—not always in visible ways, but in ways that shape every part of a person's life.

I Dream a World- Langston Hughes

I dream a world where people
No other one will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its paths adorn.
I dream a world where all
Will know sweet freedom's way,
Where greed no longer saps the soul
No avarice blights our day.
A world I dream where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every one is free,
Where wretchedness will hang its head
And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all humankind-
Of such I dream, my world!