

# INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY

A Catholic Tradition of Academic Excellence Since 1853

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## Reflection By Sr. Annette Wagner, IWBS

### Following Christ's Lead

*Blessed are they who are persecuted for justice' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

(Mt. 5:10)

*Do you want justice?* If this question is based on the "criminal justice system" in the United States, many would probably hesitate to answer, for the common idea of justice is that people get what they deserve (fill in reward or punishment). News articles frequently report failures of this human structure.

If this question is based on the Scripture's meaning for justice, then the answer must be a resounding **YES!** For Scripture's view of justice is the structure in which everyone and everything is in right relationship . . . as God intended . . . as pictured in what we name the Garden of Eden.

Equally intended by God and practically the twin of justice is "Shalom." Often translated as "peace," this term is much broader than the absence of conflict; it encompasses all that a

person needs to live a full life. Pope Paul VI recognized this relationship when he challenged: "If you want peace, work for justice."

Unjust structures are protected by those who benefit from them. Therefore, those who struggle to re-arrange them into right relationship—to establish justice so that all might have fullness of life—meet resistance, even persecution. Jesus' passion and death underline this reality. Mother Jeanne de Matel recognized the call to follow Jesus in the struggle for justice. For she understood Him to say, "You must climb calvary to find Me." (Letters of Jeanne de Matel) Today many still follow that path to the cross. Few have their stories recorded. Few are honored for their efforts during their lifetime. Yet it is in and through their struggle that the kingdom of heaven—the reign of God—is established in our world today. Let us join them in the quest for right relationships so that all will have fullness of life.

## Reflexión Por Hna. Annette Wagner, IWBS

### Seguir a Dios

*Bienaventurados los perseguidos por causa de la justicia,*

*porque suyo es el Reino de los Cielos. (Mt. 5:3)*

¿Quieres justicia? Si esta pregunta esta basada en el "sistema criminal de justicia" de los Estados Unidos entonces muchos de nosotros vacilaríamos para contestarla.



La idea general que tenemos de la justicia es que cada quien recibe lo que merece (castigo o recompensa). Sin embargo, con frecuencia nos enteramos de las fallas en este sistema humano.

Si esta pregunta esta basada en el sentido de justicia que nos da las Sagradas Escrituras, entonces la respuesta debe ser un estruendoso **SI!**

El punto de vista sobre la justicia que vemos en las Sagradas Escrituras es una estructura donde todo y todos estan conformes y de acuerdo..... como Dios manda.....y como lo vemos en lo que llamamos el Paraiso Terrenal.

De la misma forma Dios nos indica que la palabra "Shalom" viene siendo la hermana gemela de justicia. Shalom que se traduce como "paz" es un término más amplio que abarca mucho más que la falta de

conflicto; comprende todo lo que la persona necesita para vivir una vida plena. El Papa Paulo VI identifica esta relación cuando declara: "Si quieres paz, trabaja por la justicia."

Aquellos que se benefician de la injusticia son los que la protegen. Por lo tanto, los que luchan tratando de componer estas estructuras injustas para establecer la justicia y que todos gocen plenamente de la vida encuentran obstáculos, resistencia y aun persecución. La pasión y crucifixión de Jesucristo es un ejemplo latente de esta realidad. La Madre Fundadora Jeanne de Matel respondió al llamado de seguir a Jesús en la lucha por la injusticia. Ella sintió a Jesús decir, "Para llegar a Mi deberás subir mi calvario." (Cartas de Jeanne de Matel) Hoy en día muchos aun suben ese sendero al calvario. Son pocos de los que se sabe su historia. Son muy pocos los que reciben recompensa o premio a su esfuerzo. Sin embargo, es gracias y por medio de la lucha continua de estas personas que se establece en este mundo el reino de los cielos—el Reino de Dios—. Unámonos a ellos en su esfuerzo por que todos vivamos en una relación agradable y de mutuo entendimiento y así podamos todos gozar de la plenitud de nuestras vidas.

## Valley Art Contest

Several IWA 6th graders participated in the Valley Environmental Summit Art Contest. This contest stressed the importance of the Valley's environment. Out of 150 entries from all over the valley, Marcela Garcia was given an Honorable Mention and Adrian Treviño was awarded second place in the 6th to 8th grade division and received a certificate and an i-Pod nano.



## Sharing Spirit

In the spirit of holiday giving, IWA students participated in a coat drive as well as a pajama drive. Coats were donated to the Good Neighbor Settlement House. Pajamas were donated to Holy Family Church, an elementary and a shelter. Thank you!

## Catholic Schools Week

IWA will join Catholic schools nationwide in the celebration of Catholic Schools Week from Jan. 29 - Feb. 4th. As part of the celebration, IWA will host "A Taste of IWA". Prospective families of 3K -8th grade students will be able to observe classes in progress and tour the school grounds. Other activities will also be held during this week.



Pre-registration for the 2012-2013 school year is around the corner. More information will be provided soon. Please make sure to register as soon as possible before registration opens to the public.

## A Little Bit of Mexico

The 59th presentation of "A Little Bit of Mexico" will be held on February 19th. There will be a pre-program reception at 6:30 p.m. sponsored by the VM/IWA Alumni Council.



Ticket prices are as follows: Angels—\$35, Angels plus reception—\$60, Patrons—\$30, Patrons plus reception—\$50, Reserved—\$15,

Reserved plus reception—\$40 and General Admission - \$10. Tickets will soon be available in the Accounting Office.

If you are interested in purchasing an ad in the "A Little Bit of Mexico" program book, please contact Development Director Magda Garza. The deadline is February 3rd. As always, thank you for your support!

INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY		January 2012					INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
1	2 Teacher Workday	3 Classes Resume	4	5	6 End of 2nd Reporting Period	7		
8	9 A Little Bit of Mexico Practice Begins	10 Mass 8 a.m.	11	12	13 Parent-Pupil-Teacher Conferences Report Cards	14		
15	16	17 Mass 8 a.m.	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24 Mass 8 a.m.	25 BANSA Meeting	26 IWA Spelling Bee 2 p.m.	27 Diocesan Spirit Awards	28 VISA Boys' Varsity Basketball Tournament		
29	30	31 Mass 8 a.m.						
Catholic Schools Week—Faith. Academics. Service. Jan. 29 - Feb. 4/ "A Taste of IWA" Jan. 30 - Feb. 2								