

# Mission Educators Bulletin

## Connecting Us in Mission

St. Cloud Mission Office

September 2024

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## New Adventures

Hello Friends – Welcome to a new school year, I hope you had an amazing summer!

My name is Katie Walton, and I have recently joined the St Cloud Mission Office to help with the Mission Educator position and its many responsibilities. I was born and raised right here in St. Cloud, with St. John Cantius as my home parish. I am a wife and mother to 4 and a grandmother to 3. I am so proud to join this office and start this new journey I'm on with all of you!

Currently, I am sitting at my desk in a room that was assigned to me, over 2900 miles from home. I am here meeting / training with some of the most amazing people., learning how through mission, to better walk together in faith. As I sat down it hit me that I'm not the only one starting something new. It is September, and for so many of us, we are walking into a new classroom; teaching a new group of kids; starting a new chapter of our academic career; meeting new people; learning new lessons and hopefully seeing things from new perspectives.

This desk has a window right above it, and while I find myself happily distracted by the birds singing to each other and a stunning view of the mountains and a sweet smell I can't quite put my finger on, I am also feeling a little bit anxious, a feeling that you all might be feeling too.

"New" can sometimes be scary where we can all be tempted to sit in the safety of the old and of what we know; the safety of our family; our same old friends; our routine way of doing things. I think some people call it the "tried and true" method. We do this subconsciously so we can avoid any possible trouble and any potential pain or confusion....any risk of something not working out quiet as we would like it .

The problem with that method however, is that we don't truly live. We do this because sometimes when we get busy with our daily lives, we forget that God promised that He will always walk with us...and that means always. Not just when its easy and we are doing things the way we have always done them but also when things are hard or scary or new. **Philippians 4:6-7 – Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.**

This school year; I have a personal challenge for myself, and I want to invite you to please join me. I want you to wake up every morning, thank God that you are alive and do something that you haven't done before. Say hello to a total stranger in the grocery store; strike up a conversation with a new person in school and ask them where they are from, listen to their story; volunteer at a shelter; offer to help at your parish. Do whatever comes to mind that you think might help make your world a little bit bigger and a little bit better. I would love to hear about your adventures, and I will share mine with you as well. In the meantime however, I wish you all an amazing start to your school year,

If you are looking for someone to come into your school or parish to speak about Mission, Catholic Social Teaching, Fair Trade, or anything else you might need, please reach out to me at [missionofficeeducator@cloudnet.com](mailto:missionofficeeducator@cloudnet.com) or give me a call at 320-251-1100.

I would love the opportunity and look forward to meeting you all soon.

Blessings, Katie Walton

### Give it a Try!

#### Mission Education Resources

*This year's theme for Catechetical Sunday is "Lord, when did we see you hungry? - Mt-25:37*

*Finding Christ in spaces and places that you may not typically travel, who do you envision might be similar to the groups Jesus mentions in his parable of the end times (Mt 25) ?*

*For more resources on how this theme can be a part of your years programming, visit USCCB's website : [www.usccb.org/resources/library](http://www.usccb.org/resources/library) or contact the Mission Office : [missionofficeeducator@cloudnet.com](mailto:missionofficeeducator@cloudnet.com)*

#### Words of Wisdom:

"Education cannot be neutral. It is either positive or negative; either it enriches or it impoverishes; either it enables a person to grow or it lessens, even corrupts him. The mission of schools is to develop a sense of truth, of what is good and beautiful.

~Pope Francis

### Don't Forget:

Month: September  
Hispanic Heritage Month

- 9/1/24—World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
- 9/2/24—Labor Day
- 9/5/24— International Day of Charity
- 9/11/24 – 9/11 Remembrance Day
- 9/15/24 —Catechetical Sunday
- 9/21/24—International Day of Peace and World Gratitude Day
- 9/29/24—World Migrants and Refugee Day

WORLD MISSION  
SUNDAY

"GO and INVITE  
EVERYONE to the  
BANQUET"  
Mt 22:9



October  
20th  
2024