

DESERT BLOOMS

October 2014



The month of October is all about saints- those special friends of God to whom we look for inspiration and encouragement. We celebrate real people who led extraordinary lives, from Theresa the “Little Flower” on Oct. 1 to Teresa of Avila the great reformer on Oct. 15 to Jude the patron saint of impossible causes on Oct. 28- and many others on the days in

between. The Church recognizes their lives of service, prayer and sacrifice. And October ends, of course, on the Eve of All Saints: Halloween!

At Santo Niño we celebrate the living saints among us every day, beginning with our special children who reveal the face of God to us in their joys and sufferings. They teach us to treasure the smallest things in life. They teach us patience as they wait, always, for someone to change a diaper or pick them up to join in the fun. They teach us perseverance as they struggle to hold a paintbrush or bring a cookie to their mouths. Mostly they teach us to love the life we have been given.

The mothers of our special children are saints among us. Like their children, they show us patience and perseverance. But in a very special way they image for us the tremendous capacity for love in a human heart. They show us the kind of love that sacrifices for others and continues to hope despite many reasons to despair.



The special brothers and sisters also are saints. They give new meaning to the words of the song, “He ain’t heavy- he’s my brother!” We can’t begin to understand the sacrifices they have made, often involuntarily, on behalf of the needs of their special siblings.

And of course we must mention our dedicated team who put their hearts and hands to work each Tuesday, Thursday and every other Saturday, offering healing therapies and a listening ear, wiping runny noses or cleaning up after lunch. Saints in our midst doing the many behind-the-scenes activities that create a happy, healthy environment for the everyone.

When we arrived last Saturday the center was decorated for our celebration of Halloween. While the mothers’ group had a little workshop, the children created pretzel & peanut butter spiders and had their faces painted. They “pinned” the face on the pumpkin and colored paper jack o’lanterns. We saved the bobbing for apples until just before lunch because ALL the saints wanted to give that a try! After lunch as the Love Bus loaded, each precious passenger received a bag of treats- no tricks- for the trip home.



And how can we not mention the saints who are reading this little newsletter? In your prayers and support you show us God’s providence! Thank you!

