

THE TABLET *jr.*

**Rights & Responsibilities:  
Women's History Month**

The Tablet Jr. is edited by CTN, the educational services department of DeSales Media Group.



**Teaching Guide Vol. 4; Issue 5**

Each month has a specific theme tied to Catholic social teaching. The themes of Catholic Social Teaching can be integrated into many subjects. This Instructional Guide is full of resources to help you connect the stories and features to your lesson plans.

This month's edition is created by the student journalists of St. Bernard Catholic Academy.



## Women in the Police Department

Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: How has social climate affected the level of success achieved?

YouTube Video: [Women Candidates Make History at the Polls](#)



**Video Description:** Female candidates make history during the 2018 midterm election by smashing barriers and winning seats in Congress.

## Activities

→ Women in Congress. (4-8)

- ◆ Use the [interactive map](#) to find out how many women are in Congress. Create a presentation for all the active Congresswomen across the US.
- ◆ Include:
  - Democratic Party
  - Important things they fight for
  - What job did they hold before being elected

→ Women in Congress Timeline (4-8)

- ◆ Using the interactive map, create a timeline of all the women who have served in congress.
- ◆ What are some things you notice?
- ◆ What is the ratio of women to men?

## Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) What types of stereotypes do people have about women?
- 2) Why can stereotyping be dangerous?
- 3) Why is it important for women to contribute to fields like STEM or government?

## Additional Resources

- Indiana Girls to City Council (3-8)
  - ◆ Think about your neighborhood. Are there signs that need to be more inclusive?
  - ◆ How can you help make a change the way the two sisters in the video did?
  - ◆ DE: Women in the U.S Senate
- DE: Courageous First Ladies Who Changed the World (K-8)
  - ◆ Studio Board Extension Activity (K-2)
  - ◆ iCivics: Women's History Month weekly planners (6-8)
  - ◆ iCivics: DBQuest Women in Service (6-8)

## Women's Rights

Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.



Essential Question: How have notable figures in history impacted social and political culture in regard to race equality?

Discovery Education Video: 19th Amendment

**Video Description:** States that the 19th Amendment guarantees female citizens living in the United States the right to vote, and summarizes the woman suffrage movement. The segment also provides a video quiz that is based on the content of the segment.

## Activities

- YouTube: Women's Equality Day for Kids! | Women's Rights
  - ◆ Compare & Contrast Women's History month & Women's Equality Day
- DE: I Could Do That!: Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote
  - ◆ Studio Board
- DE: Women's Suffrage Movement: Gaining Equality for Women
  - ◆ Studio: 3-2-1 SOS Strategy
  - ◆ National Geographic Kids: The Women's Suffrage Movement
  - ◆ YouTube: Sojourner Truth's "Ain't I a Women"

## Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

### Reflection Questions:

- 1) What are some of the biggest challenges that women face today? How will these change in the next 20 years?
- 2) Why is it hard for women to gain access to jobs and communities that are traditionally male?
- 3) Eleanor Roosevelt once said: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." How does this quote relate to feminism and the struggle for equal rights? How can you use it to inspire your own actions?

## Additional Resources

- DE: Afghanistan: Women's Rights Program (3-5)
  - ◆ Britannica: Women's Rights Across the World
  - ◆ Create a presentation highlighting the rights women have all over the world
    - How do they differ?
    - Do the differences in each country help women or make them struggle?
- DE: Newsy: Empowering Girls around the World through Storytelling
  - ◆ Use the Bible Affirmations activity to create empowering biblical affirmations to display in your classroom.

## Inequalities in Women's Sports



Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: How did their early life shape their interests and career paths?

Overcoming Gender Inequality in Soccer

Video Description: Mónica González, former captain of the Mexican women's national soccer team, shares a story about overcoming gender inequality in sports.

## Activities

- DE: Somali Women's Basketball Team Defy Prejudice
  - ◆ Studio Board
- DE: Little Girl Big Dream: The Story of Olympian Samantha Peszek
  - ◆ Studio Board
- Newsy: Meet Kyra Elzy, Head Coach of Kentucky Women's Basketball
- The PBS NewsHour: Girl Football Player
  - ◆ After watching Lexi's courageous decision fill out the debate from about girls in football.
    - Should they be allowed to play?
    - Remember to use facts & even biblical verses to support your opinion.

## Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

### Reflection Questions:

- 1) Why do you think it is taking so long to close the pay gap? How can we close it more quickly?
- 2) How can sports create more equal opportunities in society?
- 3) Do you think women are still subjected to double standards in sports?

## Additional Resources

- YouTube: She Persisted in Sports
- ◆ She Persisted extension activity
  - ◆ Celebrating Women's History Studio Board

## Sister Elizabeth

Together as a class, read the questions and answers from Sr. Elizabeth.



## Questions from kids like you!

This month we celebrate the contributions of women in history. The list below recognizes women who have lived their lives with faith and God in their hearts. Let's follow their example!

\*\*See below the videos on DE for lesson plans and educational materials.

- Who Cares About the Saints? Mary
  - ◆ Teacher's Guide
- Who Cares About the Saints? St. Bernadette
  - ◆ Teacher's Guide
- Who Cares About the Saints? Dorothy Day
  - ◆ Teacher's Guide
- Who Cares About the Saints? St. Joan of Arc
  - ◆ Teacher's Guide



# Diocesan History Corner



MISS HELEN MCCORMICK

tory

She was a frequent speaker and lecturer on subjects of interest to Catholic women, a staunch defender of Catholic morals in opposition to contraception, immoral literature and its descent films. On many occasions she presented the viewpoint of Catholic women before the State Legislature at Albany and other official groups. She was the author of a book for youth, the "Cardinal Trail," published by Doubleday Doran in 1934.

Mrs. McCormick was the wife of Dr. Thomas O. McCormick and the mother of five children. Born in Brooklyn in 1886, she studied at Navvity Academy and Santa Clara College, Shirotsu, Wis. In 1929, Fordham University conferred upon her the honorary degree of doctor of laws.

In 1931 she was awarded the Catholic Action Medal of the College of Our Lady of the Elms, Chicopee, Mass.

Pope Pius XI in 1925 recognized Mrs. McCormick's outstanding work as a Catholic laywoman, presenting her with the gold cross "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice."

#### Founded the Big Sisters

A lawyer by profession, the first woman to be appointed Assistant District Attorney in Kings County and a leader in the fight for women's suffrage, Helen P. McCormick (in private life Mrs. Patrick Todd) is identified with diocesan history as the

ment of Labor, in which capacity she is credited with achieving many improvements in factory conditions in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

Her appointment to the District Attorney's office in 1917 brought her experience in dealing with the problems of women and girl delinquents. Out of this work Miss McCormick developed the Big Sisters group, which she founded in 1920. The society grew rapidly and performed a badly needed service. In one year, 1923, for example, the Big Sisters cared for a total of 8,000 new cases involving female delinquents.

She died February 21, 1957, and over 20,000 people visited her bier. The Requiem Mass was offered by Auxiliary Bishop Kearney in Queen of All Saints Church, Brooklyn.

#### Apostle in Charitable Works

The extent of her charities are known only to God, but Mrs. Katherine V. Baxter will long be remembered by the thousands with whom she came into contact for her superb character, her sweet disposition, her gentle demeanor, her graciousness and generosity and her utter selflessness, all of which were built on a foundation of rugged faith.

Her activities in the charitable and cultural life of the Diocese, and beyond, extend over fifty years. One of the pioneer teachers of Braille, she was a founder of the Catholic Trade Shop and of the Villa de Sales Convalescent Home, Far Rockaway. Mrs. Baxter also served as first regent of Brooklyn Circle, International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, and as editor of its quarterly bulletin; was a president of St. Joseph's Alumnae of Brentwood, L. I., a director of the Dr. White Memorial, and an active member in at least a dozen other Catholic organizations, as well as the board of the Kings County Social Service, the Girl Scouts Council and the Red Cross.

Born in Brooklyn in 1878, she, daughter of Thomas E. and Jane Moore Byrne, she attended St. Agnes Academy, Brooklyn, and was graduated from St. Joseph's Academy, then in Flatbush, as a class valedictorian. She married John E. Baxter, K.S.G., in 1902 and became the mother of six children. On May 14 of this year, she was called to her reward, mourning, "Ascension Thursday, what a wonderful day to die!" Holy Innocents Church, Flatbush, was filled to capacity for her funeral.

counted for every penny.

Possessor of a delightful personality, she made a host of friends wherever she went. She was also active in the St. John's College Auxiliary. Her other charities included the Nursing Sisters of the Sick Room, the Villa de Sales Convalescent Home, Far Rockaway, and from its inception, the Dr. White Memorial, Brooklyn.

Born in Collinsville, Conn., she and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Simoni, moved to Brooklyn in 1868, where she was educated in the parochial schools. She became a teacher at the age of 19 and five years later married Edward McGuirk, who lived but a short time. In 1868 she was married to John G. Costelloe and they had six children. Death called her at the age of 81 on March 8, 1918. The funeral Mass was offered in St. Joachim and Anne Church, Queens Village.

#### Headed Ladies of Charity

Few individuals in the history of the Diocese have more directly or more practically applied the teachings of the Faith on her of nobility than Lady Margaret Armstrong. Cultured and educated, she was at home among those in the highest stations in life, yet gave unstintingly of her time, talents and resources, year after year without respite, to assisting the most forlorn and friendless of God's creatures.

The wife of Sir Harry Clowes Armstrong, British consul general in New York from 1919 to 1929, she raised a family of three and still found time for her numerous charitable activities. In 1921, she was decorated by Pope Pius XII with the Pro Pontifice et Ecclesia Medal. At one time she belonged to 22 organizations in London and New York, between which she divided her time. She was especially active in the Catholic Big Sisters, which she helped to found, and the Ladies of Charity of the Archdiocese of New York, of which she was president from 1918 to her death at the age of 72 on May 28, 1932. The Requiem Mass was offered in St. Peter of Alcantara Church, Port Washington, where Lady Armstrong had lived for many years.

Born in St. Agnes parish, Brooklyn, and a graduate of St. Agnes Seminary, she was the daughter of Patrick Hanaway, an editor of the "Standard Union." She "to be a singer and a thirty operative role," but her father's

## Activities

- ➔ Read the article together. Helen McCormick was a woman of faith and integrity. Although she did not live a long life, she left an impact by creating Brooklyn Catholic Big Sisters and serving on the Women's Suffrage League in Brooklyn. Can you identify women leaders in your parish that are making a difference?
- ➔ Research the Women's Suffrage Movement and explain how McCormick's impact is relevant today.

### Discovery Education:

- ◆ Women's Suffrage Movement: [The Real Story](#)
- ◆ Women's Voting Rights Interactive

# Helen McCormick

## Sadlier



Sister Katharine Drexel

## Activities

Part of our Catholic faith is learning to live out our faith to the world. Our guidelines are called Catholic Social Teachings, a foundation for life that is rooted in Scripture.

Following in the footsteps of Jesus and living your life with love, peace, and justice can seem overwhelming. By focusing on one of the Catholic Social Teachings at a time, you will live more like Jesus each day. Be the Great Person that God created you to be.

- Go to Sadlier Connect. Read the Poverty and Hunger facts. What can you and your classmates do to help protect the rights and dignity of the poor and hungry, like St. Katharine Drexel?
- Sadlier's ELA Blog After researching at least five women, students will use the *Interesting Women In History* Research Activity worksheet to reflect on who *inspired*, *surprised* and *intrigued* them the most. This research activity offers a more interesting way to study women in history than simply recording biographical information that will soon be forgotten.