

Today we will have CONGREGATIONAL PARTICIPATION during the homily. When I gesture like this (demonstrate) please respond with "REJOICE ALWAYS!" Let's do it! (Gesture)

George Bernard Shaw, prior to the opening of one of his plays, sent Winston Churchill a telegram: "I am enclosing 2 tickets to the first night of my new play. Bring a friend, if you have one." Churchill sent a telegram in reply: "Cannot possibly attend first night. Will attend second, if there is one."

St. Paul proclaims: (GESTURE) "Rejoice always"

Two 2<sup>nd</sup> graders when asked: "Why did God give you your Mother and not some other Mom?" replied:

1. Because we're related.
2. God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me.

Three 2<sup>nd</sup> graders when asked: "What did your Mom need to know about your Dad before she married him?" replied:

1. His last name.
2. She had to know his background. Like is he a crook? Does he get drunk on beer?
3. Does he make at least \$800.00 a year? Did he say NO to drugs and YES to chores?

(GESTURE) "Rejoice always!"

3 GRANDPARENTS shared the following experiences:

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him 62. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised, "Mine says I'm 4-6."

(GESTURE) "Rejoice always!"

An elderly Religious Sister dies. She meets St. Peter at the Pearly Gates, and says to him, "Now, I've loved God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit and all that. But, all my life, I've been waiting to meet Mary."

"Go on. There she is. She's standing over there by the wall," St. Peter replied.

So the elderly Religious Sister makes her way over to Mary.

"Oh, Mary! I've literally been dying to meet you. Now God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit are grand. But you've always been the one for me! I just have one question for you. Why is it that down on earth, all your pictures and statues are all so sorrowful and sad?"

"Well, you see," whispered Mary, beckoning her to the corner, "I was always hoping that the baby would be a girl!"

(GESTURE) "Rejoice always."