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Life

There are many things that I can be thankful for, silly haircuts, good friends, funny jokes, a good game of Monopoly or even the opportunity to go to school. What I am most thankful for, however, is life. I am thankful that I was given the opportunity by God to live on Earth and get the chance to experience the beauty of life. This fall, I have been making it a point to take my eyes off my phone to look out the window while in the car every morning while driving down Father Capodanno Boulevard to go to school so that I can fully embrace nature and the amazing beauty that God has surrounded us with. Every morning, I am reminded of how fortunate I am to experience the magnificence of the sun rising out in the distance and past the crashing waves on the shore. Every morning that view is different and it reminds me of how blessed I am to be alive and to have the capabilities to experience such beauty. I also realize just having the ability to see that view, hear the birds chirping, and smelling the scent of the salty ocean water is a gift and I am so thankful for it.

Life is filled with so many moments that bring happiness and teach us. Every day is a chance to experience something new, whether it's spending time with friends and family, trying new foods, or discovering nature. Life has allowed me to play my favorite sport, which is baseball. Everytime I get on that mound to pitch, I experience true happiness and I am reminded of how blessed I am to be able to engage fully in the sport that I love. I am well aware that there are kids out there that cannot enjoy the same types of things that I do, whether it is due to a health issue or a financial issue, which reminds me how grateful I am to have my mother since she not only works to pay for everything I do, she also makes sure that she is always present and has never missed any of my games in any sport. She was there for my first home run this summer and she even was able to capture it on video. I am thankful that she was there to see it and that I have her video stored away so I can always be reminded of her love.

Life also lets us enjoy simple things, like a sunny day, playing a game of basketball in the neighborhood park or a good book. It also gives us challenges that make us stronger and teach us important lessons. I'm grateful for all of the other loving people around me who support me, for the chance to grow up and chase my dreams, and for all the surprises life has to offer. Life truly is a gift and when I look out that car window every morning, I am always reminded to say "Thank you."