



THE VIETNAMESE EUCHARISTIC YOUTH MOVEMENT IN THE U.S.A

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YEAR
C-A

Weekly Gospel Lessons

NAME _____

TEAM _____

Live The Eucharistic Day



TNTT WEEKLY SCRIPTURE LESSON STUDENT SUPPORT SYSTEM

STUDENT

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Read the weekly scripture lesson at home before going to TNTT and/or church
2. Participate and share in the bible sharing session
3. Practice the virtue from the **Live It!** section daily

YOUTH LEADER

YOUTH-LEADER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Prepare a weekly scripture lesson with prayer
2. Share and connect the Gospel to daily life
3. Encourage students to do homework and practice the weekly virtue

PARENT

PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Read the weekly scripture lesson with your child
2. Share and connect the Gospel to family life
3. Help, pray, and remind your child to practice the virtue from the **Live It!** section

Weekly
Gospel
Lessons

Lesson Journal

Date	Week/Page	Lesson	Virtue to Practice	Assignments
	18th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 2	Jesus' Teaching on Greed	Detachment	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	19th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 4	Jesus' Warning of being Vigilant and Faithful Servants	Reliability	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	20th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 6	Jesus: A Cause of Division	Harmonious	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	21st Sunday in Ord. — C Page 8	Jesus' Teaching on Entering Through the Narrow Door	Tolerance	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	22nd Sunday in Ord. — C Page 10	Jesus' Teaching on Conduct of Invited Guests and Hosts	Honor	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	23rd Sunday in Ord. — C Page 12	Being Jesus' Disciple	Authenticity	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	24th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 14	Jesus' Teaching on Repentance	Joyfulness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	25th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 16	Jesus' Parable of the Dishonest Steward	Honesty	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	26th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 18	Jesus' Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus	Thoughtfulness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	27th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 20	Jesus' Teaching on Faith	Faith	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	28th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 22	Jesus Healed the Ten Lepers	Gratitude	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	29th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 24	Jesus' Parable of the Persistent Widow	Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	30th Sunday in Ord. — C Page 26	Jesus' Parable of Two Men Praying in the Temple	Humility	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	31st Sunday in Ord. — C Page 28	Jesus and Zacchaeus the Tax Collector	Encouragement	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	32nd Sunday in Ord. — C Page 30	Jesus' Teaching on Resurrection	Open to Truth	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	33rd Sunday in Ord. — C Page 32	Persecution Because of Jesus	Peace	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Christ the King — C Page 34	Jesus , the King of Mercy	Accountability	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	1st Sunday of Advent — A Page 36	The Coming of Jesus	Preparedness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	2nd Sunday of Advent — A Page 38	Prepare the Way for Jesus	Repentance	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	3rd Sunday of Advent — A Page 40	Jesus' Testimony to John	Evangelical	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	4th Sunday of Advent — A Page 42	The Birth of Jesus	Righteousness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Nativity of the Lord — A Page 44	Jesus , the Word, Became Flesh	Love	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	The Holy Family — A Page 46	The Holy Family of Jesus , Mary and Joseph	Obedience	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Mary, Mother of God — A Page 48	Mary, Mother of Jesus	Peacefulness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Epiphany of the Lord — A Page 50	Follow Jesus' Star	Joyfulness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Baptism of the Lord — A Page 52	The Baptism of Jesus	Duty	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	2nd Sunday in Ord. — A Page 54	John's Testimony to Jesus	Witness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	3rd Sunday in Ord. — A Page 56	Jesus' Ministry	Commitment	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	4th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 58	Jesus Proclaims God's Blessings	Suffering	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue

Lesson Journal

Date	Week/Page	Lesson	Virtue to Practice	Assignments
	5th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 60	Become Salt and Light for Jesus	Role Model	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	6th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 62	Jesus' Teaching About The Law	Truthfulness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	7th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 64	Jesus' Teaching About Loving Enemies	Perfection	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	8th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 66	Jesus' Teaching About Loyalty to God	Loyalty	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	9th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 68	Listening and Acting on Jesus' Teaching	Prudence	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	1st Sunday of Lent — A Page 70	The Temptation of Jesus	Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	2nd Sunday of Lent — A Page 72	The Transfiguration of Jesus	Obedience	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	3rd Sunday of Lent — A Page 74	Jesus is the source of living water	Enthusiasm	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	4th Sunday of Lent — A Page 76	Jesus cured the blind	Trust	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	5th Sunday of Lent — A Page 78	Jesus raised Lazarus	Caring	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Palm/Passion Sunday — A Page 80	The Passion of Christ	Loyalty	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Easter Sunday — A Page 82	Jesus Rises from the Death	Belief	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	2nd Sunday of Easter—A Page 84	Jesus Strengthened the Faith of Thomas	Faith	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	3rd Sunday of Easter—A Page 86	Jesus on the Road to Emmaus	Understanding	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	4th Sunday of Easter—A Page 88	Jesus is the Good Shepherd	Recognition	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	5th Sunday of Easter—A Page 90	Who is Jesus ?	Authenticity	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	6th Sunday of Easter—A Page 92	If you love Jesus ...	Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Ascension of the Lord — A Page 94	The Ascension of Jesus	Discipleship	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Pentecost Sunday — A Page 96	Jesus' Disciples Received the Holy Spirit	Openness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Most Holy Trinity — A Page 98	Believe in the name of Jesus	Purposefulness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	Most Holy Body & Blood—A Page 100	Jesus is the Living Bread	Thankfulness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	10th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 102	With Hope, Matthew Follows Jesus	Hope	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	11th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 104	The compassion of Jesus	Sharing	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	12th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 106	Acknowledge Jesus	Courage	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	13th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 108	Conditions and Rewards for Jesus' Disciples	Detachment	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	14th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 110	The Gentle Mastery of Jesus	Gentleness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	15th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 112	Jesus' Parable of the Sower	Enthusiasm	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	16th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 114	Jesus' Parable of the Weeds	Fairness	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue
	17th Sunday in Ord. — A Page 116	Jesus' Parable of the Kingdom of Heaven	Wisdom	<input type="checkbox"/> Read the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> Do homework/Practice virtue



JESUS' TEACHING ON GREED

WEEK C - 018

LUKE 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to share the **inheritance** with me." He replied to him, "Friend, who appointed me as your judge and **arbitrator**?" Then he said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all **greed**, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." Then he told them a parable. "There was a rich man whose land produced a **bountiful** harvest. He asked himself, 'what shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?' And he said, 'This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, "Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!" But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you, and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Inheritance	Things received from the death of the previous holder.
Arbitrator	A person or official appointed to settle a dispute.
Greed	Strong and selfish desire for something, especially wealth, power, or food.
Bountiful	Abundant, a lot of something.

2. EXPLORE IT!

A man asked Jesus to resolve a family dispute, but Jesus ignores the question and continues His theme of Discipleship. The parable Jesus speaks of is the "parable of the poor rich man," where the man stores up all his crops for the future. Jesus shares this parable not to condemn material wealth, but a call to the people to reflect on how money became the most important part of their lives. Jesus reminds the people that life is a gift and it is foolish to store so much as if they would live forever. Instead, the people should focus on what matters most to God, which is whether the life people were living was in accordance to God's teaching and whether they also helped others to live a better and more blessed life in growing closer to God.

3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus reminds us that life can be short, that what we have today, might not matter when it is time for us to stand before God. All the things we have in this world, our electronics, our friends, our money, etc. will not get us into heaven. Rather, it is our faith, our love for Jesus, and how we live our life, that is most important. Jesus calls on us to put God at the center of our life, so that we not only adore and worship Him, we also encourage those around us to do the same through our words and our actions.

4. LIVE IT! [DETACHMENT]

Detachment is the state of being separated, disengaged, and not attached to something.

This week have detachment from the materialistic things in your life.

Give up a habit or hobby that you have that does not contribute to your spiritual wellbeing. And replace it with time with God.

5. REMEMBER IT!

“Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.”

(Luke 12:15)



6. PRAY IT!

Dear Lord,
Please remove anything that separates us from You, and You from us. Remove anything that makes us unworthy of Your sight, of Your speech, and of Your love. Help us to see You in others, know that You are near, and trust that You know what is best for us. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' WARNING OF BEING VIGILANT AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS

Week C - 019

LUKE 12:32-48



Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your belongings and give alms. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an **inexhaustible** treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

"**Gird** your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds **vigilant** on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are

those servants. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

Then Peter said, "Lord, is this parable meant for us or for everyone?" And the Lord replied, "Who, then, is the faithful and **prudent** steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so. Truly, I say to you, the master will put the servant in charge of all his property. But if that servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed in coming,' and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants, to eat and drink and get drunk, then that servant's master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish the servant severely and assign him a place with the unfaithful. That servant who knew his master's will but did not make preparations nor act in accord with his will shall be beaten severely; and the servant who was **ignorant** of his master's will but acted in a way deserving of a severe beating shall be beaten only lightly. Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more."

1. Understand It!

2. Explore It!

Inexhaustible	Incapable of being used up, endless
Gird	To fasten or secure (a garment or money bag) on the body with a belt or band.
Vigilant	To be alert, or watchful
Prudent	Wisdom and knowledge
Ignorant	Unaware, uninformed

In the Gospel today, Jesus tells a story of a master and his servant to remind His disciples to be prepared and trustworthy. The story is of a master who goes off to a wedding. His servant is given responsibilities and does not know when the master will return. When the master returns unexpectedly, finds that his servant had completed all his work, and at the door ready to greet his master, his master will bless him and reward him. If the servant continues to be reliable and prepared in this way, he will continue to receive rewards from his master. Jesus also said that if the servant in charge knows what his master wants of him but does not follow the master's instructions and tries to hurt other servants around him; then when the master returns, that servant will receive severe punishment. Jesus also warns His disciples that if they receive too much, they must share just as much with others.

3. Connect It!

Jesus' story of the master and his servant teaches us about being reliable and alert. Just like a time when your parents asked you to do something before they left to go somewhere. When you listened and completed the chores, you usually receive a reward from your parents when they return. At other times when you ignore your parents' requests or start fights with your siblings, you would likely be grounded or punished when your parents return. Jesus reminds us in today's Gospel to be prepared and reliable. What ways can you practice to always be prepared and reliable in everything that you do?

4. Live It! [RELIABILITY]

Reliability: The quality to be trusted and dependable.

In today's Gospel Jesus encourages His disciples to always be alert and reliable. As disciples of Jesus, Jesus calls on us to be prepared and be reliable in everything that we do. Take a moment to think of your role as a son/daughter, student, and a member of the VEYM. What is necessary of you in each of these roles and how can you prepare and be reliable to accomplish your tasks in each role?

Complete the chart below and practice it daily for a whole week.

My Role as ...	I will practice ...
A Son/Daughter	Example: pray for my parents daily
A Student	
A VEYM Member	

5. Remember It!

“Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.”
(Luke 12:37)



6. Pray It!

Dear Lord, thank you for teaching us wonderful life lessons through Your stories in the Bible. Please give us strength to practice and live our lives the way You want us to live. Help us to always be prepared and reliable in all that we do. Please lead us closer to You every day of our life. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS: A CAUSE OF DIVISION

WEEK C - O20

LUKE 12:49-53



Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on **fire**, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my **anguish** until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

- † **Fire:** Often used to represent judgement in the Bible.
- † **Anguish:** Distress, pain, or suffering.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In this Gospel, Jesus warns us about the dangers of greed and speaks about the followers of God who must stay awake, attentive, and responsive as servants of the serving Lord. He speaks about how He has come to divide the earth, to use a fire to obtain the purest of servants of the Lord. He emphasizes that He will not

maintain peace if that peace comes with evil, that we must seek to be eager to resist sin and not be content in the presence of sin. Jesus also refers to His coming Passion when He speaks of His baptism, into which He will be "plunged." He indicates the depths of sorrow and suffering that await Him in His human condition.

3. CONNECT IT!



Our Baptism is the first step in our salvation, to one day be with God in heaven. Our Baptism makes us a child of God, to be part of the Church, and is a commitment that we will love and adore God. Yet at the same time, God gave us the ability to choose and to make decisions.

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that He gave us that choice, and that choice and our actions we make will have consequences. He calls on us to repent for our sins and to seek the forgiveness for what we have done wrong. From there, we must work hard to live faithfully, treat others fairly and with love, and also share Christ with others so that they may also be saved.

4. LIVE IT! (**HARMONIOUS**)

Harmonious means to be marked by agreement in feeling, attitude, or action.

The harmony that Jesus preaches us is one that is lived in the good virtues of forgiveness, honest, humility, etc. God calls on us to live in harmony with all of God's creation, from the people we encounter to the wildlife of this world.

This week, see harmony in all your relationships. If someone does something to anger you, take a deep breath and remember God's teaching about the importance of harmony.

→ 5. REMEMBER IT!

"I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!"
(Luke 12:49)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Heavenly Father,
help us find the peace and harmony that God wants for all of us. Let us first be purified in the fire and come out a better person that preaches Jesus's Word. Help us to fight for the things we believe in every day.
Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



Jesus' Teaching on Entering Through the Narrow Door

Jesus passed through towns and villages, teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" He answered them, "**Strive to enter** through the **narrow** door, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough. After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door, then will you stand outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, open the door for us.' He will say to you in reply, 'I do not know where you are from.' And you will say, 'We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets.' Then he will say to you, 'I do not know where you are from. Depart from me, all you evildoers!' And there will be **wailing** and grinding of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves cast out. And people will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!



Strive to Enter

Strenuous exercise of muscle and power.

Narrow

Small or restricted.

Wailing

Cry of pain or grief.

2. EXPLORE IT!

"Being saved" in Catholic theology is the end result where we see God face-to-face in heaven. It begins with faith and is the result of how that faith is lived out. Jesus is not declaring that many are doomed from the very start, despite their persistent effort to be saved, but it will take much strenuous work and many will try to enter heaven when it is too late.

The Gospel reading does not promise salvation for all those who believe; and who receives it is not known until they appear at the door to heaven. This is why, when asked "Have you been saved?" we can answer: "I have been saved from the penalty of sin by Christ's death and resurrection. I am being saved from the power of sin by the indwelling Spirit. I have the hope that I shall one day be saved from the very presence of sin when I go to be with God." It is through the grace of Christ that I am able to live out His life in me; a grace that is invigorated every time I participate in the Eucharist.



3. CONNECT IT!

The "door", the "gate", the "way" is Jesus and not merely by eating with Him, drinking with Him, and listening to Him, will be enough; one must share in His life, as symbolized by His table fellowship with the lowly. One cannot simply boast that they are acquainted with Him and His message. Those who do not want to commit themselves to Jesus' way find themselves on the outside. In graciousness, God opens the banquet to all peoples. What we do in our outward actions will manifest our being inside. The question won't be focused on about whether or not we will "make it", but what we will make of Christ's having made "it" for us already. It is not only a matter of trying to enter Jesus' way early, but to enter Jesus' way correctly and earnestly, which is why even the last may be first through the door.



4. LIVE IT! [TOLERANCE]

To have tolerance means to have the patience and perspective to accept different viewpoints and actions, sometimes from areas and people we often don't understand fully. We are not tested by the good times in our lives but by the hard times. Do we live out the way of Jesus in those times? Or do we give in? And become like the strangers on the outside that will not be let in? Try this week to see how you handle the difficult situations in your life. Outwardly show to others how you can tolerate the stress of the world and grow from it by living the way Jesus has shown.



5. REMEMBER IT!

"Strive to enter through the narrow door,"
(Luke 13: 22-30)



6. PRAY IT!

Dear Heavenly father,
Help us to tolerate the difficult path that is burdened before us. Let us see you when we reach the gates of heaven, having always striven to enter the narrow door by showing we are capable of living out your word. Let us be the first to enter and be the first to be at your banquet in heaven. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

Jesus' Teaching on CONDUCT OF INVITED GUESTS & HOSTS



WEEK C - 022

LUKE 14:1, 7-14



On a **sabbath** Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading **Pharisees**, and the people there were observing him carefully.

He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honor. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, 'Give your place to this man,' and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the

lowest place. Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table. For everyone who **exalts** himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Then he said to the host who invited him, "When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment. Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the **righteous**."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Sabbath

A day of rest in the Jewish and Christian religions.

Pharisee

A Jewish religion member known to observe strictly Jewish rites and ceremonies as written in law.

Exalts

To think highly of someone or something.

Righteous

A good and virtuous person.



2. EXPLORE IT!

In this parable, Jesus teaches two great lessons to all who are present at a meal. The first is to live in humility and humbleness. Jesus explains that whenever one enters in someone's house, the guest does not sit at the head of the table, but instead on the side. The guest should not think they are better than someone else. For those who think they are the best, in God's eyes, that person is the lowest. The second lesson from the Jesus parable is to not expect anything in return for good deeds. Rather, Jesus highlights the value of being giving, which will be rewarded double in heaven.

3. CONNECT IT!

As a Catholic, we are supposed to live a life like Jesus, and that life should be a humble life. Jesus did so many great things for others like cure the sick and even saved us from sin. Not once did Jesus ask for anything in return. Just like Him, when we do something for someone else, don't expect that person to buy us a gift in return. Continue to do good for God.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

(Luke 14:11)



4. LIVE IT! [HONOR]



Respect that is given to someone who is admired.

From God, we are asked to honor many people such as our parents, teachers, and God Himself. To honor someone is to obey, listen, and respect them because these are the people who have taught you many things in life. Do you respect them? This week, listen to your teachers and obey your parents. Show them that you love and respect them.

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, please help us to live a more honorable and humble life. Let the Holy Spirit guide us up the path to You in heaven. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

BEING JESUS' DISCIPLE

WEEK C - O23

LUKE 14:25-33

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If any one comes to me without hating his father and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my **disciple**. Whoever does not carry his own **cross** and come after me cannot be my



disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the **foundation** and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a **delegation** to ask for peace terms. In the same way, everyone of you who does not **renounce** all his possessions cannot be my disciple.

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

- DISCIPLE** Someone who accepts and helps spread the teachings of another.
- CROSS** The symbol of Christianity.
- FOUNDATION** The ground upon which something is built up.
- DELEGATION** A group of people chosen to vote or act for someone else.
- RENOUNCE** To formally give up something.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Jesus said to His followers that they should not abandon or ignore their loved ones, but instead love them less than they love God. By doing this, we believe that God is the greater love and good that we should follow. Just like Jesus, we should pick up our own cross and follow Him. Sacrificing all the people and things that we love shows that we are announcing our undying loyalty and love to God, no matter the cost. To be a disciple of Jesus, one has to fully commit, as well as giving up everything that he or she owns.

3. CONNECT IT!

Following Jesus and being one of His disciples requires sacrifice. It is not easy to leave our family and friends behind, but we have to if want to be disciples. Not anyone can be a follower of Jesus. To be a follower, you have to be loyal and must truly dedicate yourself to Jesus.

Think about the sacrifices that you have made in order to work towards becoming a disciple of Jesus. One example is how we all sacrifice time each week to attend VEYM meeting. Here is where we learn more about God so we can tell others about Him.

We attend VEYM meeting every week so that we can grow in greater love with Jesus to increase our courage to become a disciple of His.

Jesus suffered and died on the cross for us. He wants all of us to follow His example by overcoming our own sufferings.

4. LIVE IT!

[AUTHENTICITY]

Authenticity means true to one's own personality, spirit, or character.

We are blessed to have Jesus in our lives as a role model. He has so many great characteristics that we could certainly imitate.

It is not a good thing to tell a lie, but sometimes we tell white lies. This week, go out and show your inner authenticity. Be honest with yourself and with the words that you say. Try not to tell lies this week, even if it is a big or small lie.

5. REMEMBER IT!

“Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.”
(Luke 14:27)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, thank you for teaching us about the costs and challenges it takes to follow in Your footsteps. To be Your disciple, we have to be authentic and be true in who we are as individuals. Help us to give our 100% commitment to being true to ourselves and to You. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' TEACHING ON REPENTANCE



WEEK C - 024

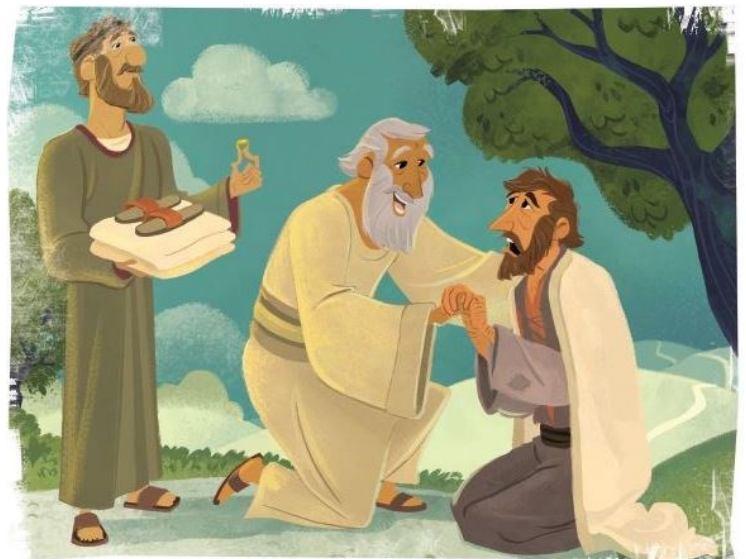
LUKE 15:1-32

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the **Pharisees** and **scribes** began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them he addressed this **parable**. "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy and, upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

"Or what woman having ten coins and losing one would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it, she calls together her friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.' In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Then he said, "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he **squandered** his inheritance on a life of **dissipation**. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father.

While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Pharisees	A member of the ancient Jewish religious faith.
Scribes	One who transcribed, edited, and interpreted the Bible.
Parable	A short story used to teach a religious principle or moral lesson.
Squandered	To spend money wastefully.
Dissipation	The state of spending money wastefully.

2. EXPLORE IT!

The three parables of this week, teach us the joy in repentance, a deep sorrow or regret for a past sin or wrongdoing. God is always willing to forgive us as long as we repent for our sins and find our way back to Him. He welcomes us back with open arms and is joyous when we find the righteous path back to Him.

3. CONNECT IT!

Sometimes we can be like the lost sheep or the lost son, losing our way in life and making mistakes. However, no matter how big of a sin we commit, God is always on the other side searching for us and waiting for us. He will never abandon us and is always waiting for us to return to Him and when that happens, He will be joyful of our return.

4. LIVE IT! [JOYFULNESS]

Joyfulness is to be joyful, glad, and delighted. God is joyful when we repent for our sins. Therefore, we should not only learn how to repent, but also to forgive as God has done for us.

Go home and repent for all your wrongdoings. Say sorry when you do something wrong and truly mean it. Forgive those who have done something wrong against you. How do you feel after that? Do you feel joyful?

5. REMEMBER IT!

"there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance!"
(Luke 15:7)



6. PRAY IT!

Dear Jesus, please forgive us for all our sins and teach us to recognize those sins so that we may repent and avoid them. Please guide us as we continue to practice our repentance and forgiveness and show us the joyfulness that You feel and embrace. Amen.

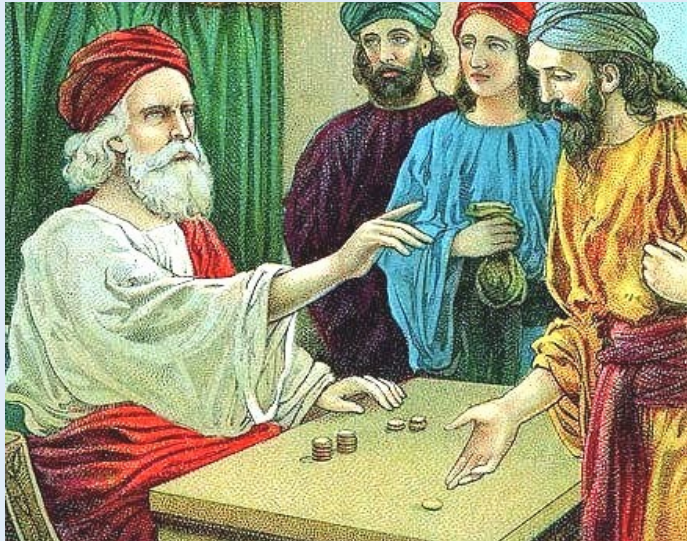
My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



JESUS' PARABLE OF THE DISHONEST STEWARD

Jesus said to his disciples, "A rich man had a **steward** who was reported to him for **squandering** his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself,



'What shall I do, now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's **debtors** one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your **promissory** note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another he said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master **commended** that dishonest steward for acting **prudently**.

"For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and **mammon**."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Steward	Squandering	Debtor	Promissory Note	Commended	Prudently	Mammon
Who helps his master manage his property & money.	To use or spend money wastefully.	A person who owes another person money.	A written promise to pay an owed amount of	Praise as worthy of confidence.	Careful in providing for the future.	Material wealth.

2. EXPLORE IT!

The steward was caught wasting away the masters' money and possessions and he was then let go from his job. The steward had to think for his own future living and therefore, called in his master's debtors to lower their debts so that they would owe him a favor that would help him in the future.

However, Jesus teaches us that if one is dishonest with small matters, he will also be dishonest with larger matters. Conversely, if one is honest with small matters, he will be honest with large matters.

No servant can serve two masters; one cannot truly serve God if he chooses to be a slave for money. If the steward was honest in the first place, he would not have lost his job. He was dishonest with his master, then debtors, and he may continue to be dishonest his whole life if he does not learn from his mistakes and the true value and meaning of honesty.

3. CONECT IT!

Being honest is not always easy, but Jesus teaches us to always be honest. If we are honest and trustworthy with small matters, then we would be the same with large matters. However, if we lie about small matters, that bad quality can lead us to lie and be dishonest with bigger matters that may harm others or us. Therefore, we should learn to be truthful in every small thing now so that when the true test comes, we would be trained to do the right thing with the big matters.

4. LIVE IT! [HONESTY]

Honesty means to be truthful and sincere. Some people say that honesty is the best policy, do you agree? Go home and try to live at least a full day (if not a whole week) of being honest. Take notes if you catch yourself lying or "joking" dishonestly with others. Are they out of habit or why else would it be difficult to always be honest?

What are "white lies"? Do you think they are acceptable? Sometimes it is not what you say but how you say it. Therefore, you can always be truthful but in more creative words that would not hurt other people's feelings.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"NO SERVANT CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS. YOU CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON!" (LUKE 16:13)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Jesus,
You taught us how to be honest. Please guide us to practice the virtue of honesty this week and for the rest of our lives. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' PARABLE OF THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS



Jesus said to the Pharisees: "There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined **sumptuously** each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the **netherworld**, where he was in **torment**, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.' Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you

a great **chasm** is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.' But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.' He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Sumptuously

Entailing great expense, as from choice materials, fine work.

Netherworld

The underworld of the dead.

Torment

To afflict with great bodily or mental suffering; pain.

Chasm

A deep cleft in the earth's surface; gorge; a physical divide.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In the Gospel today, we see a rich man living a good life with more than what he needed. Lazarus was poor and was willing to eat the rich man's scraps. After both of their passing, Lazarus got carried away by the angels while the rich man went to the netherworld. Here the rich man suffered while Lazarus did the opposite. Lazarus received a blessing now because he lived a life of humility and poverty.

3. CONNECT IT!

Everyday we go out and see people who are less fortunate than us. Whether we go to school, the mall, or even a stroll in the park, not everyone has the life we do. Remember to be humble and be considerate of others as we are not all the same, but we have one thing in common. We are all children of God and although we may not all receive good things; we can always give good things.

4. LIVE IT! [**THOUGHTFULNESS**]

Thoughtfulness means to show consideration for others, to be mindful of things not obvious in front of us.

We are blessed with a lot of good things in this world. We have to keep in mind that some people around the world, or even down the street, are not as lucky as us. As we go on throughout the week, remember that at any time anyone could have a bad day. Whether it be your waiter at a restaurant, or your mom at home, be considerate of what they are going through even if you do not know and give them a smile to cheer them up.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead."
(Luke 16:31)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Lord, please help us become more considerate of others, to be more thoughtful in what we do in our daily lives. Thank you for everything You have given us and give us the strength to give others the things You have given us. We pray that those who are less fortunate someday will experience the life we have right now. Amen.

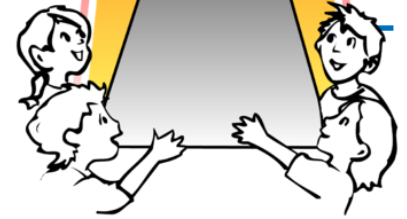
My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' TEACHING ON FAITH

WEEK C - O27

LUKE 17:5-10



The **apostles** said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have **faith** the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not

rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were **obliged** to do.'

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

APOSTLE

A person whom

FAITH

A belief that is not based on proof, belief in God.

OBLIGED

To require or constrain, as by law, command, conscience, or force of necessity.



2. EXPLORE IT!

In this Gospel, we learn how the Lord increases the Apostles' faith. He asks them to do things for Him and follows up with questions. The Lord shows that the tasks He asks them to do are not demands, but their duty as Apostles. By fulfilling their duty, the Apostles will increase their faith.



3. CONNECT IT!

We are faced with many tough decisions in our lives. Remember that we are children of God and remember our duties as such. We are not to stray away from God. We believe in God's word and we are doing His work through faith. Faith is not something that comes naturally, but it is built upon belief and continual good works. Through these two aspects, we build our faith on stronger foundation, seeking to know more of God and His intention for us in this world.

4. LIVE IT! [FAITH]

Faith means to have a belief that is not based on proof but a belief in God. Take time out of your day to do God's work. It can be something small like listening to your parents, or it could be something big, like helping feed the homeless. Keep in mind when doing these things though, it is not for your benefit, but it is out of the kindness of your own heart, and your duty to God. Faith in God is doing His work not as a job, but as a child of God.



5. REMEMBER IT!

"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."
(Luke 17:6)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God,

Please give us the strength to keep our faith strong in You. Although we struggle in our lives, help us find the light at the end of the tunnel and follow towards Your ways. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS HEALED THE TEN LEPERS



As Jesus continued his journey to Jerusalem, he traveled through Samaria and Galilee. As he was entering a village, ten lepers met him. They stood at a distance from him and raised their voice, saying, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" And when he saw them, he said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." As they were going they were cleansed. And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice, and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Lepers	A person suffering from leprosy.
Cleanse	Free (someone) from sin or guilt.
Samaritan	The Samaritans were a group of people who lived in Samaria. They were half-Jews and half-Gentiles.

2. EXPLORE IT!

During Jesus time, many people suffered from leprosy, a skin disease that caused a lot of deaths among the people of Samaria. The ten lepers asked Jesus for mercy, asking Him for both forgiveness and for Him to take away their suffering. Jesus responds to their plea and cures them. Yet, of the ten who Jesus cured, only the Samaritan returned to give praise and thanksgiving to Him.

3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus gives mercy to all who ask Him with faith and remorse. When someone does a good deed for you or when you do a good deed for others, God calls on you to show gratitude. It is kind to thank others, especially your friends, family, and even teachers.



4. LIVE IT! [GRATITUDE]

Gratitude is the quality or feeling of being grateful or thankful.

Make a list of people you are closest to, and write down one thing they have done for you. Go show them gratitude by saying thank you or by doing an act of kindness.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?"

(Luke 17:18)



Thank you Lord +

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, we thank you for Your mercy. Allow us to receive this gift as we thank the others that had loved us so much. We ask of this in the name of our Lord. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' PARABLE OF THE PERSISTENT WIDOW



Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither **feared God** nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my **adversary.**' For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this **widow** keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'" The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

- To Fear God** Does not mean that we are afraid of Him, but rather that we love Him and do not want to displease Him.
- Widow** A woman who has lost her spouse by death and has not remarried.
- Adversary** An opponent in a contest.

2. EXPLORE IT!

The widow in this passage was persistent towards the judge. She is seeking the just execution of her rights, however the judge pays little attention to her. He finally relents, not to help her but to avoid her. Jesus tells His disciples that God is justice and love. He is intensely attentive to our collective need for loving and treating each other caringly.

3. CONNECT IT!

The last verse is the important one for the disciples and for us to hear. "But when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?" This is not a story about praying until we get what we want. It is an encouragement to pray and watch for all of God's comings and goings. It is about praying with faith and persistence.

4. LIVE IT! (PERSEVERANCE)

Perseverance is doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.

Below are what you can do to practice perseverance:

- † Set an alarm to remind you to do the Morning Prayer.
- † Create a checklist to track your daily chores and complete them.



5. REMEMBER IT!

**“BUT WHEN THE
SON OF MAN
COMES, WILL HE
FIND FAITH ON
EARTH?”
(LUKE 18:8)**



6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, grant us the strength
to persist through the temptations
of the world. Allow us to enter Your
mind and become more like You.
We ask of this our Lord.
Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' PARABLE OF TWO MEN
PRAYING IN THE TEMPLE



Jesus addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else. "Two people went up to the temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, 'O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity greedy, dishonest, adulterous or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.' But the tax collector stood off at a distance and **would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast**

and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.' I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for everyone who **exalts himself** will be humbled, and the one who **humbles himself** will be exalted."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

"... would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed... "	The tax collector shows sorrow for the things he knowingly does wrong each day and asks for forgiveness.
exalts himself	To praise or think highly of yourself.
humbles himself	To be less important or less noble. (Jesus reminds us to be thankful and show gratitude).

2. EXPLORE IT!

Jesus reveals to us two different people. The first is the Pharisee who is very noble and good. He lives a good life and is not greedy, dishonest, adulterous or anything like the tax collector. The other is the tax collector who is a sinner, but acknowledges his sins, and asks for God's mercy.

Jesus tells us that at the end of the day, it is important to recognize every aspects of our actions and especially our faults and wrongdoings. Jesus says that we should be like the tax collector who always seeks God's mercy. By acknowledging and being humble, God will lift us to be with Him forever.

3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus teaches us how to receive God's mercy. What must we do each day to receive His mercy?

Jesus teaches us to not make ourselves important, but rather, make other people important in our lives. Do not boast, instead, show compassion and love towards our family, friends, and teachers. Jesus asks us to put others first and think less of ourselves and to not judge others.

4. LIVE IT! [HUMILITY]

Humility is the quality or state of not thinking you are better than other people.

- ✘ Jesus teaches us not to judge other people and to not think we are better than others. This week, Jesus invites us to be more considerate and lift up other people's spirit.
- ✘ List out some things you can do this week to help your parents, family, or friends to have a better day.



5. REMEMBER IT!

"... for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:14)



6. PRAY IT!

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, please help us and guide us to be more like You. Be as loving, caring, and most importantly humble like You. Help us think less of ourselves and be less judgmental of others. Help us put our families and friends first in our lives and help us show our love toward them. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS and Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

WEEK C - 031

LUKE 19:1-10

At the time, Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone **to stay at the house of a sinner**." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor; and if I have **extorted** anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "**Today salvation has come** to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

"...to stay at the house of a sinner."

Jesus chose to stay at a sinner's house to help save and bring the sinner closer to God

extorted

to get something from a person by the use of force

"Today salvation has come..."

Jesus has set foot onto this world to save sinners to return to God

2. EXPLORE IT!

Jesus came to the crowd and chose to go to Zacchaeus, a tax collector and sinner. Jesus deliberately chose to go to those who acknowledge their sins. Zacchaeus needed God's mercy. Jesus gave it to him because Zacchaeus was repentant by giving half of all he had to the poor, and to repay back the people he had cheated by repaying them four times the amount. His change of heart leads to a change in his life. Jesus reveals that God is merciful! He wants to forgive and be close to all people.

3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus came to Earth to save us. When we welcome Jesus to come to us, He helps us recognize what we have done wrong. Jesus seeks and finds us when we are in trouble, and when He does, it is when we need to open our hearts to let Him cleanse our soul to be pure again.

Jesus does not want us to turn away and hide when we do something wrong, but instead, share with Him all our problems. He wants to be with us through eternity. What can we do to help Jesus come into our Hearts?

5. REMEMBER IT!

**"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost."
(Luke 19:10)**



6. PRAY IT!

Lord, please help us open our hearts and our eyes to see Jesus in our families and friends. Help us be more like You and help us see You in others. Amen.

→ 4. LIVE IT!

[Encouragement]

Encouragement is something that makes someone more determined, hopeful, or confident.

- ◇ Name a time when you wanted to give up on an activity. How hard was it? What can you do to encourage and motivate yourself to keep on doing it?
- ◇ Name a few things that you can do to motivate yourself and others when they cannot do something right the first time this week.



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' TEACHING ON RESURRECTION

WEEK C - O32

LUKE 20:27-38

Some **Sadducees**, those who deny that there is a resurrection, came forward and put this question to Jesus, saying, "Teacher, **Moses** wrote for us, *If someone's brother dies leaving a wife but no child, his brother must take the wife and raise up descendants for his brother.*



Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman but died childless. Then the second and the third married her, and likewise all the seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. Now at the **resurrection** whose wife will that woman be? For all seven had been married to her." Jesus said to them, "The children of this age marry and remarry; but those who are deemed worthy to attain to the coming age and to the resurrection of the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. They can no longer die, for they are like angels; and they are the children of God because they are the ones who will rise. That the

dead will rise even Moses made known in the passage about the bush, when he called out 'Lord,' the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Sadducees A group in the Jewish faith who did not believe in spirits and rising from the dead.

Moses A very important person in the Old Testament that God called to lead the Israelites out of Egypt and to the Promised Land.

Resurrection The rising from the dead and the resumption of life.

2. EXPLORE IT!

The Sadducees came to Jesus to test Him. They did not believe in the resurrection and wanted to test Jesus to show that the idea of the resurrection was outrageous. Jesus responds to their testing by saying that when God appeared to Moses in the burning bush, Moses called out to the Lord, who is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. These three, the patriarchs who died hundreds of years ago, was acknowledged as still alive in God. God was the friend of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob when they lived, and that friendship could not end with death.

3. CONNECT IT!

Resurrection truly exists because our Lord, Jesus Christ, Himself was victorious over death when He rose again. Our lives here on earth is not the end and Jesus is reminding us that we must also be ready for the life after here on earth. Jesus asks us, "Do we believe in the resurrection?" If we do, be always ready.

4. LIVE IT! [OPEN TO TRUTH]

Jesus calls on us to be open to the truth and to the resurrection. Sometimes, it can be hard to believe without seeing, but it is our faith and our beliefs in God that leads us to the truth in the Salvation. Every night this week, pray an extra Our Father to ask God to help us to always be open to Him and to the truth of His Word.



5. REMEMBER IT!

"...AND HE IS NOT GOD OF THE DEAD, BUT OF THE LIVING,..."
(LUKE 9:38)



6. PRAY IT!

Lord Jesus, put Your hands on our eyes to look not at what is seen but at what is not seen. Open the eyes that are concerned not with the present but with what is yet to come. Please unseal the heart's vision, that we may gaze on You in the Spirit, through the same Lord, Jesus Christ, whose glory and power will endure throughout the unending succession of ages. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____
Parent signature

PERSECUTION BECAUSE OF JESUS

WEEK C - O33

LUKE 21:5-19

While some people were speaking about how the temple was adorned with costly stones and **votive** offerings, he said, "All that you see here-- the days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down."

Then they asked him, "Teacher, when will this happen? And what sign will there be when all these things are about to happen?" He answered, "See that you not be deceived, for many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he,' and 'The time has come.' Do not follow them! When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for such things must happen first, but it will not immediately be the end." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues from place to place; and awesome sights and mighty signs will come from the sky.

"Before all this happens, however, they will seize and persecute you, they will hand you over to the synagogues and to

prisons, and they will have you led before kings and governors because of my name. It will lead to your giving testimony. Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, for I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your **adversaries** will be powerless to resist or refute. You will even be handed over by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your **perseverance** you will secure your lives.



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Votive

An object offered in fulfillment of a vow, such as a candle used as a vigil light.

Perseverance

Steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.

Adversaries

One's opponent in a contest, conflict, or dispute.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In the Gospel today, Jesus warns His followers that there will be people who come after Him to teach of falseness, that they will be persecuted for what they believe in, and they will be tempted to give up their faith. Yet, Jesus will not leave His followers to fend for themselves. Jesus promises to give them the wisdom to speak the truth against all those who seek to sow hatred. Jesus ends the Gospel by telling His followers that their faith and defense of God will lead to everlasting life with God in Heaven.

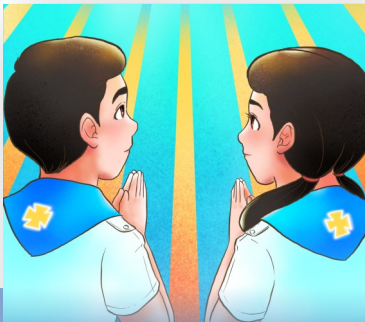
3. CONNECT IT!

This passage refers to the end of the world. The advice given to us by Jesus is to hold steady to our beliefs in God. Since we cannot predict when the end of the world will be, we must live every day in service of God so that we will always be ready for when Jesus comes again.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"By your perseverance you will secure your lives."

(Luke 21:19)



4. LIVE IT! [PEACE]

Peace is the freedom of the mind from annoyance or distraction.

Each night, take 5 minutes to have a one-on-one conversation with God, telling Him how your day went. What do you hope to achieve the next day? Offer up to God all the sacrifices you made throughout the day. Conclude with a reflection on what you have done to hurt others and to hurt God, and ask God for forgiveness and for the peace that you need in your life.

6. PRAY IT!

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me show love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

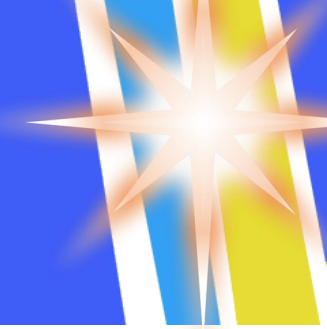
Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



JESUS, THE KING OF MERCY

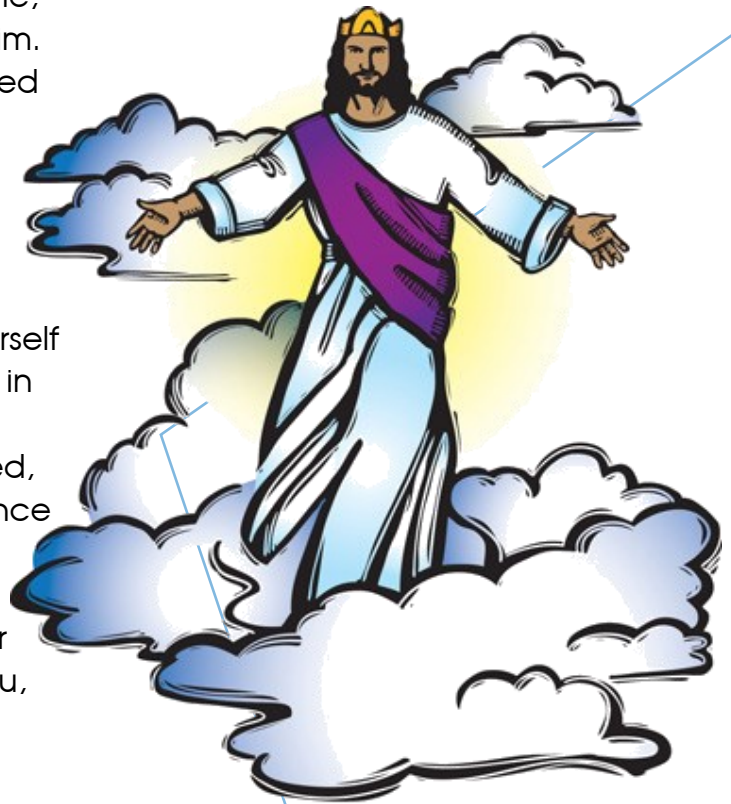


WEEK C - O34 (CHRIST THE KING)

LUKE 23:35-43

The rulers sneered at Jesus and said, "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the **Christ** of God." Even the soldiers jeered at him. As they approached to offer him wine they called out, "If you are King of the Jews, save yourself." Above him there was an **inscription** that read, "This is the King of the Jews."

Now one of the criminals hanging there **reviled** Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." The other, however, **rebuking** him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been **condemned** justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

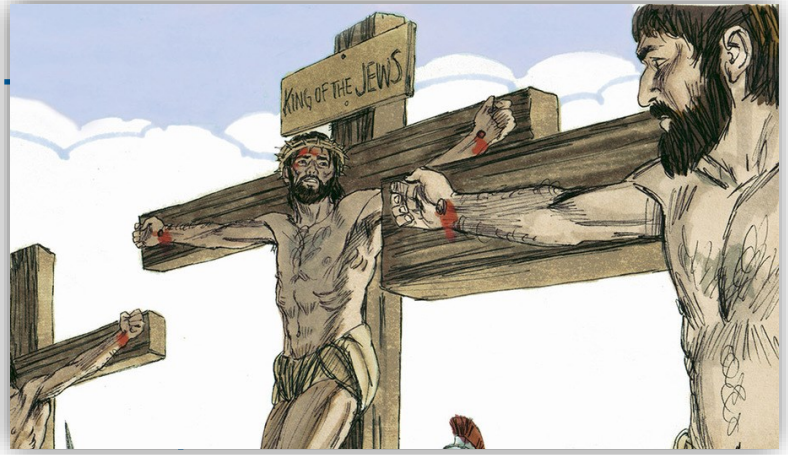


1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Christ	The "Anointed One", "Chosen One" or Messiah.
Inscription	A message that is written on something.
Reville	To speak abusively towards another person.
Rebuke	To express disapproval of.
Condemn	To be guilty of something and receiving punishment for it.

2. EXPLORE IT!

This passage refers to the crucifixion of Jesus where people stood by and watched Him die. No one spoke a word to defend Him. The people there, including the leaders of the Jews made fun of Him. Jesus was dying, and yet He still loved the people, even those who killed Him. He does not blame anyone because He wants to save them all, and that is why Jesus is the King of Mercy. The only one person who had faith in Jesus was one of the criminals. He admitted that he deserved his punishment because he did the crime. He confessed his crimes and asked Jesus to remember him because he wants to be saved. In that act he holds himself accountable for his action so Jesus accepts him and said that he will join Jesus in paradise.



3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus' words to the second criminal remind us that it is never too late to turn to Christ for forgiveness. Jesus' death on the cross makes it possible for us to live with Him in Heaven and it is only through God's mercy are we able to love and forgive others just as He did.

4. LIVE IT!

[ACCOUNTABILITY]

To be accountable is to take responsibility for oneself, such as admitting when you did something wrong or speaking up when you know something is wrong. Next time when you do something wrong, admit it and say that you are sorry, even if it means getting in trouble. For everything else you have done before, go to confession. Jesus is the King of Mercy. He will forgive all the sins we hold ourselves accountable for, or admit, to him.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

(Luke 23:42)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, let us have the courage to always do the right thing and take responsibility for our actions when we are wrong. Please forgive us for all our sins and help us to not sin anymore. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



Jesus said to his disciples: “As it was in the days of **Noah**, so it will be at the coming of the **Son of Man**. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the **master** of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.



1. UNDERSTAND IT!



2. EXPLORE IT!

Noah	The person whom was chosen by God to build an ark, in which he, his family, and a pair of every animal were saved from the flood.
Son of Man	Refers to Jesus as the Son of God.
Master	Owner of the house.

In the Gospel today, Jesus reminds us to stay alert at all times. Like in the days of Noah, the people did not know about the flood until it came and carried them away. He also used the example of the master of the house and the thief where the master would stay awake if he knew the thief was coming so that the thief could not break into his house. We know that Jesus is coming so we also need to be alert at all times because He may arrive at the moment we least expect Him to.



3. CONNECT IT!



We prepare for a birthday party by making sure there is enough food and drinks for our guests when they arrive. With that, we should prepare to receive Jesus this Christmas by making sure we go to confession and live the Eucharistic Day so that our souls are clean when He arrives.



4. LIVE IT!

(PREPAREDNESS)

I am Ready everyday Jesus!

Prepare is to put in proper condition or readiness.

This whole week, try to prepare something simple that you have not done before. For example, prepare the dinner table or prepare your school lunch box the night before.



5. REMEMBER IT!



*“Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.”
(Matthew 23:42)*



6. PRAY IT!

O Lord Jesus Christ, help us to stay awake and alert at all times, for we do not know when the time You will come. During these days, we may struggle with difficult challenges surrounding us that sometimes we forget about You. Please help us to remember You in the Church through our priests and youth-leaders, in school through our teachers, and through our friends so that we can be ready for Your arrival. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

PREPARE THE WAY FOR JESUS

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: *A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.* John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.



When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Baptism	A sacrament that erases original sin and initiates someone into the Church.
Repentance	The act of sincere regret or remorse.
Winnowing fan	A fan shaped basket used to separate the chaff off the grain.
Threshing floor	A flat hard surface area which is used during the harvest of grains.
Unquenchable	Unable to be extinguished

2. EXPLORE IT!

In the Gospel today, John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River about the coming of Jesus. People from around the area gathered by the river to admit their sins and get baptized. When he saw the Pharisees and Sadducees, he proclaimed to them that the one mightier than him is coming. We should prepare the way for that all-powerful person who will baptize us with fire and the Holy Spirit.

3. CONNECT IT!

The scene of John the Baptist pouring water on those sinners occurs today when the priest baptizes newborns and people who are converting into our religion. All of us here have received baptism when we were little. During that time, the water washed away our original sin and we became a member of the Catholic Church.

As we wait for the birthday of Jesus, John the Baptist tells us to straighten the path for the Lord. We can do this by admitting our sins and asking for forgiveness. We can prepare our soul and spirit as a welcoming gesture for baby Jesus.

Can you think of other ways in which we can prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus?



5. REMEMBER IT!

**“REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND!”
(MATTHEW 3:2)**

4. LIVE IT! [REPENTANCE]

Repentance is to regret for any past action.

We are fortunate to be surrounded by our family, friends, classmates, and teachers. Jesus puts these people in our lives for a reason. He wants us to learn and grow with one another. Yet at times we hurt these people by not listening to our parents, stealing from friends, gossiping about a classmate, and disrespecting our teachers.

This week, practice to repent and say sorry to those who you have hurt. You can also do something nice for them in return to show your love for them. Everyone in our lives deserve to be loved.

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Jesus, thank you for loving us even though we are not perfect. You always come to us and shower us with your unconditional love. We pray that we mirror your love to those around us so that we can spread the Good News as we wait for Your birthday. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' TESTIMONY TO JOHN

WEEK A - A3

MATTHEW 11:2-11

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to him with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, **lepers** are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A **reed** swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a **prophet**? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.* Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Messiah	The Hebrew word for "Anointed One".
Leprosy	An infectious disease that causes severe, disfiguring skin sores and nerve damage in the arms and legs.
Prophet	One who spoke, acted, or wrote under the extraordinary influence of God to make known the divine counsels and wills.
Messenger	One who spoke, acted, or wrote under the extraordinary influence of God to make known the divine counsels and wills.

2. EXPLORE IT!

After Jesus was baptized at the Jordan River by John the Baptist, He started His journey in Galilee to proclaim the Good News and to preach to the people about the Kingdom of God. During this time, John was in prison but he was aware of all the great things Jesus was doing. He believed Jesus was the Christ who would save him from prison. However, John was disappointed and he lost faith in God when Jesus did not come to help him. John sent his disciples to meet Jesus and to verify that Jesus is the Christ. Jesus reminded John not to lose faith in God and in Him. Jesus also testified that John was the Messenger of God and the greatest prophet.

3. CONNECT IT!

We are baptized not only with water but also with the Holy Spirit and fire. Through baptism, we became the children and messengers of God. Just like how John traveled throughout the land of Galilee urging the people to repent and prepare for the coming of the Messiah, we too, are invited to join him in this same journey. We can spread the Good News of God by encouraging our family members and friends to pray together and go to church often. In doing so, we bring ourselves closer to God through prayer and the Eucharist. We can be living examples of love and compassion for those who have yet to know God and help them recognize God.

4. LIVE IT! [EVANGELICAL]

showing a strong desire to share Jesus Christ with people who do not know Jesus. To be evangelical means to spread the Good News about Jesus Christ.



BEING A CATHOLIC IS LIVING IN ACTION. In this season of Advent, we are invited to open up our hearts to the needs of others. This week, share a conversation with your grandparents, parents, or siblings of what you did in school. It can be your achievements for the day, your sad and/or happy moments, or your love for them. You can also share your lunch at school with someone who does not have one or help a friend with their homework.

5. REMEMBER IT!

“Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.”
(Matthew 11:10)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, please open our hearts to You and to others so that we can see others through Your eyes of love, to feel their needs, and to courageously reach out to them with helping hands. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____
Parent signature

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

WEEK A - A4

MATTHEW 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his other Mary was **betrothed** to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a **righteous** man, yet unwilling to **expose** her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been **conceived** in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. All this took place to fulfill what the Lord has said through the prophet: *Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us".* When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.



† 1. UNDERSTAND IT!

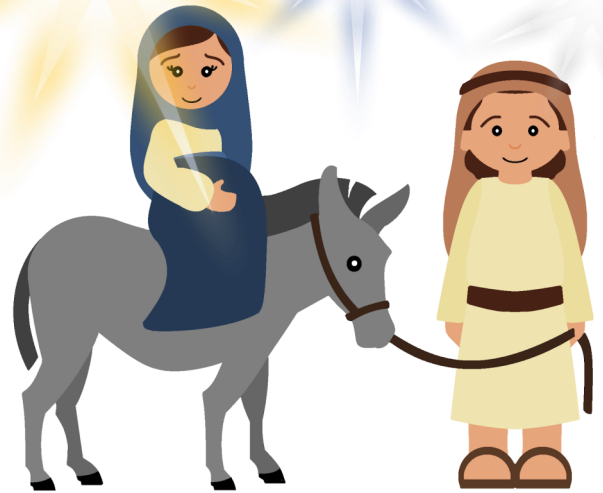
Betrothed	To be engaged
Righteous	Acceptable, good, upright
Expose	to uncover
Conceived	to become pregnant with a child

† 2. EXPLORE IT!

Joseph is a perfect example of a faithful and righteous man. During Jesus' time, it was frowned upon to marry someone who was already pregnant with a child. Even though Joseph knew this, he still loved and married Mary because God told him to in a dream. It takes a lot of courage and faith to go against his society's culture and to follow God's command.

✝ 3. CONNECT IT!

Just like Joseph, we should have the courage and faith to follow what God asked us to do, even if other people rejected it. Joseph was hesitant to marry Mary in the beginning, but when God talked to him, he was not scared anymore. Were you ever scared to do something but was afraid to do it because you fear your friends will make fun of you? Did you ask God to help you and give you the courage to do what you believed in?



✝ 4. LIVE IT! [RIGHTEOUSNESS]

Righteousness - being good, just and virtuous

Living a righteous life helps us love and grow closer to God. There are many ways to be righteous, such as doing what is right and follow what God asks us to do. This week, be righteous:

- ⇒ Stand up for someone who got hurt by someone else.
- ⇒ Do what your parents ask you to do.
- ⇒ Do good deeds.

Remember to record them and share them to the class next week.

✝ 5. REMEMBER IT!

*"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."
(Matthew 1:21)*

✝ 6. PRAY IT!

Lord, please help me to become faithful and righteous like St. Joseph, the father of Jesus. Give me the courage to stand up for what is right and only do just things. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS, THE WORD, BECAME FLESH

WEEK A - NATIVITY OF THE LORD

JOHN 1:1-5, 9-14

In the beginning was **the Word**, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race, the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not **overcome** it. The true light, which **enlightens** everyone,



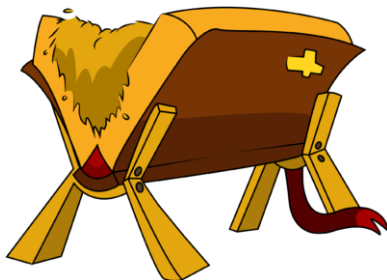
was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him.

But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his **dwelling** among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

1

UNDERSTAND IT!

The Word	God's message to mankind.
Overcome	To succeed in dealing with a problem or challenge.
Enlighten	To give (someone) spiritual knowledge/insight.
Dwelling	A living space, a home.



2

EXPLORE IT!

Today is Christmas. The Gospel speaks of the birth of Jesus and that it represented light. His light shines down to bring life into this world. Those who accept Him are those who will be able to see the truth.

3

CONNECT IT!

We are enlightened about the true meaning of Christmas and its role to mankind. Christmas is the season of celebrating the birth of Jesus, who is the Son of God and the light that can save us all from darkness. Christmas is also a way for us to remember His sacrifice and love for us.



4

LIVE IT! [LOVE]

Jesus is the perfect example of Love. He came down to earth to shine light on us. He did this so we wouldn't have to walk around in darkness. For this week, be the light of this world by showing love to those around you through your words and actions. Even a small act can bring so much love to the ones receiving it.

5

REMEMBER IT!

“AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US, AND WE SAW HIS GLORY,”
(JOHN 1:14)

6

PRAY IT!

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of light and life. Thank you for the gift of Jesus. We, Your children, give thanks for all blessings that came our way this year. Amen.



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

WEEK A - THE HOLY FAMILY
MATTHEW 2:13-15, 19-23



When the **magi** had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, **flee** to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, Out of Egypt I called my son.

When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and **dwelt** in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, He shall be called a Nazorean.

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

MAGI

The wise men from the East who came to adore Jesus in Bethlehem.

FLEE

To run away from a place or situation of danger.

DWELT

To live in or at a specific place.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Last week, the magi received a warning to go home a different route to avoid Herod. In Sunday's Gospel, Herod is still trying to find Jesus to hurt Him. God appears to Joseph in the dream and tells him to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt. After Herod dies, an angel appears to Joseph again to tell him to take his family to Israel. When he arrives, Herod's son was ruling over Judea and Joseph, warned again in a dream, took Jesus and Mary to Nazareth, where they then called home.

4. LIVE IT! [OBEDIENCE]

Obedience is to follow the order, request of another person.

Joseph was obedient to God, although he did not know what he and his family would have to endure when they arrived in their new location. So too must we be obedient in our own lives. As God gave us our parents, this week, show our parents the obedience that God wants us to give. When your parents ask you to do something, do so immediately without complaint.

6. PRAY IT!

Be my guide O Lord and help me to be obedient to Your Word. Help me trust You and to be obedient to the people You have given me. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____
Parent signature

3. CONNECT IT!

Joseph cares deeply for his family, Mary and Jesus, taking care of them and keeping them safe from Herod and his son Archelaus. From one location to the next, avoiding danger, being obedient, and trusting God on what to do and where to go. Just as Joseph was obedient to God, we too must be obedient to Him. God also gave us our parents to take care of us and guide us. God wants us to also be obedient to them, as they have our best interest at heart. Not only did our parents take care of us from the time before we are born but they continue to do so today.



5. REMEMBER IT!

“He [Joseph] rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel” (Matthew 2:21)



MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS

WEEK A - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

LUKE 2:16-21



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Manger - An open box in a stable designed to hold feed for cattle to eat from.

Glorifying - to praise and worship.

Circumcision - The act of cutting off of the foreskin of males that is practiced as a religious rite by Jews.

Conceived - to become pregnant with a child.

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the **manger**. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, **glorifying** and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his **circumcision**, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was **conceived** in the womb.

2. EXPLORE IT!

The shepherds went to go visit baby Jesus, knowing that He was sent down to earth by God. Because he was a gift from God, they worshipped Him. While all of this was happening, Mary pondered and kept her feelings to herself.

3. CONNECT IT!

If we allow the birth of Jesus to touch us, there are a few reactions we would have that are similar to the villagers. In this case, they were amazed by what they had heard from the shepherds. We are here because God loves us so much that He sent His Son. Mary kept the words and events in her heart like a treasure, as we would do the same when we read the story of Jesus with joy, amazement, and excitement.



4. LIVE IT! [Peacefulness]

Mary's womb was open to receiving God's Words, just as her heart was. She knew to trust in God, and because of this, she is at peace.

Our lives are very noisy and distracted with a lot of worries and troubles. Mary shows us that with trust in God, we can all be at peace. For this week, take some time for yourself to be alone in a quiet space (turn off your electronics and be away from anywhere distracting). During this time, have a quiet conversation with God and tell Him about your day. Pour out your worries, concerns, blessings, and everything else that you would like to share with Him.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"AND MARY KEPT ALL THESE THINGS, REFLECTING ON THEM IN HER HEART." (LUKE 2:19)

6. PRAY IT!

O Almighty God, thank you for being near me when I could not be near you. Please grant me peace of mind and calm my troubled heart. Give me the strength and clarity of mind to find my purpose and walk the path You've planned for me in Jesus' name. Amen



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

FOLLOW JESUS' STAR

TN A - THE EPIPHANY MATTHEW 2:1-12



When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly **troubled**, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the **scribes** of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.



They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and **ascertained** from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search **diligently** for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him **homage**." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They **prostrated** themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Troubled	To face problems and conflict and have anxiety.
Scribes	A person who copies out documents.
Ascertain	To find something out for certain.
Diligently	To show care in one's work or duties.
Homage	To show special honor or respect
Prostrate	To lie stretched out on the ground with one's face downward.

2. EXPLORE IT!

The magi, three wise men of different religion from far away, knew that following the star would lead them to Jesus. Before they were able to make it there, they met King Herod who told them that once they have found Jesus, to tell him where Jesus was located. When the magi found Jesus, they knew immediately the importance of Jesus and therefore, prostrated themselves to pay Him homage. The magi brought Jesus valuable gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. As the magi made their way home, they were warned to find an alternate way home because King Herod wanted to harm Jesus.

3. CONNECT IT!

This Sunday, known as the Epiphany, is an important day in the Catholic Church. The magi, people of different ethnicities and religions, followed the star to find Jesus. Today, Jesus invites people of different skin color and religions to discover Him. Like the magi, we should also come to worship Jesus, the Son of God, who came down from heaven to save us. The greatest gift we could give Jesus is our time, our love, our joy, and especially our faith in Him.

4. LIVE IT! [JOYFULNESS]

Joyfulness is to feel, express, or cause happiness.

This week make a point to bring joy to those around you. Go out of your way to cheer someone who is feeling down. Help with a chore at home so that your parents are surprised.



5. REMEMBER IT!

“They were overjoyed at seeing the star.” (Matthew 2:10)



6. PRAY IT!

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for all the blessings and joy You bring to us every day. Help us to share this joy of knowing Jesus with all those who You place in our path. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS



Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to **prevent** him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to **fulfill** all righteousness." Then he allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God **descending** like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

1. Understand It!

Prevent	To stop, or to go keep something from happening.
Fulfill	To complete, to come to be, to carry out.
Righteousness	The quality of being virtuous or morally right.
Descending	To come or move downward.



2. Explore It!

Its through Matthews' we observe talking between Jesus and John. Jesus' baptism represents His joining with humanity, with the sinners. In an earlier reading, we learn to connect that John simply baptizes with water, but it is through God that baptism is done through the Holy Spirit and fire. Baptism is often compared to as a "beginning" of our life in the church. Here, we see another connection, the beginning of Jesus's missionary work as we transition into Ordinary Time and a reminder of our own mission as Catholics as we prepare to know, to love, and to serve Him.



3. Connect It!

God proclaims "This is my beloved Son..." during Jesus's baptism. Imagine going through a large crowd of people for the first time alone. Would you feel scared? Not as confident? Now imagine if you had someone who you had a connection with like a friend or family member. Someone who can support you and call you a loved one. That is baptism; it brings into your life a new, supportive family through the Catholic church. Having this kind of support group allows us to resist many evils in the world in comparison if we were alone. Everyone wants to be part of a group, and everyone wants to be acknowledged. We can support one another in various ways that help us lead better, fulfilling lives.



4. Live It! [Duty]

Duty: the quality or state of being responsible as in moral, legal, or mental accountability

We have many duties in life, whether we realize it or not. We have a duty to be good children for our family. A duty to be a supportive friend. A duty to be good Catholics. What are some of the duties you have in relation to each of the three areas above: Family, Friendship, and the Church. Briefly describe or list some of these duties and be ready to share! You might learn of some duties you didn't realize were important when listening to others!



5. Remember It!

"Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.

(Matthew 3:15)



6. Pray It!

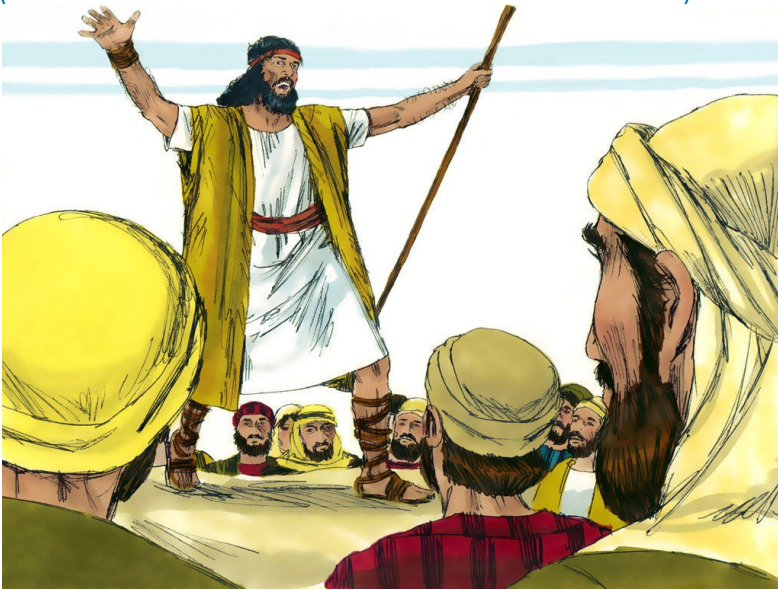
Lord, allow me to strength to complete and uphold my duties to those I love, to those who love me, and to those who I can impact in a meaningful way in my day to day life. Please grant me wisdom and understanding as difficulties arise in completing my duties, and the calmness that comes in knowing my faith and trust are completely with You. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



JOHN'S TESTIMONY TO JESUS



John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the **Lamb of God**, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel." John **testified** further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and **remain**, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Lamb of God	Refers to Jesus. The sacrificial offering for our sins.
Testified	To give proof as someone who saw.
Remain	To rest upon or to stay.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In the previous Gospel reading, John the Baptist said that he did not know Jesus, meaning that he did not know the truth hidden within Jesus, that Jesus was the Son of God. In Sunday's Gospel, however, John learns the truth and he now knows with certainty that he saw the Holy Spirit come down upon Jesus. He is able to say that he is a witness and can testify about Jesus being the Lamb of God because he was there and the Holy Spirit showed him the true identity of Jesus.



3. CONNECT IT!

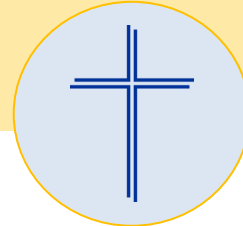
Just as John the Baptist became a witness of Jesus, the Lamb of God who was crucified to save us from our sins, we too are called to be witnesses of Jesus. Through our Baptism, we become part of the Church and children of God. With that membership, God calls on us to live faithfully and declare to all that Jesus is the Son of God and through Him, we can be saved, just as John the Baptist proclaimed.



4. LIVE IT! [WITNESS]

Being a **witness** means to be able to see the truth of things, but we cannot say that we are the witness of Christ if we do not know and love Jesus for His sacrifice. We cannot be a witness if we do not know the truth of God's teachings.

For this week, practice learning being a witness by learning more about the Gospel. Spend some more time reading the Gospel and think about what you read. Pray to the Holy Spirit so you can better understand what the Gospel means. Ask your parents or Youth-Leaders about what you read. You can be a witness like John the Baptist if you can see the truth.



5. REMEMBER IT!

**"NOW I HAVE SEEN AND TESTIFIED THAT HE IS THE SON OF GOD."
(JOHN 1:34)**



6. PRAY IT!

Lord Jesus Christ, fill us with the power of Your Holy Spirit and let us grow in the knowledge of Your love and truth. Let Your Spirit light a fire in our hearts that we may know and love You more and work to do Your will in all things. Amen.



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____
Parent signature

JESUS' ministry

WEEK A - 03

MATTHEW 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled: *Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen.*

From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him.

He went around all of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people.



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

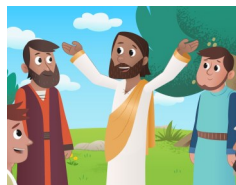
PROPHET

A person who is seen and respected as a teacher or a preacher of God's will.



PREACH

To publicly teach others.



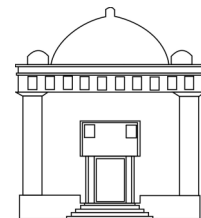
REPENT

To feel sorry for doing something wrong or



SYNAGOGUES

A building where Jewish people meet for worshipping.



2. EXPLORE IT!

Jesus began His mission as a preacher in order to spread the teachings of God all over the nation. He was preparing everyone and urged them to repent their sins so they would be ready to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus knew he was only one person and so he recruited disciples to help Him with spreading the Good News.



3. CONNECT IT!



Jesus showed us in today's Gospel that He recruited disciples to spread the Good News. By doing this, Jesus wanted us to know that it is also up to us to become His disciples and spread His teachings to others. Jesus has done His part in teaching us how to live and how to love. He now calls on us to do the same for others as He did for us. It is important to note that Jesus asked simple workers like fishermen to help Him, not people who had power. In this action Jesus wanted us to know that anyone, no matter what their status is in life, is able to become a disciple and is also able to spread the Good News of the Gospel.

4. LIVE IT! [COMMITMENT]

the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause, activity, etc.

Try to think about how quickly you would respond to Instagram, a text, or a Snap Chat message from a friend. Now think about how fast you respond when your parents tell you it is time to go to Church, or how excited you are when your youth-leader tells you that it is time for Mass. Most would be fast to go do something that is considered fun and think of Church as something boring that has to be done, like a chore. It is important that we commit to keep our faith by participating in Mass, where Jesus Christ is truly present before us.

Therefore, for this week, start by reading the Bible readings in advance of Mass. Read it and think about what God is telling and teaching us. Ask your parents, youth-leaders, or priest if you do not understand it. During Mass, pay extra attention to the Bible readings and then the Priest's homily. Was it similar to your understanding of what God was telling and teaching you?

5. REMEMBER IT!

**"Repent, for the kingdom
of heaven is at hand."
(Matthew 4:17)**

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, thank you for choosing me to be one of Your disciples, to be Your loving child. Please grant me the graces I need to be a faithful servant to You and to others. Help me please, Lord, to be committed to You in all that I do. Thank you Lord. Mother Mary, pray for me. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS PROCLAIMS GOD'S BLESSINGS

WEEK A - O4

MATTHEW 5:1-12A



When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who **mourn**, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the **meek**, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for **righteousness**, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown **mercy**. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and **persecute** you and **utter** every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. **Rejoice** and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

1

UNDERSTAND IT!

Blessed	Already made holy, touched by God.
Poor in spirit	Those who are humble and know that they need God in their lives.
Mourn	To feel regret or sadness.
Meek	A person who is quiet, gentle, and kind.
Righteousness	Behavior that is perfectly right or good.
Mercy	Compassion or forgiveness.
Persecute	To abuse, mistreat, torment or torture.
Utter	To speak.
Rejoice	To feel or show great joy.

2

EXPLORE IT!

In today's Gospel, Jesus goes up the mountain to preach the Word of God to His disciples and also to a crowd of people. Specifically, Jesus teaches several of God's blessings in His Sermon on the Mount, known as the Eight Beatitudes. The Beatitudes are blessings a person can receive when they have certain "attitudes" towards the teachings of Jesus. Jesus specifically wanted to remind us how we should live as Christians in order to receive God's blessings. Here are the Eight Beatitudes and what they mean:

1. He who is humble will be blessed and filled with God's grace.
2. He who regrets his sins and the sins of the world will be comforted by the Holy Spirit.
3. He who is gentle, kind, and obedient to God will receive peace in this world.
4. He who has a desire to fulfil God's will and do what is right, will achieve holiness.
5. He who shows love, compassion, and forgiveness towards others even if they do

3

CONNECT IT!

The Gospel of Matthew reveals several similarities between the Old and New Testament, specifically between Moses and Jesus. Moses went up the mountain to receive the Word of God in the form of the 10 Commandments, while Jesus went up the mountain to preach the Word of God in His Sermon on the Mount. His Sermon introduces the 8 Beatitudes, which is a list of blessings from God.

The Gospel today focuses on Jesus' teaching on how He wants us to live and how we can be more like Him. It is not easy, but do not be discouraged because it is possible to do it with God's help in making decisions and in everything we do. We will join God in heaven as long as we try our best in life to live up to the Beatitudes.

4

LIVE IT! [SUFFERING]

Suffering – physical, mental, or emotional pain or hardships.

We may not go through physical suffering each day, but sometimes we may have to endure mental and emotional suffering. The same thing goes for people around us, but we can make things better for ourselves and our community by being compassionate.

Practice on being compassionate by showing others that we care for them by doing something nice for them, even if they have made us angry in the past. Helping someone through tough times shows them that there is love in the world, and that through love we do not have to suffer.

5

REMEMBER IT!

“Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward will
be great in heaven.”

(Matthew 5:12)

6

PRAY IT!



Dear Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for Your promise of salvation. We pray that we all can follow Your teachings in the Beatitudes to better ourselves and be worthy of Your Kingdom in Heaven. Please help us to live our lives full of humility, compassion, and charity so that we can become the people You want us to be. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

BECOME SALT AND LIGHT FOR JESUS



Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be **seasoned**? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and **trampled** underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and **glorify** your heavenly Father."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Seasoned

To add flavor to something, usually food.

Trampled

To be stepped on.

Glorify

To make clearer of the greatness. In this case to make the greatness of God clearer.

2. EXPLORE IT! . . .

Jesus told us to be Salt and Light of the world. He wants us as Christians to season and light the world, meaning to make life better and be a good example for others in the world. Food is bland without salt such as life is meaningless without the love of God. Being the light of the world means to bring truth to others by glorifying God and by doing good deeds. Jesus wants the disciples to bring meaning and love to the rest of the world.

3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus wants us to be Salt and Light of the world, but He also wants us to remain the true salt and keep our flavor by being good Christians. To do so, Jesus teaches us that we must practice our faith regardless of where we are. We share our faith by practicing it, helping others, and inspiring others to also seek God. Jesus also reminds us to continue to have God in our hearts. We cannot be Salt of the Earth if we do not understand or live the teachings of Jesus. We cannot say that we are the Light of the world if we do not have any light within us.



4. LIVE IT! (ROLE MODEL)

Role Model: a person looked to by others as an example to be imitated.

You can practice being the salt and light of the world this week by doing something nice for someone you know. It can be your parents, someone you know at school, or someone in VEYM. You can also pray for them in your nightly prayers as well. If possible, see if you can do something nice to someone who is having a hard time at school, or help others who are having difficulty with homework. It might be hard at first, but continue doing this even after this week and soon enough it will just come easily and you will be the salt and light of the world that Jesus wants you to be.

5. REMEMBER IT!

*"Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."
(Matthew 5: 16)*

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, thank you for Your teachings today. Please let us continue to live as light and salt of the world like You want us to be. Let us add flavors like love, kindness, and service to other peoples' lives to show them the love You have for us all. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



JESUS' Teaching About the Law

WEEK A - 06

MATTHEW 5:20-22A, 27-28, 33-34A, 37

Jesus said to his disciples: "I tell you, unless your **righteousness** surpasses that of the scribes and **Pharisees**, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment. But I say to you, whoever is angry with brother will be **liable** to judgment. You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with **lust** has already committed **adultery** with her in his heart. Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false **oath**, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes' and your 'No' mean 'No'. Anything more is from the evil one."

I. UNDERSTAND IT!

Righteousness	Being morally right or good.
Pharisees	An old Jewish group that follows strict laws of the Bible, but thought they were better than others because of their outward appearance of following the Bible.
Liable	Being held responsible for something one does.
Lust	Not pure thoughts.
Adultery	Having an intimate relationship with someone other than your husband or wife.
Oath	A promise to do something. Usually means a promise to tell the truth.



2. EXPLORE IT!

In this week's Gospel, Jesus taught us that it is wrong to kill or commit adultery, but to also remember that it is wrong to just be angry with your brothers or sisters. This also includes everyone outside your family. He wants us to know that being angry sometimes can cause us to say nasty things or at times people have killed others because they were angry. He taught us that it is wrong to look at someone other than your wife or husband with lustful thoughts because that is the same as committing adultery. Sometimes our thoughts will tempt us and lead us into doing bad things. Lastly, Jesus told us that we should not make false oaths because we should not make oaths at all. Instead we should just tell the truth.

3. CONNECT IT!

The Gospel taught us today that our actions are the things that commit sins, but our thoughts are the things that lead us to doing something that is against God's teachings. For example, you may not mean to say nasty things, but sometimes you are so angry that you forget and just say it anyway, and once it is done you may have deep regrets about what you have done. We can ask forgiveness for our sins through the sacrament of confession, but often times the results of our actions are serious and we cannot take it back. Jesus loves us and does not want harm to come to us. This is why He wants us to avoid having dangerous thoughts.



5. REMEMBER IT!

"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one." [Matthew 5:37]

4. LIVE IT! [TRUTHFULNESS]

the fact of being true; truth.

There are many things you can do to avoid sins, but the first thing that you can practice in avoiding sins is by being truthful. Being truthful also means to not repeat what you heard when you know it is not true or cannot tell that it is not true.

For this week, be honest in everything that you do. Be honest with your parents about what you did or did not do. Live the words of Jesus and only say things that are true and let your 'Yes' really mean 'Yes' and your 'No' really means 'No'.

Honesty

1. Being truthful to others
2. Being truthful to yourself
3. Doing what's right regardless of who's around
4. Being someone others can trust

6. PRAY IT!



Lord Jesus,

Thank you for saving us from our sins and teaching us the righteous ways to live. Please give us strength to live up to Your teachings by always telling the truth and keeping ourselves pure of bad thoughts so we can avoid the temptation to commit sins. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



JESUS' Teaching About Loving Enemies



WEEK A - 07

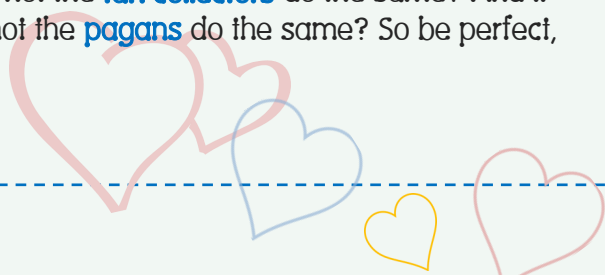
MATTHEW 5:38-48



Jesus said to his disciples: "You have heard that it was said, *An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.* But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well. Should anyone press you

into service for one mile, go for two miles. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.

"You have heard that it was said, *You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.* But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who **persecute** you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what **recompense** will you have? Do not the **tax collectors** do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the **pagans** do the same? So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Persecute	To treat unkindly or unfairly. To harm someone.
Recompense	To pay back.
Tax collectors	Someone who collects taxes. They were often looked down upon as sinners and enemies of the common people.
Pagan	Persons who do not worship God but instead worships many things.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches the disciples the meaning of truly loving their neighbor. Jesus tells the disciples to not seek to hurt those who have hurt them, and instead show them love and forgiveness. He teaches the disciples that an "eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" will not solve anything. Rather, they must love those who are hard to love and pray for them so that they too can become a loving person.

3. CONNEC IT!

There is beauty in how God describes love for all. God gives His love to all people, regardless of how much they sinned. Sometimes when we are mad, we want to take it out on other people. When people call us names, we may want to retaliate and do the same to them. Yet Jesus reminds us to love our neighbor, even if they do not love you. Let our actions of love and our words of prayer for all people help others grow closer to Christ. God calls us to an even greater level of love where we do not even need to care about the history or context of actions, just that pure love, joy, and forgiveness flow through our hearts.

4. LIVE IT! [PERFECTION]

Perfection is the condition in which we are free from any flaw.

Since everyone is born with original sin, no one is born perfect. As members of the Church and children of God, we want to become perfect Christians because that is God's plan for us. He loves us so much that He sent down His only Son to save us from our sins. Jesus is the perfect role model for us to follow in His footsteps.

One way you can be one step closer to becoming perfect Christians is by following Jesus' teachings from the Gospel reading today. Throughout this week, write down 2 things you have done each day to show that you love your neighbors.

5. REMEMBER IT!

**"So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."
(Matthew 5:48)**



6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, we know You want us to learn to love all people, even our enemies. That is pretty hard to do, so please fill us up with Your Holy Spirit and help us to know Your great love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



JESUS' Teaching About Loyalty to God

WEEK A – 08

MATTHEW 6:24–34

Jesus said to his disciples: “No one can serve two **masters**. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and **mammon**.”



“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly **Father** feeds them. Are not you more important than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span? Why are you anxious about clothes? Learn from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today

and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? So do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’ or ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear?’ All these things the **pagans** seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil.”

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Master	A person whom one serves.
Mammon	Material wealth or possessions.
Father	God the Father.
Pagans	People who do not worship God but instead worships many things.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Jesus taught us that the only thing we need to do is to trust in God, our true Master, and everything we need will be provided to us. He talked about how even animals, who do not look for material things, yet are still provided for; therefore, we should know that God will surely provide for us, His beloved children. He wanted us to see that pagans looked for many things like material wealth, but we as Christians need to have faith in God because He is all that we need.



3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus told us not to worry about things like food, water, or clothing because God will provide all those things to us. It does not mean that we should not eat, drink, or clothe ourselves. What He means to say is that do not think about these things so much that you forget about God. Sometimes people will worry too much about money, what clothes to wear that makes them look good, or how popular they can be in school that they forget about God. These things should not be the most important things in your life, but instead takes time from it. In looking for material things, you are now serving another master because God is no longer the center of your life.

4. LIVE IT! [**LOYALTY**]

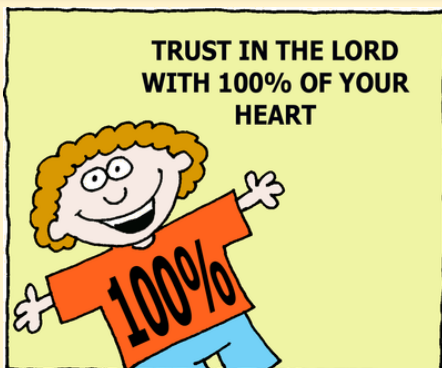
To be **loyal** means to always be supportive and loving of someone.

In today's Gospel ,we talked about being loyal to God and His teachings by ignoring the distractions like material wealth.

You can practice being loyal to God by first helping your parents and supporting them. They work very hard to give you what you need like clothes, food, and a place to live so you can just focus on learning about God's love. Start small with things like helping around the house and then work up to not asking for things you do not need. For example, do you need to have the newest toys or phones? Or do you just want them because someone else has it?



6. PRAY IT!



Dear God, thank you for everything You have done for us. Please help our parents as they care for us. Help us to always remain loyal to them and to You as Jesus has taught us. Amen

5. REMEMBER IT!

“Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.”
(Matthew 6:33)



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature _____

Week A - 09
Matthew 7:21-27

Listening and Acting on Jesus' Teaching



"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not **prophesy** in your name? Did we not drive out demons in your name? Did we not do mighty deeds in your name?' Then I will declare to them solemnly, 'I never knew you. Depart from me, you **evildoers**.'"

"Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and **buffeted** the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock. And everyone who listens to these words of mine but does not act on them will be like a fool who built his house on sand. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. And it collapsed and was completely ruined."

1. Understand It!

To Prophecy To reveal a message from God, sometimes a message about the future.

Evildoer A person who does bad or evil things.

To buffet To slam against.

We continue Ordinary time with the ending of the Sermon of the Mount (the place where Jesus reveals to us the Beatitudes). Jesus presents an issue with those who simply talk about the Lord; it's not enough. This can be seen as Him criticizing some religious leaders who don't act and simply debate and argue. His example of the house represents all of humanity; we need to actively maintain, upgrade, or build a better place for our lives. We can achieve this through acts of service and good works that improve our spiritual and physical home through our body.

2. Explore It!

3. Connect It!

"Do you want to bet?" is the most common example of this passage. We usually say this when we believe in something so much, that we're willing to "wager" to prove a point. A "Faith in Action," this is what Jesus similarly speaks about when it comes to the faith. Faith is a true belief, where all of one's thoughts and actions flow together. If someone truly believes in Jesus, they would act out of that belief instead of doing nothing. There is no separation between "I know" and "I do". There are many in the community who fall into the first category; they know or at least are familiar with the core beliefs of our religion but don't act on it. Jesus calls on us to be both by actively participating in the faith beyond praying and attending mass through evangelization and good works.



5. Remember It!

4. Live It! [Prudence]

Prudence: acting with or showing care and thought for the future.

Being mindful of our actions is important in our work to be better Catholics. Like how we speak to someone who possibly disagrees with us, and how we help someone who might be angry with us. It's not as easy as doing whatever we want, or when we want in the name of God. By showing prudence, we take a step back to think about what we want to do that can provide the most impact not only in our lives, but those around us in a positive way.

This week, think of a time where you had to be careful about how you acted or what you said. The reverse can be okay too, a time where someone had to act prudent around you. Some examples might include someone who really disagrees with you on a topic, or maybe something, or someone you have to take care of that was delicate. Write a paragraph and be ready to share in class.

"Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.

(Matthew 7:24)

6. Pray It!

Lord, I am forever grateful of the blessings I have because of You. I pray that through my speech, thoughts, and actions that I share this gratitude with those I love and the lives I am surrounded by each and every day. Allow me to act with prudence so that I may always share the most humblest way possible the joy I have in my faith in You. Amen



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

WEEK A - L1

MATTHEW 4:1-11



At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He **fasted** for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The **tempter** approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the **parapet** of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone." Jesus answered him, "Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test." Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their **magnificence**, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will **prostrate** yourself and worship me." At this, Jesus said to him, "Get away, Satan! It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve." Then the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him.

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

FASTING

To go without food or drinks [except water].

TEMPTER

A person or someone who wants to get you to give into temptation.

PARAPET

A wall along the edge of a building [usually somewhere high; ex. roof, bridge, pyramid].

MAGNIFICENCE

the quality or state of being impressive

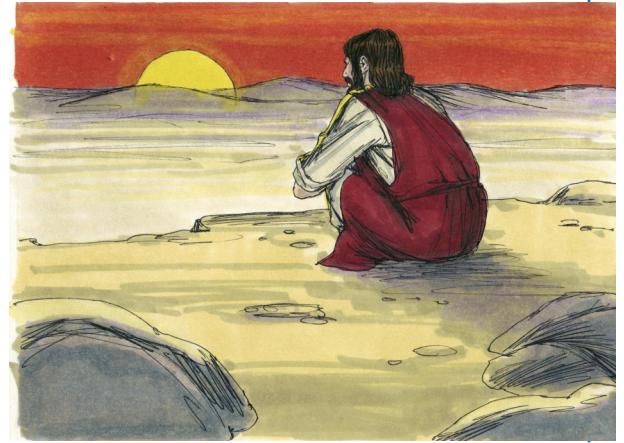
PROSTRATE

To lay oneself flat on the ground face downward, in a form of worship

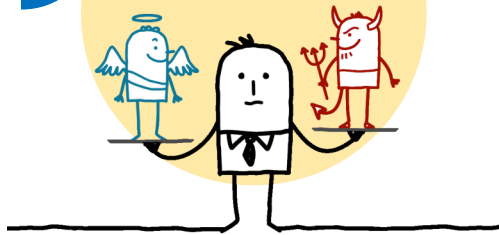
2. EXPLORE IT!



After 40 days, Jesus finished fasting and was very hungry. Jesus is a man like us, but was born without sin. Like us, temptation can cause Him to commit sins. The devil knows this and wanted to trick Jesus to commit sins while Jesus was weak. Jesus remained strong in God's teachings and resisted the temptations by the devil.



3. CONNECT IT!



We are human and are weak against temptations. Daily temptations cause us to do things that are against God's teachings. We may want to lie because we want to avoid getting in trouble. Temptation can cause us to do or say mean things because others are telling us it is the "cool" thing to do. Temptation may cause us to turn away from God. It is hard to resist, but Jesus showed us that it can be resisted and believes that we can do it too if we remain strong in our faith and follow the teachings of God.

4. LIVE IT! [CHOICE]

Choice is an act of selecting or making a decision when faced with two or more possibilities.

One of God's gifts to mankind is free will, or being able to choose what to do even if it means to do something bad. For this week, practice resisting smaller temptations first. Resist the temptation to watch TV, use social media, or play video games instead of doing your chores or homework. Finally, practice to fight the temptation to do things because others are doing it and you think it is "cool" to do so. God wants you to do what is right, and He lets you make that choice because He believes in you.

5. REMEMBER IT!

**"The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."
(Matthew 5:10)**

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Jesus,

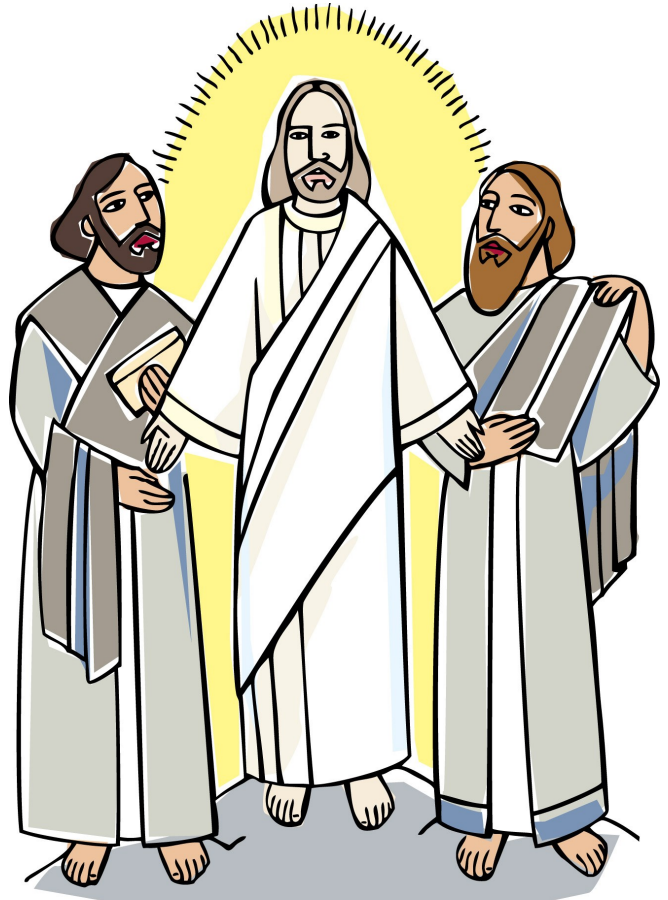
Thank you for showing us that we can resist temptations even when we are weak. Please give us the strength and wisdom to make the right decisions when we face temptations and let us become closer to God with every choice that we make. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was **transfigured** before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, **conversing** with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am **well pleased**; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell **prostrate** and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Transfigured	Changed; Transformed. Through this miracle, Jesus turned from his human appearance to that of God.
Conversing	To talk to or talk with.
Well-pleased	Satisfied with. God was very happy with Jesus.
Prostrate	Lying stretched out on the ground with one's face downward.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Peter, John, and James witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus and they were amazed by what they saw. A powerful voice spoke and told them that Jesus is truly the beloved Son of God, and for them to listen to Jesus. This was an important point in Christianity because God formally gave us the identity of Jesus, as the Son of God. It was also special because it is also when men met God the Father through Jesus, who was acting as a bridge between us and heaven. It showed that we must live through the teachings of Jesus if we want to enter Heaven.

3. CONNECT IT!

Imagine your teacher giving you reminders of what the teacher wants you to do. Maybe it is cleaning the classroom, reading your books, or pushing in your chair. Sometimes, these constant reminders can be tiresome. Yet teachers give us these reminders not because it is pointless; rather, your teacher has your best interest in mind. Cleaning up after ourselves is a good habit because it helps ensure others do not trip on objects on the floor and get hurt. We should push in our chairs because it helps give extra space for people to walk around. That extra bit of knowledge, that “aha” moment where the little bit of extra help changes or improves our view, is what we are aiming for when it comes to the Transfiguration. The events and teachings of the Transfiguration was the disciples “aha” moment, giving them a bit of greater understanding of the glory of God, and the reassurance they needed with the news of His coming death.

4. LIVE IT!

LISTENING

make an effort to hear something; be alert and ready to hear something.



You cannot understand and live through the teachings of Jesus if you do not know how to listen. Hearing the words that are being said is not enough. You have to understand these words if you want to be able to truly listen. It is also important to know who to listen to. In this case, the disciples were told by God to listen to Jesus, but in your life you may not know who to listen to. The best people to listen to at this time in your life are your parents, your youth-leaders and your priests at Mass, but you need to practice first.

For this week, practice listening to your parents first to see if you understand what they mean when they tell you to do things. Then at the end of the week, practice listening to your youth-leader at VEYM to see if you understand what they meant. Ask them to see if you understood them correctly. Then lastly, practice listening to what the Priest is talking about at Mass. It may be hard at first, but you will become better and be able to listen to what Jesus really talked about in the Gospel.

5. REMEMBER IT!

**“This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well
pleased; listen to him.”**
(Matthew 17:5)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, please grant us the wisdom to be able to listen and understand what our parents and youth-leaders are trying to teach us and the teachings of Jesus in the Gospel. Let us be able to live our lives the way Jesus taught us and become better people like You want us to be. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS is the Source of Living Water

WEEK A - L3

JOHN 4:5-42

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" —For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.— Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him,



"Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go call your husband and come back." The woman answered and said to him, "I do not have a husband." Jesus answered her, "You are right in saying, 'I do not have a husband.' For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true."

The woman said to him, "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem."

Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one speaking with you."

At that moment his disciples returned, and were amazed that he was talking with a woman, but still no one said, "What are you looking for?" or "Why are you talking with her?" The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Christ?" They went out of the town and came to him. Meanwhile, the disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work. Do you not say, 'In four months the harvest will be here?' I tell you, look up and see the fields ripe for the harvest. The reaper is already receiving payment and gathering crops for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. For here the saying is verified that 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap what you have not worked for; others have done the work, and you are sharing the fruits of their work."

Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done." When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Rabbi	Master or teacher in Hebrew.
Reaper	A person that harvests a crop.
Sower	The person who plants the seeds of the crop.



2. EXPLORE IT!

In today's Gospel, Jesus stopped at a well while His disciples went off to buy food. He saw a woman by the well and asked her for some water. Jesus' request confused the woman because she was a Samaritan and Jesus was a Jew, and the two groups of people did not socialize with each other. The woman questioned Jesus until He told her that whoever drinks His water will not be thirsty. He explains to her when the time has come for salvation, those who worship the Father in Spirit and truth will have salvation. When His disciples returned, the Samaritan woman went into town to spread that Christ was present. The disciples offered Jesus food, but He told them that He already has food, which was to do the will of the Father. Meanwhile, the Samaritans began to believe in Jesus from what the Samaritan woman told them. They invited Jesus to stay and listen to His words.



3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus knew that the woman at the well was a Samaritan, but He welcomed her with open arms. What Jesus is doing is gathering everyone to do one thing, to have them follow Him, to worship his Father, and to live His words accordingly. Jesus is also encouraging us to do the same, to bring the people we know, our friends, our family, even those people we are not close to, to be closer to Christ through our actions, our words, and how we treat others. Jesus is offering the path to heaven that flows from His actions and words.

4. LIVE IT! [ENTHUSIASM]

Enthusiasm means a strong excitement about something.

Once the Samaritans listened to Jesus and believed in Him, they wanted Him to stay with them and to hear His words. This enthusiasm to want to hear and learn from Jesus is what we are called to also do, to always accept God with enthusiasm.

This week practice your desire and enthusiasm for God's Word through His teachings. Ask your parents to set some time to take you to daily Mass to receive His Words and His Body and Blood to nourish ourselves.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"MY FOOD IS TO DO THE WILL OF THE ONE WHO SENT ME AND TO FINISH HIS WORK." (LUKE 13:3)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Jesus, through Your words, we receive nourishment. Through Your words, we learn from You in how to be a better Christian, a better Catholic. Guide us to do what is God's will and not ours. Guide us in spreading Your love to others and welcome others with open arms, just as You love and welcome us into Your arms. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS Cures the Blind

WEEK A - L4

JOHN 9:1-41

As he passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of **Siloam**"—which means Sent—. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." So they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?"



He said, "I don't know." They brought the one who was once blind to the **Pharisees**. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a **Sabbath**. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?" His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Messiah, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; question him."

So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again?"

Do you want to become his disciples, too?" They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from." The man answered and said to them, "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything." They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind."

Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not also blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains.

1. Understand It!

Siloam	Means Sent. Jesus was sent by the Father; the Pool of Siloam was the location of many religious rituals that took place during the time of Christ. It was the location of where Jesus healed a blind man.
Pharisees	A group of Jews who tried to obey all of God's laws. But often they pretended to be holier than they really were and they refused to listen to Jesus. Not all Pharisees behaved in this way. Their leaders opposed Jesus. But many other Pharisees believed Jesus.
Sabbath	Day of religious observance (Sunday), in which religious people are not supposed to work.

2. Explore It!

In the Gospel today, Jesus performed a miracle by curing the blind man and giving him sight. It shows us that Jesus cares for everyone no matter if they are different from what we think is normal. We believe in Jesus the way the blind man believes. Without having to see Jesus, we still believe.



3. Connect It!

Jesus says He is the light of the world, and cured a blind man so that he could see. Close your eyes and imagine your life without sight. What do you see? How does it make you feel? Because we cannot see Jesus, do you still believe? Jesus gave us the gift of sight so that we can see all the great things He has given to us. What are some things you are grateful for?

4. Live It!



to have confidence in something, or to believe in someone.

TRUST

Can you think of someone or something you trust in? Each night, pick someone or something you have complete belief in, and write a little about why you have trust in them or it. Be ready to share in class, and see all the different people and things people put their trust in!

5. Remember It!

“Do you believe in the Son of Man?”
(John 9:35)



6. Pray It!



Dear Jesus, thank you for giving us the sight to see and the faith to believe in You. Open our eyes so that we can fully see Your love for us. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____
Parent signature

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried his feet with her hair: it was her brother Lazarus who was ill.

So the sisters sent word to him, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you, and you want to go back there?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." He said this, and then told them, "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him." So the disciples said to him, "Master, if he is asleep, he will be saved." But Jesus was talking about his death, while they thought that he meant ordinary sleep. So then Jesus said to them clearly, "Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe. Let us go to him." So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the **tomb** for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to **comfort** them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life: whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying, "The teacher is here and is asking

for you." As soon as she heard this, she rose quickly and went to him. For Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still where Martha had met him. So when the Jews who were with her in the house comforting her saw Mary get up quickly and go out, they followed her, presuming that she was going to the **tomb** to **weep** there. When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became **perturbed** and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, **perturbed** again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go." Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Tomb

A space for burying the dead.

Comfort

The easing of a person's feelings of grief or distress.

Weep

To express grief, sorrow, or any overpowering emotions by shedding tears.

Perturbed

feeling anxiety or concern; unsettled.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In the Gospel today, Jesus showed His disciples and the Jews a miracle by raising Lazarus from the dead. He shows us that "[Jesus] is the resurrection and the life: whoever believes in [Jesus], even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in [Jesus] will never die."

3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus promises everlasting life to all who believe in Him and live by His teachings. He calls on us to live in faith and hope, believing in not just God the Father, but also God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Through our actions, our words, and our thoughts, make them good and pure, just as God teaches us, by helping others and seeing God in those around us.

4. LIVE IT!

[Caring]

Caring: To display kindness or concern for others.

Understanding Jesus means sharing our love, joy, and blessings to one another. Each night, think about one way you would like to show you care to others. Then, the next day, see if an opportunity presents itself for your caring. How did they react? How did you feel knowing you might have made an impact on their day? Make sure to write these down the next night too so you can share!



5. REMEMBER IT!

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."
(John 11:25)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, thank you for sending Your only Son to save us from our sins. Help us to be more like You, to live life just as You did. Help us to sacrifice for others and strengthen my faith in You. Please continue to send the Holy Spirit to each one of us and guide us on this journey of faith. Amen!

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

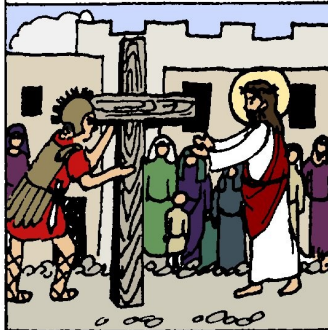


JESUS' PASSION

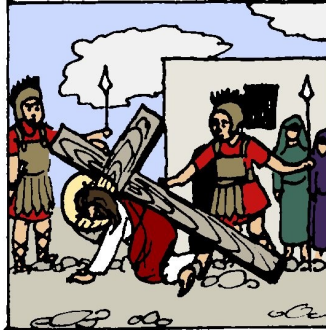
1. Jesus is condemned to death



2. Jesus takes up His cross



3. Jesus falls the first time



4. Jesus meets His mother



5. Simon helps Jesus carry the cross



6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus



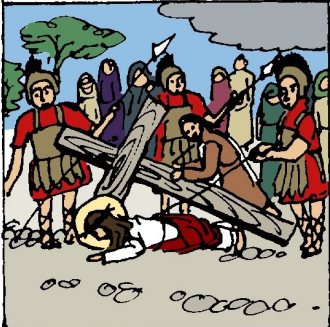
7. Jesus falls the second time



8. Jesus speaks to the women of Jerusalem



9. Jesus falls the third time



10. Jesus is stripped of His clothing



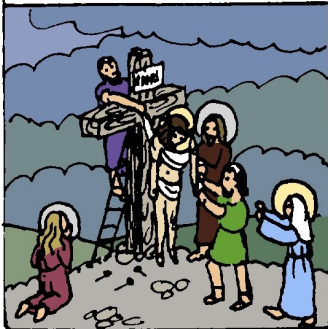
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross



12. Jesus dies on the cross



13. Jesus is taken down from the cross



14. Jesus is buried in the tomb



2. EXPLORE IT!

The Passion of Jesus in Sunday's Gospel is the suffering Jesus endures, from the sorrow He feels while in the garden of Gethsemane to His death on Calvary. In Gethsemane, Jesus prays to God the father, "father, if it is not possible that this cup pass without my drinking it, your will be done!" Jesus knew the suffering and sacrifice He will face and therefore, God the father sent an angel to strengthen Jesus. Pilate, the governor of Judea, was not concerned that Jesus did something wrong, rather, it was because if Jesus wanted to be a king, He threatened the authority of the emperor Caesar. Jesus endured the pain when He was scourged and then carried His cross to Calvary. After the Roman soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross, He is ridiculed by those looking upon Him. Finally, Jesus finally takes His last breath and died on the cross.

3. CONNECT IT!

The Passion of Christ is a reminder of all that Jesus endured for our salvation and just how much He loves us. He offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice for our sins so that one day we may be with God in heaven. Jesus calls on us, therefore, to repent for our sins and to sin no more. As we reflect on Jesus' Passion, we can think about our own life and ask God to help us to fight temptation, ask God for forgiveness through confession, and help us to one day be with Him in Heaven.



4. LIVE IT! [LOYALTY]

Loyalty — being faithful to commitments or obligations, a strong feeling of support for someone or something.

This week practice your loyalty virtue by obeying your parents and teachers. When you are asked to do something, say yes and quickly complete the task without talking back.

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Jesus, thank you for sacrificing Your life on the cross to save us. Grant us the courage to follow in Your footsteps, to always be loyal to You, so that we may do Your will as the father has set out for us. Amen.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"AMEN, I SAY TO YOU,
ONE OF YOU WILL BETRAY ME."
(MATTHEW 26:21)

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

Jesus Rises from the Dead

WEEK A - E1

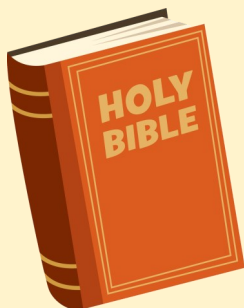
JOHN 20: 1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the **burial cloths** there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the **scripture** that he had to rise from the dead.

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Burial Cloths: A piece of material used to wrap a dead body for burial.

Scripture: Also called Holy Scripture; the sacred writing of the Old and New Testaments.



2. EXPLORE IT!

Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning as found it empty. She then came back and told Simon Peter and another disciple that someone had taken Jesus' body. The disciple who went with Simon Peter into the empty tomb believed Jesus had risen. However, they did not yet understand what had happened. Jesus had risen from the dead as He said. He is alive!



3. CONNECT

IT!

Sometimes, we cannot yet fully understand what God has planned for us. We tend to use our physical senses to evaluate the situations or events regardless of what we believe. We should put our faith in God and let Him carry our lives the way He wants. We also need to pray to the Holy Spirit to guide us and help us understand God's work through our beliefs.

4. LIVE IT! [BELIEF]

- trust, faith, or confidence in someone or something.



The sign of the cross is a profession of our belief and faith, that we believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Therefore, practice making the sign of the cross before every meal every time. Also, say a prayer to ask for God's help every time you run into any problems or difficulties to show that you believe in God in all matters.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed."

(John 20:8)



6. PRAY IT!

Our beloved God, we ask You to strengthen our faith in You. We also ask You to help us realize that everything happens to us is in accordance to Your plan. Please send us the Holy Spirit as our guide to help us through our difficulties. And with Your mercy, please forgive our sins for not fully believing in You. We pray to You with our heart and our soul. Amen.



Pray often

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

Jesus Strengthened the Faith of Thomas

WEEK A - E2

JOHN 20:19-31



On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the **disciples** were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their **midst** and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you **retain** are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not **believe**."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

I UNDERSTAND IT!

Disciple	A person who follows Jesus.
Midst	In the middle of a group
Retain	Keep in possession, hold.
Believe	Have faith in.





2. EXPLORE IT!

After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to His disciples in a room with locked doors. The disciples were very happy to see the Lord, however, Thomas, one of the 12 Disciples, was not there when Jesus came. Other disciples told Thomas that they had seen the Lord, but he did not believe. A week later, Jesus appeared again to His disciples and Thomas was with them. Jesus asked Thomas to put his fingers into His hand and side. Thomas replied to Him: "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." How about you? Without seeing Jesus, will you believe Him?

3. CONNECT IT!

For we walk by

Faith
not by sight

It takes great faith and trust in God to get us through the hard times in life even though we cannot

always see what lies ahead. This means we know that, yes, there are hard times in life that we must all go through. Too often, we look for help and direction from everyone but God, stop putting our faith in money, circumstances, or people to get through the difficult times and instead trust in God for help and direction to bring us through those hard times.

4. LIVE IT [FAITH]

complete trust and confidence

- † Pray to Jesus every day and believe that Jesus is listening to you.
- † Tell a story of your life that you have believed Jesus.
- † Help a person (parents, friends, or poor people) this week to show that you are helping Jesus.

5. REMEMBER IT!

**"...Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
[Luke 20:29]**

6. PRAY IT!

Lord Jesus, Son of God, thank you for loving us although we are sinners. Please forgive us for the times we did not believe in You. Many times, we hurt ourselves and others and we did not know that made You sad too. Please help us to believe You more everyday even though we do not see You. Teach us to love everyone just as You love us. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS



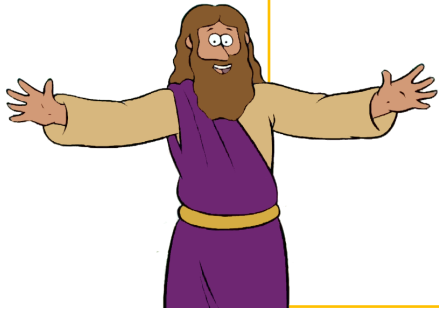
That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were **conversing** about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a **prophet** mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our **chief priests** and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to **redeem** Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found

things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

I. UNDERSTAND IT!

Conversing	Speaking to each other.
Prophet	A person who proclaims the will of God.
Chief Priests	Powerful religious leaders of Israel who oversaw temple worship in Jerusalem and denied Jesus' saying, "We have no king but Caesar!"
Redeem	To rescue; refers to Jesus giving His life to rescue Israel.

2. EXPLORE IT!



Today's Gospel talks about two travelers who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus but they did not recognize Him while talking to Him. One of them sadly talked to Jesus about how they had hoped Jesus would redeem Israel from oppression, but was crucified and disappeared three days later from the tomb. Jesus rebuked them and began to teach the scriptures again about what really happened and explained why it happened. Jesus wanted the disciples to know that He will help them follow Him when they do not understand.

3. CONNECT IT!

Today we learned that Jesus helped us follow Him when we do not understand. We learned that Jesus helped two friends who were on the road to Emmaus to understand that He was alive. We need to understand how important it is to follow Jesus all the time.

4. LIVE IT!

UNDERSTANDING

Understanding means to know and comprehend something. It can also mean to be aware of another person's feelings, often being tolerant or forgiving.

Imagine finding a friend who is being bullied, ridiculed, or even ignored. Sometimes we can relate if we experienced those things, and understand how they are feeling. Maybe we can understand through our learning of Jesus and what He went through to save us from sin. Each night this week, think about a difficult time or event we have experienced: loneliness, hunger, crying, ignored, bullied, etc. Make a point to focus on bringing a solution to that sadness by reaching out to friends, family, or others and talk it out. Share your feelings and see if there is a way to fix it together. Then briefly write about your thoughts and actions this week to share to the class!

5. REMEMBER IT!

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"

(Luke 24:29)

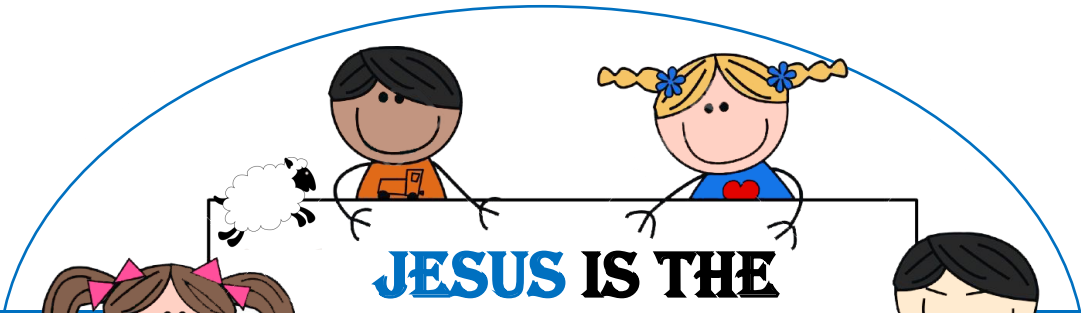
6. PRAY IT!

Risen One, like those disciples on the road to Emmaus, we struggle to recognize You in the everyday journey of our lives. We seek Your wisdom in the midst of the questions we have and in circumstances we find ourselves sometimes beyond our control, but often of our own making.
Amen.



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

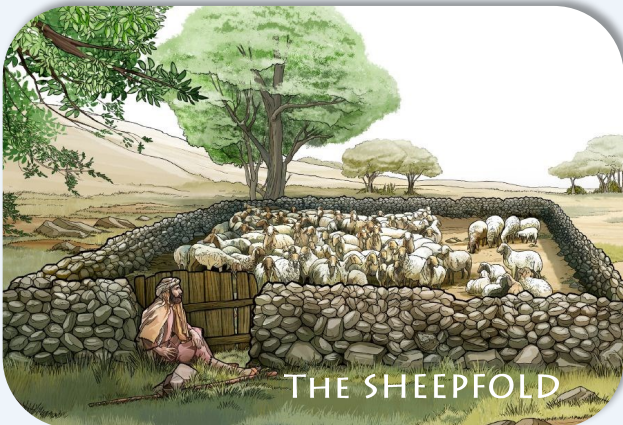


WEEK A - E4

JOHN 10:1-10

Jesus said:

“Amen, amen I say to you, whoever does not enter a **sheepfold** through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The **gatekeeper** opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.



Although Jesus used this figure of speech, they did not realize what he was trying to tell them. So Jesus said again, “Amen, amen I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and **slaughter** and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more **abundantly**.



1.

UNDERSTAND IT!

Sheepfold	A shelter for sheep.
Gatekeeper	A person who controls the access to a gate.
Slaughter	To kill an animal for food.
Abundantly	In large quantity, plentifully.



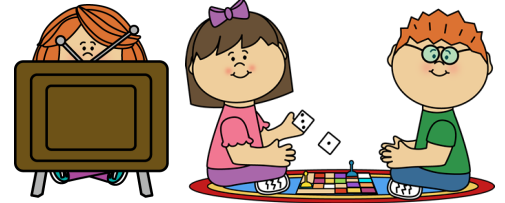
2.

EXPLORE IT!

In this passage, Jesus uses the analogy of a shepherd to teach the people. In those times, shepherding was a common job, and people understood it well. He shares the characteristics of a good shepherd, one who calls his own sheep by name. He tells the people that He is the gate, and that those who enter through Him will be saved. He also warns of false prophets, the “thieves and robbers”, who we should be wary of. Jesus is the true way, and is our shepherd. We should know His voice and follow Him.



In our lives, there are many things that can lead us astray, such as TV, video games, and social media. Some things can be even worse, such as drugs. Sometimes we hang out with the wrong people and they also lead us further from the right path, and it is hard for us to know what we should do.



However, we must remember that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and we are His sheep. He knows us each by name, and calls us to follow Him. The "false prophets", or the "thieves and robbers", that He warns us about are the things in our lives that we should look out for, and not let them pull us away from Him. As He said in the passage, He is the shepherd and walks ahead of us to lead the way. He is the gate for the sheep, and if we enter through Him, we will have eternal life.



LIVE IT! [RECOGNITION]

The process of identifying something from previous encounters or knowledge.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us two things: as the Good Shepherd, He recognizes each of us and knows each of us personally. He also says that we, as His sheep, recognize His voice and follow Him. We should try to listen for His voice in our lives. Sometimes He speaks to us through our parents, and our teachers, who always want the best for us and show us the correct path to follow. If we stop and listen, we can try to recognize all the ways that He speaks to us in our lives. This week, follow the directions of your parents and teachers without questioning them. Additionally, each day this week, think about someone in your life (a new person each day), and reflect on the ways we see Christ in them.

hear
God's voice



REMEMBER IT!

**"A good shepherd
lays down his life
for the sheep."
(John 10:11)**



PRAY IT!

Dear Jesus, thank you for being our Good Shepherd. You know each of us and call us by name. Help us to listen and recognize Your voice, so that we may follow You in the path You have set for us. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



WHO IS JESUS?

WEEK A - E5

JOHN 14:1-12



Jesus said to his disciples:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many **dwelling** places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where [I] am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am **the way** and **the truth** and **the life**. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father."



1. Understand It!

- Dwelling:** A place to be with God.
- The Way:** A path or route that is right and true according to God's teaching.
- The Truth:** Knowledge and liberation from sin.
- The Life:** Deliverance from a life of sin and death to a life of freedom in eternity.

2. Explore It!

In today's Gospel, Jesus informs us of His upcoming death and tells us that He is the only path to heaven, the only true measure of righteousness, and the source of both physical and spiritual life. Furthermore, He tells us that He is the only way to God, the Father because to know Jesus means that you also know the Father. Jesus also tells us that He has prepared a place for all of us because He loves us and is confident that we will be arriving because He promised to come back for His disciples, who not only believe in Jesus, but will also carry out His work and do greater work with the Holy Spirit.

3. Connect It!

JESUS
the WAY
the TRUTH
the LIFE

Jesus was telling His disciples to follow Him. We can follow Jesus the same way that the disciples followed Jesus. They heard Jesus' words, believed them, and obeyed them. We hear Jesus' words every week during Mass. The disciples followed Jesus' example and told others the truth about sin, righteousness, and judgment. If your friends are doing something bad, tell them to stop and explain to them why it is wrong! When we follow Jesus in "the way," we are following Him all the way to heaven.

Can you listen to the words of Jesus through the readings and homily during mass and believe them? What did the priest say we can do in our everyday lives to follow Jesus' example this week? Hint: Pay attention during Mass!

4. Live It! [AUTHENTICITY]

Authenticity - being genuine, truthful, or having validity

- † We are blessed with our bodies, which are capable of doing so many amazing things. God created us in His image and gave us a body for the physical world. We can see, speak, hear, smell, and feel the things around us. Jesus was also given the same body as us when He was born into this world.
- † This week, practice your authenticity virtue by using the body given to us by God to do good deeds as Jesus has done when He walked on this earth. You can speak the truth when questioned, smile genuinely at your loved ones, and help your parents out with chores at home because you love them.

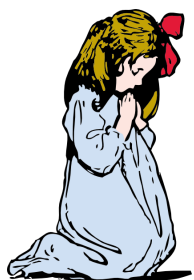
5. Remember It!

**"I am the way
and the truth
and the life."
(John 14:6)**



6. Pray It!

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for bringing us all into this world with healthy bodies, capable and having the potential of using it in the same way Jesus has and produce good works. I pray that we all open our hearts to be authentic and true to our friends and family. Amen.



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

If You Love JESUS...

WEEK A - E6

JOHN 14:15-21



Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another **advocate** to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my **commandments** and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and **reveal** myself to him."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Advocate	Refers to the Holy Spirit.
Commandments	Rules God gave to us (through Moses) that we must follow.
Reveal	To display or show, to be shown the truth.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Jesus focuses on love in this Gospel passage, where He begins and ends the passage mentioning love. He tells the disciples that if they love Him, they would keep the commandments that God gave to mankind. Although Jesus will ascend to Heaven, the disciples will not be alone because the Holy Spirit will descend to be with them, giving them the strength to endure all things.

3. CONNECT IT!

The rules that are given in school today are much like the commandments that have been given to us. They tell us to do things in a correct manner, and to not do things that will harm each other and the higher authorities. If we follow these rules, we keep ourselves and everyone else around us happy, just as Jesus Himself has told us in regards to the commandments.



4. LIVE IT! [RESPONSIBILITY]



A duty to deal with something or be control over something/someone.

† Jesus reminds us that whenever we need help, it will be given to us. However, it is our responsibility to ask and pray for it.

† This week, take initiative by finishing your homework early and doing what your parents ask you to do around the house. You can receive God's love more easily through keeping His fourth commandment, *honor your father and your mother*, that your days may belong in the land which the Lord your God gives you.

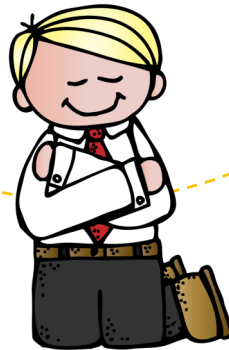


5. REMEMBER IT!

"IF YOU LOVE ME, YOU WILL KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS."
(JOHN 14:15)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for sending down Your only Son. Through His initiative, He has assumed responsibility for all our sins. We pray that You help us and guide us to be more responsible, accountable people to help our community. Amen.



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

WEEK A - The Ascension of the Lord

MATTHEW 28:16-20



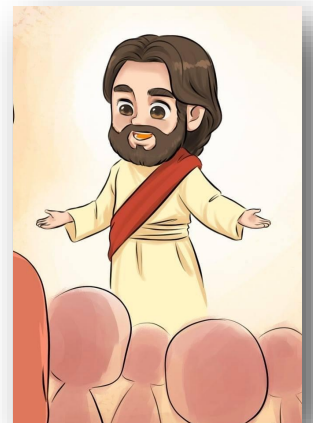
The **eleven disciples** went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they **doubted**. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, **I am with you always**, until the end of the age."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Eleven Disciples	Judas Iscariots not included.
Doubted	Having little faith in Jesus.
I am with you always	Jesus' presence with us at all time.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, He commissioned the disciples to go out and spread all His Good News. Jesus understood that spreading His words can be difficult, but He promised the disciples that He will always be with them.



3. CONNECT IT!

As Jesus sends His Disciples to spread the Good News, so too does He call on us to do so. We do not do it alone, rather, God remains with us through the Holy Spirit. He wants us to not only live faithfully, but to help others do so by sharing Christ through our words and our actions. He calls on us to be His disciples and be a model to others to live holy.



4. LIVE IT! [DISCIPLESHIP]

Discipleship is a follower of Jesus Christ or one who accepts and assists in the spreading of Jesus' teachings.



This week, make the sign of the cross before each meal, thanking God for the food to nourish your body. Do it faithfully and with reverence (respect).

5. REMEMBER IT!



***“Go, therefore,
and make
disciples of
all nations,”
(Matthew 28:19)***

6. PRAY IT!



Dear God, thank you for showing us the greatest sacrifice. Help us open our mind and heart so that we can follow Your teaching to be like one of Your disciples. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' Disciples Received the Holy Spirit

WEEK A
PENTECOST SUNDAY

JOHN 20:19-23



On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples **rejoiced** when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he **breathed** on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Pentecost	Coming 50 days after Easter and 10 days after the Ascension of our Lord.
Rejoiced	To feel and show joy.
Breathed	Jesus gave the disciples a visible symbol when He breathed on them, showing that they now had received the power of the Holy Spirit.



2. EXPLORE IT!

Pentecost marks the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples. Before Jesus appears, the disciples lived in fear, afraid that they will be caught by the Jews because they were followers of Christ. Once the Holy Spirit descends upon them, the disciples have the courage to go out into the world to share the Gospel. Pentecost is also known as the birthday of the Catholic Church because with the descent of the Holy Spirit, Christ's mission is complete, to save us from our sins.



3. CONNECT IT!



As the disciples on Pentecost Sunday begin their ministry of making disciples of all nations, so too is God calling us to bring Christ to all people that we meet. It requires us to be brave, especially when we feel weak during tough times. Despite not being here on earth anymore, God sends the Holy Spirit for us to grow in strength in our relationship with God and in our ministry to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.



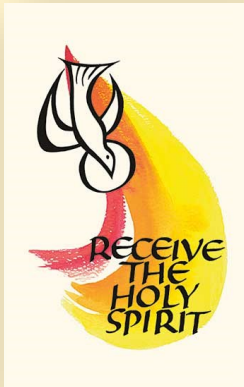
4. LIVE IT! [OPENNESS]

to be willing to accept all that God has planned;
to be willing to listen to others' ideas.

† This week, focus on ways to accept and hear God's voice through strengthening your faith and reading the Bible. Choose one book of the Bible, and each night, read a new chapter. In what ways is God speaking to you in the Bible chapter?



5. REMEMBER IT!

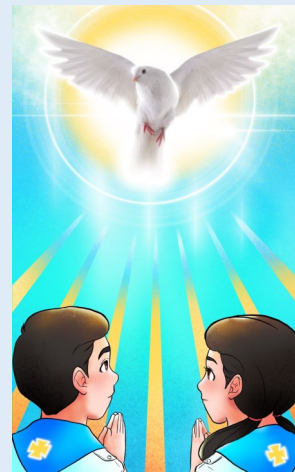


"Receive the Holy Spirit.
Whose sins you forgive are
forgiven them, and whose sins
you retain are retained."
(John 20:23)



6. PRAY IT!

Dear Lord, help us be open to You and all that You have planned for us. Open our minds to remember Your presence. Open our mouths to speak Your wisdom. Open our hearts to extend Your love. Open our hands to serve You generously. Open our whole being to You. Amen.



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

BELIEVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS



WEEK A - MOST HOLY TRINITY

JOHN 3:16-18

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not **perish** but might have **eternal life**. For God did not send his Son into the world to **condemn** the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Perish	To die; disappear.
Eternal life	To live forever; life with no end.
Condemn	To express strong disapproval of; to give a severe punishment.

2. EXPLORE IT!

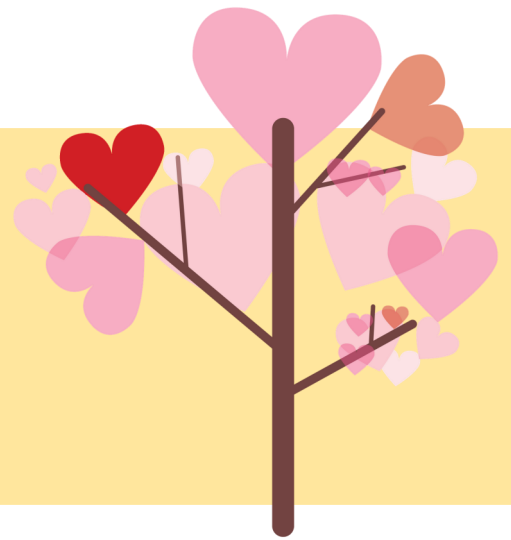
- † God Loves the World so much that He gave His only Son. His love is true and unconditional.
- † God sent His Son to save the world, not to condemn it.
- † Whoever believes in Jesus gets eternal life.



3. CONNECT IT!

God loves us very much; He wants to show us how much He loves us so He sent Jesus to save us from the sins of the world. He came to show us peace and happiness.

Is there someone you love deeply? How do you show it? Now, is there someone who loves you deeply? In what ways have you seen them shown it?



4. LIVE IT! [PURPOSEFULNESS]

► **Purposefulness:** to have a purpose. Have an aim, goal, and meaning.



God's purpose is to love you and save you. What do you want to achieve in terms of faith, and life? How do you show it?

This week, think and come up with one goal in life and one in faith, then talk to God about them. You might want to talk to your parents or relatives about them too.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." (John 3:16)

6. PRAY IT!



Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God, that You died on the cross to rescue me from sin and death and to restore me to the Father. I choose You. I give myself to You. Come reign in my heart, fill me with Your love and Your life, and help me to become a person who is truly loving, a person like You. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



JESUS IS THE LIVING BREAD

Jesus said to the Jewish crowds: "I am the **living bread** that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my **flesh** for the life of the world." The Jews **quarreled** among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has **eternal life**, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Living Bread	Jesus is the bread of life; the Eucharist.
Flesh	The body of Jesus Christ.
Quarreled	An argument.
Eternal life	To live forever; a life after death.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In today's Gospel, the Jews were very confused because Jesus told them that they must eat His body. Yet Jesus explains that if they want to live forever, then they need to eat His flesh and drink His blood. When they do, they will be in Jesus, and Jesus will be in them. Since Jesus is the Son of God, when they eat His flesh, they become closer and closer to God the Father. This is the only way to have eternal life with Jesus and with God.

3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus explains to us why we need to receive Holy Communion at Mass. Just like we need to eat food to live, we eat the bread and drink the wine at Mass to have eternal life. The bread is the Body (Flesh) of Jesus and the wine is the Blood of Jesus. When we receive the bread and wine at Holy Communion, we are asking Jesus to live in us so that we can go up to Heaven and live with God forever.



4. LIVE IT [THANKFULNESS]

To feel and show gratitude and appreciation for someone or something.

The people around us have done many things for us. For example, our parents give us food and a home to live and Jesus gave up His life to save us from sins. This week, show how much you are thankful for the people around you by saying thank you or doing something in return. Do not forget to thank Jesus when you pray too!



5. REMEMBER IT!

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life."

(John 6:54)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God,

We want to thank you for everything that You have done for us. Thank you for giving us wonderful parents and a life to show how much we love You. Please open our eyes to recognize all the things that are wonderful and be thankful for them. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature



WEEK A - 010
MATTHEW 9:9-13

WITH HOPE, MATTHEW FOLLOWS JESUS



As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. While he was at table in his house, many **tax collectors** and sinners came and sat with Jesus and his disciples. The Pharisees saw this and said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" He heard this and said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, 'I desire **mercy**, not sacrifice.' I did not come to call the **righteous** but sinners."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

2. EXPLORE IT!

Tax Collector	One who collects money from people and who society, especially the Pharisees, view as unclean.
Mercy	Compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone else.
Righteous	A person or conduct that is morally right, virtuous.

Jesus calls the Tax Collector Matthew to be His Apostles. Without hesitation, Matthew follows Jesus. Before this, Jesus had only called fishermen, but now, Jesus has called a tax collector, a sinner in the eyes of society. When the Pharisees see this, they question and criticize Jesus. Jesus responds and says that He came to this earth to call on sinners to follow Him.

3. CONNECT IT!

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us that all people, regardless of background, physical appearance, or sinfulness, have a calling to be His disciple. Jesus sees people, not for their job or their station in life, but rather for what they can become. As sinners, we are imperfect. Yet Jesus reminds us of His mercy, and to always try to be a better person.

5. REMEMBER IT!

HE SAID TO HIM,
"FOLLOW ME." AND HE GOT
UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.
(MATTHEW 9:9)



4. LIVE IT!

[HOPE]



Hope is a theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of Heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit.

This week, place extra hope in God by offering up the day to Him each morning by praying the morning prayer. At night, ask God for forgiveness for any hurt caused during the day, and pray for Him to remain with us always.

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Lord, I am Your humble servant. I come before You in need of hope. There are times when I feel helpless and weak. I pray for hope for a better day. Please help me to walk in Your light, and live my life in faith. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

THE COMPANION OF JESUS

WEEK A - 011

MATTHEW 9:36-10:8

At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with **pity** for them because they were **troubled** and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is **abundant** but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest."

Then he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness. The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus; Simon the Cananean, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him.

Jesus sent out these twelve after instructing them thus, "Do not go into **pagan** territory or enter a Samaritan town. Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this **proclamation**: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand'. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Pity	To feel sadness and compassion caused by the suffering of others.
Troubled	To face problems or conflict.
Abundant	To exist or be available in large quantities.
Pagan	One who has little or no religion.
Proclamation	A public or official announcement.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In today's Gospel, Jesus sends His disciples out share the Good News of Christ for all to have salvation. Jesus uses two images to indicate this mission: people are like sheep without a shepherd and like a harvest that needs laborers to get the work done. Starting from Jesus, He sends the Twelve disciples on a mission to continue Jesus's preaching for all to turn to God and for the Twelve disciples to heal the sick. Instead of sending the disciples off to an unknown place, Jesus tells them to go to Israel, a place familiar to them to preach the Good News. The people, through the disciples, received gifts from God and are told that they must also give and share their faith freely.

3. CONNECT IT!

Jesus also calls on us to be His disciples, to accept His invitation to go on a mission to save souls. Discipleship can take many forms, from living faithfully and in accordance to God's commandments, to sharing our faith through our words and actions. Just as the disciples went to Israel, a place they already knew, Jesus also wants us to share our faith with the people already in our lives, so that when they see you, they see Christ. Discipleship also requires giving faith, compassion, love freely without expecting rewards or recognition.

4. LIVE IT! [SHARING]

Sharing means to give a portion of something to another or others.

List three things you will share with another person this week.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



5. REMEMBER IT!

“Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.”
(Matthew 10:8)

6. PRAY IT!

Teach me Lord Jesus, to share with others. Help to serve You as You deserve; to give and not count the cost; to fight and not heed the wounds, to toil and not ask for rest, and to labor and not seek reward. Knowing that we do Your will. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature _____

ACKNOWLEDGE JESUS



Jesus said to the Twelve: "Fear no one. Nothing is **concealed** that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known. What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in **Gehenna**. Are not two **sparrows** sold for a small coin? Yet

not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who **acknowledges** me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Concealed	To be kept secret or hidden.
Gehenna	A small valley in Jerusalem that was known as a destination of the wicked.
Sparrows	A small bird.
Acknowledge	To accept the truth or to recognize the existence.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Fear cannot prevent the Twelve disciples from proclaiming the Gospel and its demands. Jesus promises them that they will never be alone in their efforts to do what is right. Jesus warns that there will be difficulty as they proclaim His teachings, yet God will strengthen them and their work will mean the conversion and saving of souls.

3. CONNECT IT!

Have you ever been in a situation where you were afraid to do something because you felt you were the only one who should act? Or maybe felt pressured to act unethically because "everyone else was doing it"? If your parents or friends were

there to support you, would you feel differently? Today's Gospel speaks to the idea of being fearful of being alone and feeling of loneliness. To stay faithful to our beliefs, remember that Jesus is always with us if we act according to His teachings. He gives us the strength through bravery and a conscience to do what is right, and to proclaim proudly on His behalf!

4. LIVE IT! [COURAGE]

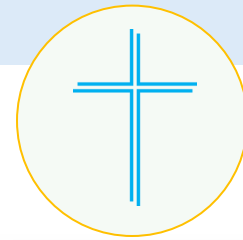
Courage is the ability to do something that frightens one.

This week be courageous in sharing your faith. Make the sign of the cross before all meals at home or in public and be courageous in telling a friend about the importance of our Catholic faith.



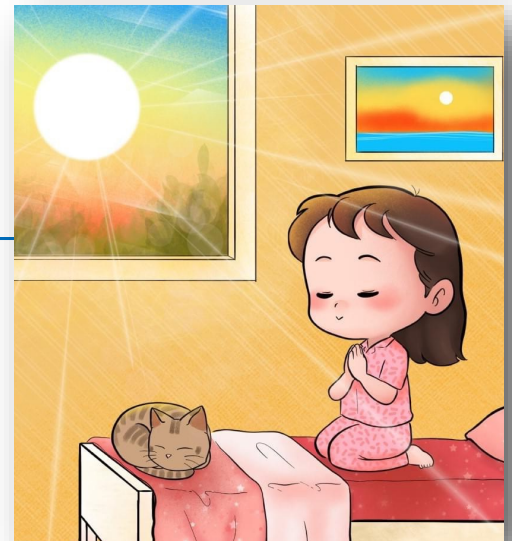
5. REMEMBER IT!

**"But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."
(Mathew 10:33)**



6. PRAY IT!

Lord, grant us the courage as we go through this day. When there is temptation to give up, help us to keep going and to maintain a cheerful spirit when things do not go our ways. Give us courage to do whatever needs to be done. Amen.



My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

CONDITIONS AND REWARDS FOR JESUS' DISCIPLES



WEEK A – O13

MATTHEW 10:37-42

Jesus said to his apostles: "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not **worthy** of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my **sake** will find it.

"Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a **prophet** because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever receives a **righteous** man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward."



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Worthy	To have or show the qualities or abilities that merit recognition; to be good enough.
Sake	for the purpose of or in the interest of someone or something.
Prophet	A person regarded as inspired and a proclaimer of the will of God.
Righteous	To be morally right and virtuous.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Jesus teaches us to love God above everything else. It does not mean you should love your parents less, but He wants you to remember to love God first. Jesus also wants us to know that those who do not follow His teachings to be righteous are not worthy of being His disciples, meaning that you need to listen to His teachings if you call yourself a Christian. Lastly, He wants us to know that our lives as disciples and our almsgiving may result in a hard life on Earth, but we will be rewarded in Heaven.

3. CONNECT IT!

Take a moment to think about what is most important to you and what you cannot live without. Compare that to your love for Jesus. Ask yourself if you wake up in the morning and check your phone first rather than praying and offering your morning. Also, think about how others around you would feel if you prayed openly or spoke about the Gospel with your friends. Perhaps you have a hard time giving up something to someone else, like donating some of your money to help the homeless. These are the things

that we do every day and a lot of times we put ourselves or what we think is fun before even thinking about God. The Gospel reading this week reminds us that, as Christians, we need to always remember that our love for God must come before everything else, that we must follow and practice the teachings of Jesus, and that we will be rewarded even though what we do as His disciples may be hard in life.

4. LIVE IT! [DETACHMENT]

Detachment is to not be attached to people or the materialistic aspects of the world.

for this week, detach yourself from hobbies or activities that do not help you grow spiritually and replace that with time to pray and explore the Bible. List two things you are willing to be detached from.

1. _____

2. _____

5. REMEMBER IT!

*"Whoever loses his life
for my sake will find it."
(Matthew 10:39)*

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, thank you for making all things new. Thank you for all that You have given us. Help us to let go of the bad habits and to put You first. Help us to make You the center of our lives every single day. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

THE GENTLE MASTERY OF JESUS

WEEK A – O14

MATTHEW 11:25-30

At that time Jesus exclaimed:
“I give **praise** to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things
from the wise and the learned
you have **revealed** them to little ones.
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.
No one knows the Son except the Father,
and no one knows the Father except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.”

“Come to me, all you who **labor** and are **burdened**,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am **meek** and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”



1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Praise	To express warm approval or admiration.
Reveal	To make known to others.
Labor	To work very hard and endlessly.
Burdened	To feel hardship.
Meek	Quiet, gentle, submissive.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about how He is the Son of God and that everything that He knows comes from the Father because the Father has revealed it to Him. Everything that Jesus says is the will of God and Jesus wants everybody to fully trust Him. Jesus also calls Himself meek and humble because He is a gentle yet powerful. Jesus ends this Sunday's Gospel with the reminder that all who are tired and burdened because of life should turn to Him. Jesus will lessen those burdens.

3. CONNECT IT!

Ask yourself if you ever doubted God and ask yourself if you ever thought that your burdens or sins were too much for God. Now, think about the moment when you walk out from confession and how lightened and happy you felt. Maybe you felt as though your soul was cleaner than before. To have a good relationship with God, to seek His forgiveness, and to not sin anymore is what it means to remember that Jesus is the Son of God, and we must trust Him with everything, especially our burdens and our sins. Therefore, the next chance you have, take a moment to listen to a friend who is troubled or unhappy. Do for your friend what Jesus does for us, and just listen and comfort them.

4. LIVE IT! [GENTLENESS]

Gentleness is the quality of being kind and nice.

This week show gentleness to all those around you. Even when others make you angry, take a deep breath and be gentle. Practice saying one kind thing to someone and write it here.



5. REMEMBER IT!

**“TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU AND
LEARN FROM ME, FOR I AM MEEK
AND HUMBLE OF HEART.”**
(Matthew 11:29)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Lord Jesus, gentle us when we get angry. Gentle us when our patience is low. Lord Jesus, You are so near to us in the Gospel and You always live in our hearts. Help us to be more like You in our reaction so that You can shine in each one of us.
Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' PARABLE OF THE SOWER

WEEK A - O15

MATTHEW 13:1-23



On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in **parables**, saying: "A sower went out to **sow**. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

The disciples approached him and said, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" He said to them in reply, "Because knowledge of the **mysteries** of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted. To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand. Isaiah's **prophecy** is fulfilled in them, which says: *You shall indeed hear but not understand, you shall indeed look but never see. Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed their eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I heal them.*

"But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. "Hear then the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some **tribulation** or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Parables	A simple story to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson as told by Jesus in the Gospel.
Sow	To plant a seed by scattering it on or in the earth.
Mysteries	A belief based on divine revelation, especially one regarded as beyond understanding.
Prophecy	A prediction through God's guidance of what will happen in the future.
Tribulation	A cause of great trouble or suffering.

2. EXPLORE IT!

Jesus told the parable of the sower, or farmer of seeds. In that story, some of the seeds fell onto places that made it difficult for the seeds to grow because the sun burned it, or birds ate it. Some of the seeds even fell into thorny areas so that they could not grow because the thorns took up all the food in the ground. Jesus' disciples asked Him why He spoke to people in parables instead of telling them directly, and Jesus replied that people may not understand His teachings if spoken directly and therefore, through parables the people could understand. In the sower parable, Jesus suggests that peoples' faith are seeds and for them to grow in faith, it is important that they are "planted" in good soil for them to bear fruit, or in other words, to help others also grow in faith.

3. CONNECT IT!

We often hear about the sowers, harvesting and seeds in Jesus' parable. The sower knows that it takes time for the sown seed to grow and becomes mature fruit. In this parable, Jesus used these images to speak of the word of God and of the kingdom of God. The word of God is sown into our heart. It begin to grow and bear fruit. This is how we are call to help Christ builds the kingdom of God.

Jesus explains in this parable different types of people who respond to God's words differently:

- 1) First seeds fall on the Path and get Snatched by the birds. For some, they hear words of God but it is snatched away and they don't take it into their hearts.
- 2) Second seeds fall on the Rock and become Dried up. Some people stop being excited about Jesus and the words of God dry up in their heart. They are no longer alive in their spiritual life.
- 3) Third seeds fall among the Thorns and get Choked out. Some people get so worried and distracted by the other things that God's Word cannot take root in their heart. It is choked out and lost.
- 4) Last seeds fall into the Good Soil they Grow and bear fruits. The good heart is excited about God's Word, lives out His teaching and spread the good news to others.

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, we do not want to go another day without You in our lives. Help us to seek You in all things, to be enthusiastic in discovering You through the Word of God. Amen.

4. LIVE IT! [ENTHUSIASM]

Enthusiasm is the excited feeling or eager enjoyment to do something.

We can check up on our heart to see how we feel toward Jesus, God's Word, the Church, family, friends, etc. If we do not feel like to be bored or interested, we can ask Jesus to help us focus back on Him and to get excited about Him again.

5. REMEMBER IT!

"But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."
(Matthew 13:23)

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

JESUS' PARABLE OF THE WEEDS

WEEK A - 016

MATTHEW 13:24-43

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying:
"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest: then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."'"



He proposed another parable to them.
"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the 'birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.'"

He spoke to them another parable.
"The kingdom of heaven is like **yeast** that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened."

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables. He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:
*I will open my mouth in parables,
I will announce what has lain hidden
from the foundation of the world.*

Then, **dismissing** the crowds, he went into the house. His disciples approached him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the **fiery furnace**, where there will be **wailing** and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Yeast	A fungus that bakers use to make their bread rise.
Dismissing	To order or allow to leave.
Fiery Furnace	An hot burning enclosed structure in which fire and heat is produced.
Wailing	To cry with pain, grief, or anger.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In today's Gospel, Jesus uses two parables today, with a focus on the Parable of the Weeds. A master sows good seeds but during the night, his enemy goes in and plants bad weeds. The master is God, who is sowing good people and faith here on earth. The enemy is the devil and causing harm by sowing bad people and bad deeds on earth. Jesus reminds His disciples that a judgement day will come when all the good and bad will have to answer to God. The good will be able to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, while the bad will go to hell.

3. CONNECT IT!

The lesson Jesus teaches His disciples is also a lesson for us. Through our baptism, we become children of God and He calls on us to follow His commandments and live a faithful life. Yet, there are times when we may do things that are against God's commandments, which pulls us away from Christ and instead, closer to the Devil. We must always strive to live holy and when we make mistakes, we must seek the forgiveness of God so that when it is time for our judgment day, God accepts us into the Kingdom of Heaven.

4. LIVE IT! [FAIRNESS]

Fairness is to treat something or someone fairly, without favoritism or discrimination.

Each day this week, give a helping hand to someone in need. Give that help regardless of how you feel about that person, from those you love, to those you do not get along with.

5. REMEMBER IT!

**"First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."
(Matthew 13:30)**

6. PRAY IT!

Dear Heavenly Father. You have given all people the chance of life and love. Fill us and all those we interact with the fire of Your love and the desire to show fairness of all people, regardless of their skin color, where they are from, or their differences from us. Where there is division, let there be peace. Where there is war, let there be healing. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____
Parent signature

JESUS' PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN



WEEK A - O17

MATTHEW 13:44-52



Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a **treasure** buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish

of every kind. When it is full they haul it **ashore** and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the **wicked** from the **righteous** and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. "Do you understand all these things?" They answered, "Yes." And he replied, "Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Treasure	A quantity of valuable objects.
Ashore	To or on the shore of a body of water.
Wicked	Evil or morally wrong.
Righteous	Morally right or justifiable, virtuous.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches the disciples the different angles about the Kingdom of Heaven. In the first parable, Jesus talks about the man who discovers a hidden treasure and a man goes and buys the land to acquire the treasure. This parable represents the people who stumble upon the Good News, without purposefully looking for it. In the second parable, Jesus teaches the disciples about the pearl seller who looks endlessly for what he deemed precious. When the merchant discovers it, he is willing to sell everything to obtain it. This parable teaches the disciple of humanity's search for happiness. Yet true happiness can only happen by finding God. Jesus ends this passage with a mention of the fishermen catch, speaking about the end of time, when judgement day comes and the good have a place in heaven and the bad will go to hell.

3. CONNECT IT!

In today's two parables, both men find happiness and made a deliberate decision to pay for the land and the precious pearls because they knew it was worth it. In our own life, we also seek to find happiness too. Maybe we find some happiness through our friends and family, through the activities we are involved in, in VEYM, and many other things and aspects in our life. Yet Jesus reminds us that ultimate happiness can only truly happen when we discover God. Therefore, the treasure we should seek in life is the treasure of the Kingdom of Heaven. To attain the Kingdom of Heaven, Jesus' calls us to live holy, to grow in our love and worship of God, and to also help others to do the same.

4. LIVE IT!

[WISDOM]

Wisdom is the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment.

Wisdom is important as we make decisions each day. This week, think carefully before making decisions, being purposeful and using good judgment.

5. REMEMBER IT!

**"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."
(Matthew 13:44)**

6. PRAY IT!

Heavenly Father, take us to the place where we are saved from our pride and arrogance and Christ's humility is center stage, where we are lifting up clean hands and a pure heart to You.

Father, help us to receive Your truth and open our ears to receive Your counsel. Help us to open our heart to receive Your eternal wisdom. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature

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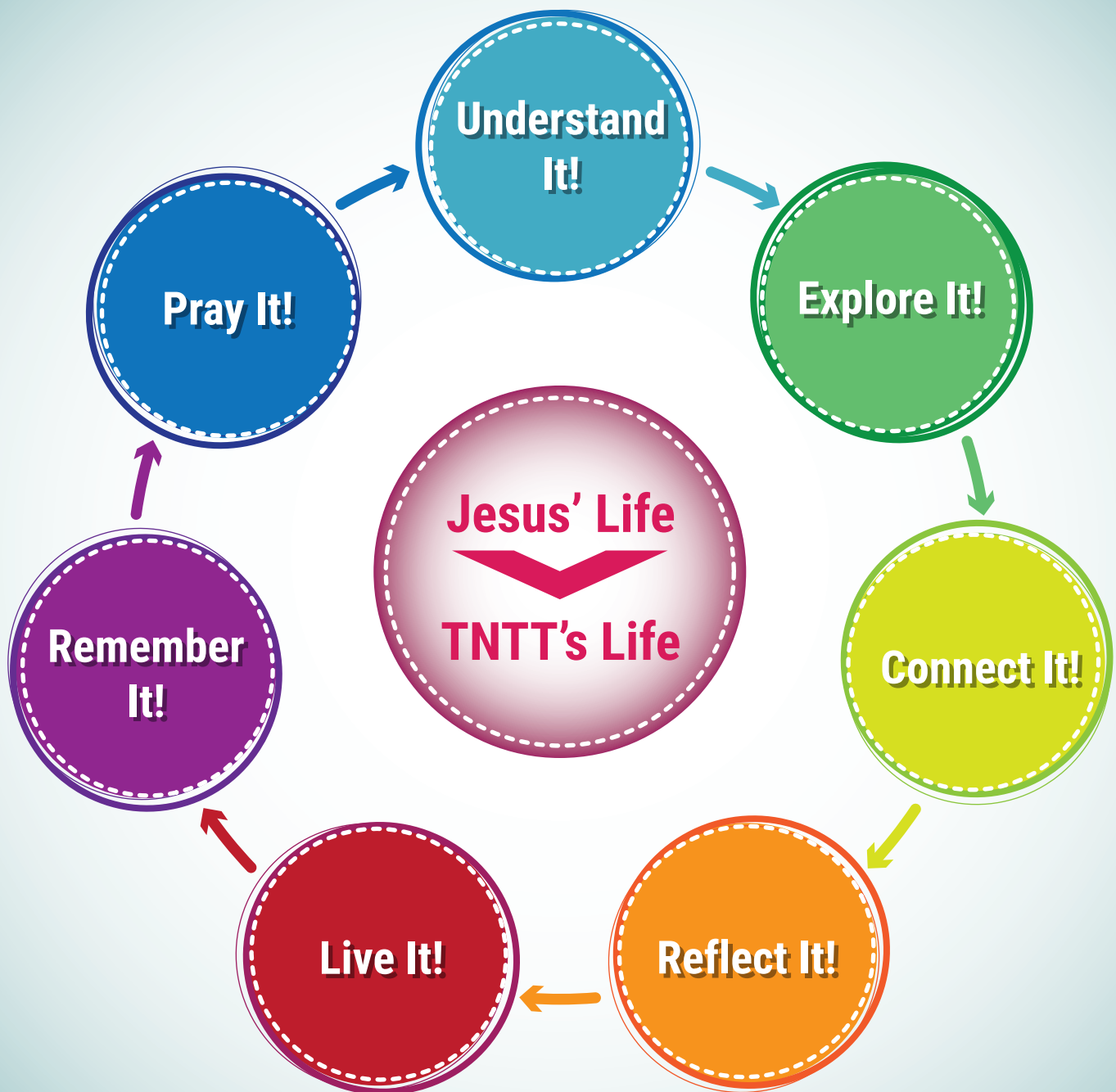
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WEEKLY SCRIPTURE LESSON MOTTO

Imitate Jesus' life through Scripture by learning, practicing, and living the Catholic virtues



*“Go and Make
Disciples
of All Nations”*

Mt 28:19

