

August 1, 2021 – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

GOD PROVIDES FOR US WHEN WE ARE IN NEED.

LEARN

Read Bible: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15 — Catholic Children's Bible page 125



There in the desert they all complained to Moses and Aaron and said to them, "We wish that the Lord had killed us in Egypt. There we could at least sit down and eat meat and as much other food as we wanted. But you have brought us out into this desert to starve us all to death."

The Lord said to Moses, "Now I am going to cause food to rain down from the sky for all of you. The people must go out every day and gather enough for that day. In this way I can test them to find out if they will follow my instructions.

. . .

"I have heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them that at twilight they will have meat to eat, and in the morning they will have all the bread they want. Then they will know that I, the Lord, am their God."

In the evening a large flock of quails flew in, enough to cover the camp, and in the morning there was dew all around the camp. When the dew evaporated, there was something



thin and flaky on the surface of the desert. It was as delicate as frost. When the Israelites saw it, they didn't know what it was and asked each other, "What is it?"

Moses said to them, "This is the food that the Lord has given you to eat.

Did You Know?



When the Israelites left Egypt, God led them safely across the Red Sea into the desert. The Israelites became unhappy about not having food. So, God provided them with bread from heaven in the morning and quail (small birds) in the evening to eat. The bread, called manna, was white and the size of a seed. It tasted like wafers made with honey.

PRAY



Good and gracious God, thank you for all you give us, especially the food we eat every day. Before each meal, we pray: "Bless O Lord, and these your gifts, which we are about to receive from your goodness, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISCUSS & DO

Say something like:



Do you wonder where your food comes from? Our food does not appear on the ground; we find it in a grocery store or a restaurant. God gives us so much. He wants to make sure we are fed and well cared for. God gives us what we need.

For Preschool-K

SAY: God gave the people of Israel bread that came down from heaven. He gives us food to eat. Let's read the Bible story again and see what happens.

ACTIVITY: Have cotton balls hidden behind you. When you read the part where bread falls from heaven, throw cotton balls in the air to fall on your children. Suggest this is like bread coming from heaven.

For Grades 1-3

SAY: God gave the people of Israel bread that came down from heaven. He gives us food to eat. Let's read the Bible story again and see what happens.

ACTIVITY: Have cotton balls hidden behind you. When you read the part where bread falls from heaven, throw cotton balls in the air to fall on your children. Suggest this is like bread coming down from heaven. Ask them to imagine their food coming down from the sky. How much could they collect in an hour? How could they thank God for what he has done?

For Grades 4-5

SAY: God gave the people of Israel manna (bread) that came down from heaven. They had never had manna before, so this was very different. They had to learn to have faith that God would provide what they needed each day. What new food are you willing to try that will make you stronger? Besides food, what other things would be good for you to have each day? Pray to God that he provides the best things for you.

ACTIVITY: If you have coriander seeds in your pantry, show them to your children. Look at the color and provide them samples. Challenge your kids to eat something they have not eaten before ... a vegetable, fruit, something different to help them understand the difficulties the Israelites faced.

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August 8, 2021 - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

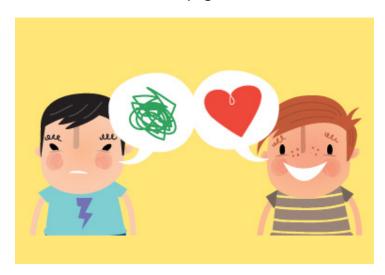
JESUS WANTS US TO BE KIND AND FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER.

LEARN

Read Bible: Ephesians 4:30-5:2 — Catholic Children's Bible page 1845, 1848



And do not make God's Holy Spirit sad; for the Spirit is God's mark of ownership on you, a guarantee that the Day will come when God will set you free. Get rid of all bitterness, passion, and anger. No more shouting or insults, no more hateful feelings of any sort. Instead, be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ.



Since you are God's dear children, you must try to be like him. Your life must be controlled by love, just as Christ loved us and gave his life for us as a sweet-smelling offering and sacrifice that pleases God.

Did You Know?



This Bible passage teaches that peace is kept when people are kind and gentle. Sometimes it is hard to be kind. We might feel sad or angry and may not like certain people and what they do. If we hurt someone by what we do or say, we can make it better. We can say we are sorry. We can be extra kind to the person we hurt.

PRAY



Dear Jesus, help me to be kind and patient to everyone I know. Help me to say I am sorry if I have hurt them. Help me to forgive those who have hurt me. Amen.

DISCUSS & DO

Say something like:



Jesus wants us to show and ask for forgiveness. We show forgiveness when someone has hurt us and ask forgiveness when we have hurt someone. Here are some things we can do:

SHOW FORGIVENESS

Be willing to make things better

Don't hold a grudge or pout

Listen to someone say they are sorry

Say "I forgive you", then hug or smile

ASK FORGIVENESS

Imagine feelings of other person
Say "I'm sorry" and mean it
Do something nice to make up for the
hurt you did

Ask God to help you make better choices

For Preschool-K

ACTIVITY: Have your child use two of their stuffed animals and pretend one animal has hurt the other. Have your child use the behaviors above to practice kindness and forgiveness.

For Grades 1-3

ACTIVITY: Have your child use two of their stuffed animals and pretend one animal has hurt the other. Have your child use the behaviors above to practice kindness and forgiveness.

For Grades 4-5

DISCUSS: Ask your child to recall a situation where they hurt someone or were hurt. Ask them to identify which behaviors above they used and what they could do in the future to practice kindness and forgiveness.

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August 15, 2021 – Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

WE HONOR MARY, WHO IS TAKEN UP INTO HEAVEN.

LEARN

Read Bible: Luke 1:39-56 — Catholic Children's Bible page 1572-1573



Soon afterward Mary got ready and hurried off to a town in the hill country of Judea. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby moved within her. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and said in a loud voice, "You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the child you will bear! Why should this great thing happen to me, that my Lord's mother comes to visit me? For as soon as I heard your greeting, the baby within me jumped with gladness. How happy you are to believe that the Lord's message to you will come true!"



Mary said,

"My heart praises the Lord; my soul is glad because of God my Savior, for he has remembered me, his lowly servant! From now on all people will call me happy, because of the great things the Mighty God has done for me. His name is holy; from one generation to another he shows mercy to those who honor him. He has stretched out his mighty arm and scattered the proud with all their plans. He has brought down mighty kings from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away with empty hands. He has kept the promise he made to our ancestors, and has come to the help of his servant Israel.

He has remembered to show mercy to Abraham

and to all his descendants forever!"

Mary stayed about three months with Elizabeth and then went back home.

Did You Know?



Today is a feast day. A feast day is where our church recognizes the saints. Mary is one of the greatest saints. In some places, people celebrate with festivals, processions, and fireworks. Today, we celebrate the feast of the Assumption, when the body and soul of Mary was taken up into heaven to be with Jesus.

PRAY



Dear Mary, you love us and care for us with a mother's love. Thank you for your example to each of us. Teach us to love your son, Jesus, and say "yes" to him with all our heart. May we always honor you and show our love by the way we live. Amen.

DISCUSS & DO



Check out the following craft of the Assumption to make with your children: www.catholicinspired.com/2012/08/assumption-of-mary-centerpiece-family.html (Find clickable link on our Family Faith Formation Page under "Faith in the Home.")

For Preschool-K

SAY: Let's go outside and pick some pretty flowers and green leaves to make a craft of Mary.

For Grades 1-3

SAY: Let's print this picture of Mary. Then, you can color it and we can use as we make our craft project together.

ACTIVITY: www.saintanneshelper.com/support-files/assumption_stained_glass_window.pdf (Find clickable link on our Family Faith Formation Page under "Faith in the Home.").

For Grades 4-5

SAY: Let's print this picture of Mary. Then, you can color it for our craft. When you are done, let's get supplies from around our house and figure out how to make this project.

ACTIVITY: www.saintanneshelper.com/support-files/assumption_stained_glass_window.pdf (Find clickable link on our Family Faith Formation Page under "Faith in the Home.").

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August 22, 2021 – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time We praise God's Goodness.

LEARN

Read Bible: Psalm 34:2-3, 16-21 — Catholic Children's Bible page 861-862

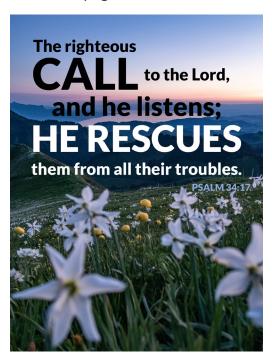


I will praise him for what he has done; may all who are oppressed listen and be glad! Proclaim with me the Lord's greatness; let us praise his name together!

. .

But he opposes those who do evil, so that when they die, they are soon forgotten. The righteous call to the Lord, and he listens; he rescues them from all their troubles. The Lord is near to those who are discouraged; he saves those who have lost all hope.

Good people suffer many troubles, but the Lord saves them from them all; the Lord preserves them completely; not one of their bones is broken. Evil will kill the wicked; those who hate the righteous will be punished.



Did You Know?



This Bible passage is found in the Book of Psalms. The Psalms are songs of praise in the Old Testament. The Old Testament are books written long before Jesus was born. There are 150 Psalms in the Bible. They are very popular and are read by many people. They can express happy, sad, or angry feelings. The Psalms help us learn how to pray and praise God.

PRAY



Proclaim with me the LORD's greatness; let us praise his name together!

DISCUSS & DO



For Preschool-K

SAY: We praise God for all that he has done for our family. God gave you (an example of something very valuable to your child) that you love. Thank you, dear God, for being so good to us!

For Grades 1-3

SAY: We praise God for all that he has done for our family. Let's find another Psalm in the Bible that you really like and we will read it together out loud.

For Grades 4-5

SAY: We praise God for all that he has done for our family. Can you write your own short poem that praises God? I would love to hear you read it to me.

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August 29, 2021 – Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

GOD WANTS US TO ALWAYS DO WHAT IS RIGHT.

LEARN

Read Bible: 15:2-5 — Catholic Children's Bible page 844-845



Those who obey God in everything and always do what is right, whose words are true and sincere, and who do not slander others.

They do no wrong to their friends nor spread rumors about their neighbors. They despise those whom God rejects, but honor those who obey the LORD. They always do what they promise, no matter how much it may cost.

They make loans without charging interest and cannot be bribed to testify against the innocent.



Whoever does these things will always be secure.

Did You Know?



The Bible passage tells us not to slander others. Slander is when you say bad things about another person or call them a name that causes others to think badly of them. It also tells us to speak the truth, not act in ways that hurt others, and do what we promise. If we treat others right, we will be rewarded by God.

PRAY



Oh good and gracious God, help us always to do the right things in our lives. Teach us to treat others in a kind and righteous way. Amen.

DISCUSS & DO



Say something like:

God want us to be good to others and treat people right every day.

For Preschool-K

SAY: Remember the time (*recall a situation*) when you were at (*place*) and you said/did something nice for (*name of person*)? Let's talk about it. God is very happy in how you treated that person.

For Grades 1-3

SAY: Remember the time (*recall a situation*) when you were at (*place*) and you said/did something nice for (*name of person*)? Let's talk about it. How do you think that person felt afterwards? God is very pleased in how you treated that person.

For Grades 4-5

SAY: Remember the time (*recall a situation*) when you were at (*place*) and you said/did something nice for (*name of person*)? Let's talk about it. How do you think that person felt afterwards? God is very pleased in how you treated that person. How can you do more of that in the future?

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MORE Faith in the Home

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Week of August 1

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY - AUGUST 4

Saint John Vianney was born in France in 1786. After he became a priest, people from all over came to him. Saint John was known to spend 10-15 hours a day hearing confessions. He also gave what he had to the poor. Saint John Vianney, pray of us.



Week of August 8

SAINT CLARE - AUGUST 11

Saint Clare founded an order of nuns called the Poor Clares. Nuns are a group of women who devote their lives to God. Saint Clare wanted to serve Jesus like her friend, St. Francis of Assisi. So, she cut her hair short, worn brown robes, and lived in a poor house. Saint Clare, pray for us.

Week of August 15

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - AUGUST 15

We honor Mary, who is the mother of Jesus and the mother of God. Mary cares for us, watches over us, and wants us to grow closer to Jesus. She is very special because she said "yes" to the things God asked her to do in her life. Wow! She agreed to be the mother of Jesus, our Savior! Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray of us sinners, now and at the hour of death. Amen.





Week of August 22

SAINT AUGUSTINE - AUGUST 28

Saint Augustine was born in North Africa and lived around 300 A.D. As a young man, he did many bad things. But his mother, Saint Monica, prayer for him for a very long time. Saint Augustine then changed his life and became a Christian. He became a bishop and was very good at writing and preaching. He loved God so much and cared for the people he served. Saint Augustine, prvay for us.

Week of August 29

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT - SEPTEMBER 3

Saint Gregory was born in Italy around 540 A.D to a noble family. He was well educated. Unlike many, he was generous and concerned for the poor. Later, he became a monk, built seven monasteries, worked on developing the Mass, and became pope. He is the patron saint of teachers. Saint Gregory the Great, pray for us.

