

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 16

Ages 3-8

1. This week in Mass we hear the story of Martha and Mary in the Gospel of Luke. **Is this the same Mary as Jesus's Mother, Mary?** No, in fact there are three Marys we hear talked about in the Gospels! **Who were Martha and Mary?** Martha and Mary were sisters and good friends of Jesus! **What happened in the Gospel story?** In the story, Mary sits at Jesus's feet and listens to His teachings, while Martha runs around trying to prepare dinner and worrying about making sure everything is perfect. **Which sister does the right thing?** That's right, Mary! Jesus does not want us to worry or be anxious. He doesn't want us to busy ourselves or become distracted. Doing things for others is certainly very important, but having a relationship with Jesus is much more important! **How can we spend time with Jesus today?** We can do this today by going to Mass, praying or reading our Bible!
2. When we first walk into Church for Mass, we bless ourselves with Holy Water and then we head to our seats. **Before getting into the pew, what should we do?** It's a great idea to genuflect and say hello to Jesus in the tabernacle! **What does it mean to genuflect?** When we genuflect we bend our knee toward Jesus in the tabernacle! It is as if we are going before our King and saying, "Jesus, you are Lord." It is also a sign of our love for God!
3. **What is the Fourth Commandment?** The Fourth Commandment says: "honor your father and mother." **What do you think this means?** God wants us to respect, love and honor our parents and to be obedient to them. Our parents are not perfect though, so it's important to remember that they will mess up and when they do, we can forgive them (Just as God forgives us!)
4. This week we celebrate the feast day of Saint Mary Magdalene. **Who was Saint Mary Magdalene?** St. Mary Magdalene is the third Mary we hear talked about in the Gospels! She was one of the people who Jesus healed, and she became one of His most devoted friends and followers. Before knowing Jesus, Mary was not a very good person and lived in a lot of sin. She completely transformed her life for God. Mary traveled with Jesus during His ministry while He was healing people and spreading the Good News about God. She stood at the foot of the cross with

Mother Mary during Jesus's death and was the first person to see that Jesus' tomb was empty and that He had risen from the dead! We celebrate her feast day on July 22nd. **What is she the patron saint of?** She is the patron saint of women, hairstylists, converts, penitent sinners, and perfume makers! *St. Mary Magdalene, Pray for us!*

5. **What virtues do you think St. Mary Magdalene practiced well?** Mary Magdalene practiced many virtues but her perseverance of the faith is especially something to admire! Perseverance means to continue with something, even through many challenges. Mary of Magdalene certainly struggled with sin in her life and overcame that sin through the saving power of Jesus. At Jesus' death. Mary of Magdalene, distraught at what she had witnessed, still had the hope, commitment, and joy to recognize that Jesus resurrected from the dead. Mary Magdalene was the first person to see that Jesus was no longer in the tomb! She delivered the good news to the disciples! Her perseverance testimony is a witness to how anyone can persevere in life and Jesus can use anyone (regardless of their past!) for His enduring mission on earth.

Review Question: Do you know what the Third Commandment is? The Third Commandment is "remember the Sabbath day and keep it Holy." **Do you remember what day of the week is the Sabbath?** It's Sunday! For us Christians, Sunday is the Lord's Day and the day of rest!

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