

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time; Week 22

Ages 3-8

1. This Sunday's readings come from Luke 14:1, 7-14. Jesus tells us another parable. **Do you remember it?** Jesus says that when you go to a wedding feast, "do not sit down in the best seat." He goes on to say that "for those who make themselves great will be humbled and those who humble themselves will be made great." **What does it mean to be humble?** Humility is a virtue. It means to recognize God's greatness and accept that we cannot do anything without Him. When we are humble, we think about others before ourselves and we avoid calling ourselves "great" or "the best." Jesus goes on to say: "when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind; and you will be blessed, because they are not able to pay you back." By inviting those people to the feast, we are living out the virtue of humility! **What are some ways you think you could be more humble?** (examples: go last when picking your snack, allowing your brother to pick the bedtime story)
2. **At Sunday Mass, after listening to the Gospel reading, what happens next?**
Next, the priest or deacon will give a homily. **What is a homily?** A homily is a message that the priest shares to the congregation (people in the church) and it is usually about one of the readings! Sometimes he may tell stories or funny jokes as a part of his message- but they are meant to teach and inspire us!
3. **How did the world come to be?** Before creation, there was nothing- no darkness, light, or time- there was only God. In the first book of the Bible, *Genesis*, we learn that God created the world in seven days. God worked really hard for six days and then rested on the seventh!
What did God create on each day?
Day 1: Light- there was evening and morning
Day 2: Sky
Day 3: The Earth and the seas- plants and trees
Day 4: The sun, moon and stars
Day 5: The creatures in the waters and the sky
Day 6: All the animals on earth and made man in His image (Adam and Eve)

What does God have power over? He has power over everything. All creation exists because God wanted it to be. He is the almighty, every-living God!

4. Saint Augustine of Hippo's Feast day is celebrated on August 28th. **Have you ever heard of St. Augustine of Hippo?** St. Augustine is one of the most well-known and loved Catholic Saints. People all over the world read his books! He is considered a Doctor of the Church. **What does it mean to be a Doctor of the Church?** It means that St Augustine's books and writings have helped many people learn about Jesus and the Catholic Faith!

St. Augustine lived in North Africa during the fourth and fifth centuries. He was a well-liked, smart boy and he loved to have fun. Unfortunately though, he had a very hard time finding happiness. He searched for it in fun, and in his earthly possessions, but could not find it until he eventually found Jesus.

Do you know who prayed for him to become Christian? His mom, St. Monica knew the Lord had great plans for her son, she prayed for him constantly. All her prayers paid off and eventually He became a baptized Christian! He loved his life so much- having lots of friends and fancy things, but he knew he would never have peace in his heart without Jesus in his life. **Have you ever experienced a time when you thought something would make you happy but it didn't last long?** St. Augustine was a very devout, holy man- he was an incredible teacher who helped many unbelievers find Jesus. *St. Augustine, Pray for us!*

5. **How can we practice our faith while in school?** It is that time of year when everyone is heading back to school! **What are some ways that we can incorporate Jesus into our day?** For starters, we can pray! We can say a prayer when we wake up (ex, morning offering), before we have lunch in the cafeteria ("Bless us Oh Lord"), or before we take a test (Come, Holy Spirit)! We can also say little prayers to Him throughout the day whenever we are feeling overwhelmed, scared or frustrated. **How can we lead others to Christ?** Jesus tells us that we must love one another. We lead by example when we are kind and considerate, generous in sharing, compassionate when someone is sad, and humble when we don't get picked first. **Can you think of a time this week when you lived your virtues and helped bring Christ to others?**

REVIEW QUESTION: What words do we sing/say as we are waiting for the Gospel to be read? (unless we are in the season of Lent) We sing "Alleluia!"

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