FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 17

Ages 8+

1. **What is the Confiteor?** The Confiteor is the prayer of confession prayed during Penitential Rite at mass. **Do you recognize the words?**

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers [and sisters],
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers [and sisters] to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Why do we pray this prayer at every mass? It is part of our preparation to worship God! We acknowledge our sinfulness, our unworthiness and ask for the prayers of angels and saints.

2. **What does Jesus teach in Sunday's gospel?** In Luke 11:1-13 Jesus teaches His disciples to pray the Our Father prayer. Jesus encourages his disciples to be persistent and bold in their prayers. **How does Jesus help them to understand this?** He tells the story of a man asking his friend for bread for a journey. At first the friend turns him away but eventually he gives his friend bread out of friendship OR because the man is bold and constant in his asking. We are on a journey too! "How much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask" Let's remember to ask Our Father for the spiritual blessings we need to get to Heaven. **What happens to those who ask, seek and knock?** "And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." **How do we ask, seek and knock?** We spend time in prayer, talking to Jesus as a friend, and asking for the things we need. We seek grace through the sacraments and mass!

3. **Who are saints Joachim and Anne?** Saints Joachim and Anne are the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary! We celebrate them on July 26th. They waited long and hard before they were blessed with their daughter. We can only imagine how incredible Mary's parents were in teaching Mary the faith, obedience, prayer and love. Those characteristics taught by her parents enabled Mary to say "yes!" to accept Jesus as her son. **What are St. Jochim and Anne the patron saints of?** They are the patron saints of grandparents, unmarried women, infertility and

women in labor. **How can we celebrate their feast day?** Call your grandparents or send them a special card!

4. **Catechism- What is the first commandment of God?** The first commandment is "I am the Lord thy God; thou shall not have strange gods before Me." God is our creator and the only one we owe our worship, love and service. Jesus himself obeyed this commandment when He refused to worship the devil in Matthew 4: 8-11. We may not be tempted by the devil himself, but we often give other things the attention that God himself should receive. **Do we place God first? How do we worship God?** We worship God by acts of faith, hope and charity. By attending mass, adoration and praying to Him. **How might we sin against faith, hope and charity?** We can sin by not believing the truths of the Church, by despairing or by hating God or our neighbor.

5. **Apologetics- How do we answer this challenge: The Bible doesn't say anywhere to honor Mary?!** In the gospel of Luke, Mary's cousin Elizabeth greets her by saying "Blessed are you among women" Mary responds by praising God and saying "...all generations shall call me blessed." (Luke 1:48) Mary herself understood that she would be honored by all future Christians. She was called blessed because she carried Jesus, our Savior, in her womb. Honoring Mary IS biblical!

REVIEW QUESTION: Do you know what the two greatest commandments are? The first is to love the Lord God with all your heart, sould, mind and strength. The second commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself.

This is a free resource! For more information, check out www.acatholicmomslife.com