

## FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 15

Ages 8+

- 1. What is this Sunday's gospel reading about?** Luke 10:25-37 is the parable of the Good Samaritan. **What is a parable?** Parables are stories Jesus told to explain the faith. His parables often explain the Kingdom of Heaven and how we can achieve eternal life. **Was the man who needed help in the gospel really a neighbor of the Samaritan man?** No, they were not physical neighbors or even friends! **What do you think Jesus wants us to learn?** Our neighbors are not those who live next door, or people we like or people who look like us. Our neighbors are the people who we come in contact with. We can extend Jesus' mercy to all those we encounter. To inherit eternal life we must do more than just profess our love for God. Our love for God must overflow to those around us.
- 2. Who is Saint Kateri Tekawitha?** St. Kateri was the daughter of a Mohawk Chief and Christian Algonquin woman. She was born around 1695. Unfortunately she lost both her parents to smallpox. She had poor eyesight, a scarred face and didn't fit in with other children. Her name Tekawitha even means girl who bumped into things! She came to love and serve Jesus when French Jesuits traveled to her village and taught about the Catholic faith. She asked a priest to baptize her and she took the Christian name Catherine. Her newfound faith greatly annoyed her family. Kateri resolved to take Jesus as her husband. This caused her entire village to mock her and treat her poorly. She eventually escaped and went to live with a village of Christian Mohawk village. She was known as the "Lily of the Mohawks" because of her kindness, prayer, service and purity despite all the suffering she endured. **When and how do we celebrate St. Kateri?** St. Kateri's feast day on July 14th. St. Kateri was known for leaving wooden crosses through the woods. Make some simple wooden crosses out of sticks and put them out in nature. Remember St. Kateri by having maple syrup- maple syrup was a big part of winter for the Mohawks.
- 3. What is the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on July 16th?** This feast day commemorates the anniversary when the Blessed Mother gave the brown scapular to St. Simon Stock in 1251. **Who is St. Simon Stock?** St. Simon Stock was a Carmelite monk who had a vision from Mary. **What is the brown scapular?** It is a sacramental, a religious object made of two pieces of brown wool connected with a strap and worn over the head- one piece of cloth on your chest and the other on your back. It is a symbol of devotion to the Blessed Virgin and holds the promise of final perseverance. That means the person wearing it will have the grace of remaining steadfast in faith even in their final moments of their life. **What do we do on the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel?** Most parishes will distribute brown

scapulars and the Priest may perform a simple enrollment ceremony. [Learn more here!](#)

4. **Catechism- What is meant in the Apostle's Creed by the "forgiveness of sins" in the Apostles Creed?** The Baltimore catechism explains "By the 'forgiveness of sins' in the Apostles Creed means that God has given to the Church, through Jesus Christ, the power to forgive sins" (Baltimore Catechism, Lesson 13) During His time on earth, Jesus gave his disciples the power to forgive sins. His disciples were the first Bishops. This power has been handed down through the years until today to your very own priests at your local church. **How do we experience this forgiveness?** In the sacrament of confession.
  
5. **Apologetics- Have you ever been challenged about the Catholic tradition of baptizing infants? Maybe somebody has questioned: A baby can't give his heart to Jesus. How can he be baptized?** Actually, the Bible refers many times to baptism of entire families. Acts 16:15 "After she and her whole household had been baptized, she offered us an invitation." Other verses to read on this subject are: Acts 2:38-41, 16:33, 18:8, Luke 18:15, Col. 2:11, 1 Cor. 1:16 and Mark 10:15. In all of these biblical examples nowhere does the bible say "except infants." **Why do we baptize infants?** Since all are born with original sin, baptism washes away original sins and brings us into God's family. It is the precursor to the rest of the sacraments. It gives us the grace of the Holy Spirit. We do not want to deny our babies this beautiful gift and sacrament. Babies are adopted into other families here on earth even though they can't agree or disagree or speak for themselves. Adoption is allowed because it is best for the baby to provide a home and a family. In the same way baptism adopts the infant into God's family because that is what is best for each soul! The graces of the sacrament will allow the child to give their heart to Jesus as they grow and mature in faith.

**REVIEW QUESTION: Who was St. Maria Goretti?** Maria Goretti was a young Italian girl who was attacked by a neighbor boy. While the boy, Alessandro, was trying to harm her she encouraged him to think about what he was doing and to stop. She was truly concerned with his soul. Although his attack killed her after only two days, she had forgiven him completely. **Guess what happened to Alessandro?!** After Maria's incredible example of faith, purity and forgiveness he completely changed his life. He was convinced Maria was praying for him from Heaven. **When do we remember St. Maria Goretti?** Her feast day is July 6th. **What is St. Maria Goretti the patron saint of?** She is the patron saint of purity and protector of Catholic youth. St. Maria Goretti, pray for us!

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