

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 23

Ages 3-8

1. This week read Luke 14: 25-33. In the Gospel reading, Jesus talks to us a little bit about the cost of being a disciple. He says "none of you can be my disciple unless you give up everything you have. " **How do Jesus's words make you feel?** Do you think God really wants you to give up everything you have and become homeless? Probably not. But what He says is that we should not put anything before God. It goes back to the first Commandment. "You shall have no Gods except me." God always comes first and we must always ensure that we aren't putting anything before Him in our lives. No special toys, desserts, or hobbies should come before God. Of course we can love things and have fun, but at the end of the day we know those things won't last and that only God will!
2. **After the priest says the homily at Sunday Mass, what happens next?** Next we say then Creed! **What is the Creed?** When we say the Creed, we are saying "this is true" or "this I believe." The Creed is what we believe and stand for as Catholic Christians! It is also known as the Nicene Creed. It is very similar to the Apostles Creed and sometimes it is easy to get some of the words confused! The creeds are the "chief truths" taught by Jesus to His disciples. **When do we say the Apostles Creed?** We say it when we pray the Rosary! Can you say either one of the Creeds? (Baltimore Catechism)
3. We know that God created **everything** (The sun and stars, trees and sky, animals, people) but why did He do it? God created everything because He loves us. He wants us to be happy. He made all these things for us to enjoy. He made us, specifically, "to show us his goodness and share with us his everlasting happiness in Heaven." He is giving us a small taste of how amazing Heaven is. And in order to experience the happiness that is in Heaven we must "know, love, and serve God in this world." Who teaches us how to know, love and serve God? Jesus does! We can learn so much about God and His creation by reading our Bible! **How did you enjoy God's creation today?**
4. The Feast of Saint Teresa of Calcutta is celebrated on September 5th. Saint Teresa of Calcutta is one of the most famous saints of our time. **Do you know what**

most of the world knows her as? Many people simply call her "Mother Teresa." Many people know about Mother Teresa because she lived during our time- many grew up seeing her on TV and in the newspaper! St. Teresa lived from 1910-1997. **What does God want most from us?** He wants us to love Him and love our neighbors as ourselves. That is exactly with Mother Teresa did. She took care of the poor and sick people in Calcutta, India. Mother Teresa and the Sisters of Charity built homes where they could take care of these people and share God's love with each and every one of them. **What are some virtues you might use to describe Mother Teresa?** Charitable, kind, humble, generous, loving etc. She was an incredible example of what charity looks like- the ability to love and serve our neighbors. **What are some ways we can be charitable in our everyday life?**

5. The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on September 8th! **What does Nativity mean?** Nativity is another name for Birthday! When we think of Nativity, we often think of Jesus's birth- but we celebrate other nativities too- like St. John the Baptist and Our Blessed Mother, Mary. **Why do we celebrate Mary's birth?** Mary's birth is a huge celebration because without Mary, Jesus would not have been born Man and been able to save mankind! **What are some ways that we can celebrate Mary's birthday?** We can make her a cake, wear blue in honor of her, get her pretty flowers and put them beneath our favorite statue. And don't forget to sing!!

REVIEW QUESTION: What is the homily? The homily is when the priest speaks to us (the congregation) and explains the Word of God to us. It is said after the Gospel readings!

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