

## FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 29

Ages 3-8

### SAINT STUDIES

- 1. Have you ever seen the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus?** The beautiful picture symbolizes Christ's love for the world. St. Margaret Mary Alacoque received visions and private revelations from Jesus where He asked her to share with the world how much He loves us. When we see this image of Jesus, we are reminded that His heart is burning, and on fire with love for us! Jesus died on the Cross for YOU. St. Margaret Mary was also left with instructions for the First Friday Devotion, which is still practiced all over the world today! St. Margaret Mary's Feast day is celebrated on October 16th She is the Patron Saint of those who have lost parents and those devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. *St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, pray for us!*
- 2. What does it mean to be charitable?** To live the virtue of charity means that we love God above all things and love others for the sake of God. St. Marguerite d'Youville is an excellent example of a Saint who lived the virtue of charity. When her husband passed away, she worked really hard to pay off the family debt, while also taking care of her two children. Though the family did not have much money, she still continued to help the poor in the community. When a hospital was at risk of failing, she and several of her friends rescued it. They then started the Sisters of Charity where they worked out of the hospital. People knew that if they were ever in need of help, to go see the "Grey Nuns" (as they were called) because they never refused anyone! St. Marguerite's feast day is celebrated on October 16th. She is the first Saint born and raised in Canada! She is the patron saint of widows. *St. Marguerite d'Youville, pray for us!*
- 3. Have you ever prayed for someone who was going to have a baby? Maybe your mom, an aunt or a family friend?** St. Gerard Majella is a great Saint to ask for prayers for these women- he is the Patron Saint of expectant mothers! St. Gerard did not live a very long life- even as a young boy, he was often sick. But the time he did spend on this earth was always spent trying to do the will of God. When he was 23 he became a lay brother in the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer where he took vows of poverty, chastity and obedience (just like a priest!) He was assigned many jobs and a great many people relied on him. He counseled groups of women and often helped the poor and sick. He would serve wherever he was asked! He had several incredible gifts including the ability to read souls and levitation. There are a number of miracles he was said to have done while he was on earth too!

One of his most famous miracles happened shortly after he passed away. While he was alive, he gave a woman one of his handkerchiefs. Several years later, she became pregnant and the baby was at risk of dying. She remembered Brother Gerard's handkerchief, so she asked for it and quickly put it on her belly. Immediately, all the pain went away and the baby survived! St. Gerard's feast day is celebrated on October 16th. *St. Gerard Majella, pray for us!*

4. **Do you remember the names of the 4 men who wrote the Gospels?** Matthew, Mark Luke, and John. St. Luke's feast day is celebrated on October 18th! There is not too much that we know about Saint Luke, but we do know that he wrote his book of the Gospel sometime between 75 and 80 AD. We also know that Saint Luke was a faithful friend and companion to Saint Paul during all of his travels to Jerusalem and Rome. We are so grateful for the men like St Luke, who gave us the Gospels. They are a true gift to the Church! St Luke is the patron Saint of physicians/doctors, artists/painters, and butchers. *St. Luke, pray for us!*
  
5. **Have you ever heard of St. John Paul the Great?** He is a modern-day Saint of our time! Many people's parents and grandparents remember this incredible man! Saint John Paul II served as the Pope for 27 years- from 1978 to 2005. While he was Pope, he worked extremely hard to promote peace among different countries and religions, which was especially difficult because there was a lot of war at the time. He canonized (or made Saints) 482 Saints and visited 124 countries. He wrote many documents, which have been a great blessing in showing Catholics how to practice their faith in these modern times. He was an incredibly devout, holy, kind, loving man, and he was always trying to do the Will of God. His feast day is celebrated on October 22nd. He is the Patron Saint of World Youth Day. *St. John Paul II, pray for us!*