

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 21

Ages 8+

- 1. What is the Sanctuary?** The sanctuary is at the very front of the church. The altar is in the Sanctuary. The Priest sits in the Sanctuary. **What else is in the Sanctuary?** The Ambo, where the Liturgy of the word and the homily are proclaimed, is in the Sanctuary. In most parishes the Tabernacle is in the Sanctuary. The Tabernacle houses the Blessed Sacrament.
- 2. What is the gospel about this Sunday?** In Luke 13: 22-30 Jesus is questioned about how many people will be saved. **Do you remember how Jesus answered?** Jesus answered "strive to answer the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." We may feel discouraged reading this gospel reading because it warns us that when we try to enter Heaven, the master, God the Father, may not know us. But do not be discouraged! This gospel is challenging us to live the right way! **What do you think the narrow gate is?** The narrow gate is living our lives according to God's law of love. We love God and our neighbor first by obeying the laws of God and living a life of charity and service. This is NOT the easy way. It would be easier for us to do whatever the rest of the world or the culture around us is doing. It would be easier just to serve ourselves and be comfortable. **Can you think of another way to understand the narrow gate?** Jesus is the narrow gate! We can't get to Heaven without Him as our Savior. When Jesus was alive, many of the Jews did not recognize Him as the Son of God. He was also explaining to them that they must believe and follow Him to have eternal life.
- 3. Have you heard of St. Rose of Lima?** St. Rose of Lima was born in Lima, Peru in 1856. Her real name was Isabel and her parents were wealthy Spanish colonists. They nicknamed her Rose because she was incredibly beautiful. Her beauty attracted many suitors and her parents wished her to marry. St. Rose desired to become a nun. From an early age she would fast, pray and do penances out of love of God. She would rub her face with pepper so that her beauty would not attract men. Finally her parents relented and she joined the Third Order of the Dominicans at age 20. She was known for her chastity and her life of penance. **What kind of penances would she do?** She prayed for many, many hours of the day. She restricted her diet. She was known to wear a heavy crown with spikes that pierced her flesh. **Are doing penances like that necessary to become a saint?** No! Life on earth comes with suffering. Offering up our sufferings as a prayer is a good way to begin the practice of penance. We celebrate St. Rose of Lima on August 23rd.

4. Catechism- What is the Fifth Commandment? The Fifth Commandment is Thou Shalt Not Kill. This commandment means we are to take care of our spiritual and bodily wellbeing and that of our neighbors. It does not just forbid murder but also hatred, revenge, drunkenness, reckless driving and being a bad example. (Baltimore Catechism, Lesson 19)

5. Apologetics- Matthew 23:9 says "do not call anyone on earth 'father.'" So why do Catholics call priests 'father'?! That verse in the bible means that we are not to honor a man on earth instead of honoring our Father God in Heaven. It does NOT mean that you can't call your daddy or a priest "father." St. Paul writes "I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (1 Corinthians 4:15) The Church considers priests, just like St. Paul, to be our spiritual fathers..but all under the authority of our Heavenly Father!

REVIEW QUESTION: What is the Fourth Commandment? The Fourth Commandment is to Honor Thy Father and Mother.

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