



Faith in Five- Children  
Ordinary Time Week 13

- 1. Read Matthew 10:37-42 as a family. When speaking to His apostles, why do you think Jesus would warn them about loving their family members more than Him?**  
Jesus wants His disciples to have their priorities (the things we think are important) in order. He wants them to have their affections (the things we love and serve) in order. While our families are so important, they are gifts from THE most important person. The apostles would not be effective at their work of spreading the Gospel if they cared about their family MORE than Jesus. **How does Jesus say we find our life?** “Whoever finds his life will lose it and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” This can sound a little confusing- but again, this is about priorities and affections being rightly ordered. When we live our lives seeking out what we think will make us happy or comfortable, we miss the most important thing. When we give our life to Jesus and His will, He will lead us to eternal life!
- 2. Who is St. Thomas?** Thomas is one of Jesus’ disciples. **Isn’t he the disciple that didn’t believe Jesus had resurrected and maintained that He wouldn’t believe unless he saw?** YES! That is Thomas, who was not present when Jesus first appeared to the disciples. But Thomas did not remain in the state of disbelief. When Jesus mercifully offered his wounds for Thomas to touch, he exclaimed “My Lord and My God!” **What can we learn from St. Thomas?** We can learn to accept mercy. Jesus gave him a second chance, and He gives us many, many chances. We can learn humility. Thomas was not too proud or embarrassed to change his mind and glorify God. We can also ask St. Thomas for prayers when our own faith is lacking. July 3rd is the Feast of St. Thomas.
- 3. What does the Catholic Church celebrate during the month of July?** The month of July is devoted to honoring the Precious Blood of Jesus. This devotion goes all the way back to the early church. Pope St. Clement said “Let us fix our gaze on the blood of Christ and realize how truly precious it is, seeing that it is poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of conversion to the whole world.” **How can we participate in this devotion?** As a family you can pray the [Litany of the Precious Blood of Jesus](#).
- 4. Apologetics: Wouldn’t it be way too embarrassing to tell my sins to a priest?** It does take humility to state our sins. But just as you may feel embarrassed to show yourself to a doctor, you do it so you can get well. In the same way, “showing” our sins to the Priest helps restore our souls to health! “All this is from God, who through Christ

reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.” This is your friendly summer reminder to make time for confession!

5. Catechism: We learned about the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. **What does the Holy Spirit do for you and me?** The Holy Spirit sanctifies (makes holy) souls through the gifts of grace. **What is grace?** Grace is Christ’s life in us. (Baltimore Catechism, Lesson 9)

**REVIEW QUESTION: Apologetics- Why do Catholics baptize babies?! Babies can’t give their hearts to Jesus!** The bible actually refers to the baptisms of entire families (Acts 2:38-41, 16:33 and 18:8) so baptizing babies is an apostolic tradition. Baptism removes original sin, adopts you into God’s family, and is an outpouring of grace and the Holy Spirit. Why would we deny a baby that? It is the parent or the caregiver who makes an act of faith on behalf of the baby. Yes, the baby will still need to be catechised as he or she grows but living a life for God will be easier with sanctifying grace in their souls!

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