

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 18

Ages 8+

1. **Do you know the different parts of the church?** Catholic churches throughout the world share the same features, despite being all different designs. Over the next few weeks we will learn the names for the parts of the church. **What is the Narthex?** The narthex is the space when you first enter your church. It is also called the commons. **What do we do in the Narthex?** The narthex is a community space! It is where we greet our church family. Your narthex may have beautiful paintings or statues that remind us of our faith. It also may have items for the church community, like sign-up sheets or bulletins with parish information. Before or after mass we often use this space for fellowship with our parish.
2. **What is the parable in this Sunday's gospel reading?** In Luke 12: 13-21, Jesus tells the parable about a man who had such a good harvest that he built big barns and filled them up with the overflow of his food and grain. He was very proud and comfortable with his abundance. It made him feel safe, secure and rich! **What does God say to this man?** "You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong? Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God." **What does that mean?** God wants to provide for our needs. He wants us to be more focused on getting to Heaven than having lots and lots of things that make us feel rich and secure. **How do we store up treasures in Heaven?** Through prayer and friendship with God we are able to practice the virtues of faith, hope and charity. That looks like giving your life to God (prayer, reading the bible, receiving the sacraments) and loving others well. **Brainstorm with your family how to be charitable to those around you.** (being kind to parents and siblings, visiting the sick or elderly or lonely, acts of service, using your gifts and talents to volunteer and help others)
3. This Saturday is the Feast of the Transfiguration! **What happened at the Transfiguration?** Jesus shows His divinity to his closest disciples! While praying on a mountain Jesus' appearance completely changed to pure and dazzling white. God's voice came like a cloud and told the disciples "This is my chosen Son." Perhaps before the transfiguration the disciples may have thought Jesus was just a man, even with all the miracles he performed. But now they KNEW Jesus was the son of God. **Why is the transfiguration so special?** Not only did the transfiguration reveal Jesus' glory, but it reveals the glorious life God intends for us too! The transfiguration of Jesus inspires us to lead a life of purity and virtue so we too can be transformed by God and claimed as His children to spend eternity with Him in Heaven.

4. **What is the Second Commandment?** Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. **What does vain mean?** Here the word vain means saying something for no reason. We respect the name of God, we treat His name with reverence because it is holy. **What do we do if we hear somebody else saying God's name in vain?** Out loud or in your heart you can say this quick but powerful prayer: "Blessed be His Holy Name." This commandment also means not to curse- saying evil words or things about anybody or anything.

5. **Apologetics- Why do Catholics call Mary the Mother of God? Isn't Mary just the mother of Jesus' human nature?** We know that Jesus has both a divine and human nature. They can't be separated! When Elizabeth greets Mary she says "How does it happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:43) **Do you know the special name for Mary, Mother of God?** Theotokos is a special name for Mary that means God-bearer.

REVIEW QUESTION: What is the Confiteor? The Confiteor is the prayer of confession prayed during Penitential Rite at mass.

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