

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 21

Ages 3-8

1. This Sunday's readings come from Luke 13: 22-30. In this reading, Jesus talks about how we get to Heaven. He tells us that the "gate is narrow," but we should not be discouraged- God loves us so much and wants us to love Him back! We must also love our neighbors and serve and love them as well! Remember, we are loving God when we love our neighbor. Being a Christian is hard- there are certain things we will have to sacrifice and a certain law we will have to follow. **What law do we need to follow?** The ten commandments! But God loves and sees your hard work and sacrifice! It would be easier to do whatever we want, but that is not how God wants us to live our lives!

Remember that salvation can only be obtained through Jesus! Jesus is the door into Heaven. He is the "narrow gate"- we must always choose Jesus over sin! We have to know Him as a person and know what He did for us on the cross.

2. After we hear the readings at Sunday Mass (first reading, psalm and second reading) we then stand up! **Why do we stand up?** Next comes the Gospel reading! We all stand because Jesus himself is speaking to us! **What words do we sing/say while standing?** We sing "Alleluia!" We are rejoicing! When the Gospel is about to be read, the priest will say "a reading from the Gospel according to Saint___" Then we respond by saying: "Glory to You Oh Lord." **Have you ever noticed what your parents do next?** They make a small cross with their thumb on their forehead, lips, and over their heart." By doing this, we are asking that the Word of God be in our minds, our lips and in our heart.
3. **What are the ninth and tenth commandments?** The ninth commandment says "you shall not covet your neighbor's wife" and the tenth commandment says "you shall not covet your neighbor's goods." **What do you think these mean?** These commandments tell us to be happy with what we have! God wants to protect us from wanting too much. If we want all the things we don't have, we can become envious and greedy- which are vices that stain our souls and lead us away from a virtuous lifestyle.

4. On August 23rd we celebrate the Feast Day of St. Rose of Lima. **Do you think a rose is beautiful?** St. Rose of Lima's parents thought so too! They nicknamed their baby daughter, Rose, because of her immense beauty! St. Rose of Lima was born in 1856 in Peru. Her name at birth was actually Isabel. St. Rose of Lima loved Jesus very much and was always trying to do difficult things to show Jesus how much she loved him. She slept very little, ate little to no meat (which was very hard back then!) and is said to have even worn a crown of thorns as a reminder of Christ's passion. At a young age, she decided she wanted to become a nun. Her parents, however, did not allow her to for a long time. Eventually they agreed to let her join the Third Order of Saint Dominic, but because her parents did not have much money, she chose to live at home and continue to help in her parent's garden. She was creative in thinking of ways to live her faith! She lived in a little hut on her parent's property where she also set up a free medical clinic for poor children and elderly. St. Rose of Lima is the patron Saint of Latin America, the Philippines, gardeners and florists. *St. Rose of Lima, Pray for us!*

5. **What Commandment did St. Rose of Lima follow really well?** Do you remember the fourth commandment? It says: "honor your father and mother." Do you think St. Rose did a good job of honoring and respecting her parents? She was extremely obedient to her parents! Obedience can be so hard- especially when we want to do something differently. St Rose wanted to serve God as a nun, but her parents had a different path for her. God loves when we are obedient to our parents!

REVIEW QUESTION: Do you remember what the eighth commandment is? The eighth commandment says "you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." **What does this mean?** It means we should not lie to one another, we always need to tell the truth!

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