

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 24

Ages 8+

- 1. What story do we hear in the Gospel this Sunday?** Luke 15: 1-32 tells the story of the prodigal son. What happens to the son who demands his inheritance from his father? The gospel says he spends all his money on dissipation, meaning he lived extravagantly seeking sinful and passing pleasures. **How does his father receive him when he returns home, hungry and out of money?** His father had likely been keeping watch for him! He runs to him and hugs him and kisses him and puts on an enormous feast for him. We can tell by the father's welcome that he forgives him for his foolish behavior. What does this teach us about Jesus and our Father in Heaven? The Pharisees and the tax collectors' accusations are correct! Jesus welcomes sinners!! When we turn our back on God, or choose to do things our way, choose to chase after things that will only give us passing happiness, we have the free will to do so. There will be natural consequences just like the son endured in the parable. What kind of posture did the son assume when he returned home? He was humble, he acknowledged his wrongdoings. Our Father in Heaven is like the father in the story, he is looking for us even when we are a long way off, waiting for us. He will offer us a Heavenly Banquet at our return to Him! He rejoices over us, we are precious to Him!
- 2. Do you know what the month of September is dedicated to?** September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows. We remember Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows on Thursday September 15th. Why would we want to remember Mary in this way? Entering into The Blessed Virgin's sorrows and sufferings unites ourselves to her and to Jesus. **What were Mary's 7 sorrows?** The prophecy of Simeon, The Flight into Egypt, The Loss of Jesus for Three Days, The Meeting of Jesus on the way to Calvary, The Crucifixion of Jesus and Jesus Taken Down From the Cross. Meditating on Mary's sorrows is also to meditate on the life of Jesus. We are also comforted by knowing Mary endured hardships just like we do. She understands our sorrows. And our devotion to her sorrows comforts her even today! What can we do on this memorial day or throughout the month? Pray the sorrowful rosaries and sing the Stabat Mater. [Catholic Icing](#) has craft ideas and printable coloring sheets for Our Lady of Sorrows!
- 3. What is the Liturgy of the Eucharist?** The liturgy of the Eucharist follows the liturgy of the Word and is the high point of the mass! It encompasses the offertory and presentation, the Eucharistic Prayer and reception of the Blessed Sacrament. What is our posture during the Liturgy of the Eucharist?! We will be seated for the offertory, stand for the preface of the Eucharistic prayers and then kneel for the consecration.

4. Catechism-**What is the 8th Commandment?** The 8th Commandment is thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. What does that mean? It means we are not to tell lies about our neighbor and to speak the truth about all things. This commandment also forbids gossiping.

5. Apologetics- **Jesus couldn't have meant for us to eat His flesh literally, could He?** We read in John 6:60, 66 "The saying is hard; who can accept it? As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. At the last supper, Jesus never said to eat that eating his flesh was to be a symbol only. He meant it literally.

REVIEW QUESTION: What part of the mass is the liturgy of the Word? The part of the mass dedicated to reading the sacred scriptures is called Liturgy of the Word.

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