

FAITH IN 5
Ordinary Time W.3

1. **Read Matthew 4:12-23 as a family. What happens at the beginning of this gospel reading?** John the Baptist has been arrested. Jesus leaves Nazareth and goes to Capernaum by the sea, or Galilee. **Where have we heard of these places before?** We have heard of them in the Old Testament, from the Prophet Isaiah. He called it "Galilee of the Gentiles." **What does Jesus do there?** He begins his life of preaching. **Does He do this alone?** No, in this gospel reading we hear the account of Jesus calling His very first disciples. **Do you remember which ones they were?** The very first are Simon (Peter) and his brother Andrew and then brothers James and John, the sons of Zebedee. **What did these men do when Jesus called them to be fishers of men?** Peter and Andrew were working, they had just cast a net into the sea. They completely abandoned the net and followed Jesus. As for James and John, they weren't even on land! They were out in the sea with their father but they also immediately went after Jesus. No looking back, no explanations, no bargaining. These first disciples are an inspiration! They show us that obedience is prompt. They show us that Jesus is meant to be absolute first in our lives! They also remind us that Jesus calls each one of us, each day. Jesus wants us all to follow Him, to join in the great mission of love, proclaiming His Father's Kingdom!

2. **Have you heard of the Day for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children?** This important day is on January 23rd. This day is dedicated to praying for unborn children, most especially that governments will always vote for laws that protect them from any harm. **What do we mean by unborn children?** Unborn children means babies that are in their mother's wombs. Unborn children are very, very small, right? And we can't see them or hear them yet! Because of that, some people think unborn children are not important and make unkind laws towards them. But unborn babies are a precious life! Each life matters to God and He has a plan for each and every one. As Christians, we must protect the weak and those who may not have a voice of their own. So today we pray that unborn children are always valued and protected by all the governments in the world. **What should we do on this important day?** You can pray for the unborn by going to mass, saying a rosary or a divine mercy chaplet or by spending time asking for God's help in our governments. You could also fast from your favorite treat, offering it up for unborn children. There is also a [March for Life](#), a rally to ask politicians to make protective and good laws for unborn children.

3. **Who is St. Francis de Sales?** St. Francis de Sales was born in the year 1567. While studying in Paris as a young man, St. Francis de Sales consecrated himself to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Instead of studying law, he desired to become a priest.

His parents were resistant at first, but eventually gave their blessing. **What did he do as a priest?** He was quickly chosen to become Provost or Archdeacon for the diocese of Geneva. He worked tirelessly preaching, caring for the sick, visiting prisoners, hearing confessions, training new priests and helped take care of his flock! Later, as Bishop of Geneva, he focused on reforming religious communities. He himself lived a life of simplicity. He also was a great writer! Two very famous writings of his are "An introduction to the Devout Life" and "Treatise on the Love of God." With the help of his friend St. Jane Frances de Chantal, he founded the Institution of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin. **Have you heard of them?** This was a community for girls and widows who desired to belong to religious life but lacked the strength for more rigorous orders. **Did you know there is an order named after him?** The order of the Salesians was founded by St. John Bosco. He was inspired by St. Francis de Sales. The Salesians helped poor and homeless children. **When is St. Francis de Sales feast day?** His feast day is January 24th. Pope Pius IX declared him a Doctor of the Church, the "Doctor of Love." St. Francis de Sales, pray for us! *"Be who you are and be that well to give glory to your Creator!"*

4. **What part of mass do we pray the "Kyrie Eleison"?** We pray this in the Penitential Rite, the part of mass where we also say the Confiteor prayer in sorrow for our sins. This is in the beginning of mass, after the entrance song and opening prayers. Your parish may say the Greek words of Kyrie Eleison, often chanted, or they may say the English words. **What does Kyrie Eleison mean in English?** In English, we say or sing "Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy." **Why is it still sometimes said in Greek, not even in Latin?** The mass has Greek origins-especially since the New Testament was first written in Greek as the apostles and disciples evangelized to Greek Jews and gentiles. **Why is it said three times?** We invoke God's mercy three times in honor of the Holy Trinity. The 1962 Roman Catholic Missal has a beautiful explanation saying "The Kyrie is the long cry of human nature, like the cry of the sick and the crippled along the path of Jesus, trying to draw His attention to their misery to and obtain his pity. We throw ourselves on the mercy of God, full of love and free of fear now that we have acknowledged our sins and our desire to be healed." This rich and meaningful part of the penitential rite prepares our heart to receive the Holy Eucharist.

5. **Catechism- Who can administer the sacrament of Baptism?** In normal circumstances, a Priest administers the sacrament of Baptism. If there is any danger that somebody will die without being baptized, anybody else may and should baptize. **How would you give Baptism?** To give baptism you would pour water on the forehead of the person being baptized while saying "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." (Baltimore Catechism, Lesson 24)

REVIEW QUESTION: **Do you know the Cemetery prayer?** *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

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