

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 12

Ages 3-8

1. This Sunday, June 19th, we celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, also known as the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus. On this most special feast day, we are celebrating Jesus in the bread and wine. Though the bread and wine may just look like bread and wine, they actually become the body and blood of our Lord! I'm sure you've heard the term, the Eucharist. **What does Eucharist mean?** The Eucharist is the sacrament of the body and blood of Jesus. The body and blood of Jesus is the best thing we could eat. We need this nourishment to keep Christ's life strong and growing in us. **At what point during Mass do we know that Jesus is present in the Eucharist?** We know when Jesus is present when the priest holds up the bread and says *"Take this all of you, and eat of it, for this is My body, which will be given up for you."* In many churches, after these words are said, there are three bells to tell us Jesus is here! After the Body of Christ, the priest will hold up the wine and say *"take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me."* Then you will hear three more beautiful bells!
2. This Sunday we also celebrate Father's Day. **Who is our Heavenly Father?** That's right, God! **What do we know about God, the Father?** We know he loves us very very much! The bible tells us that He knew us before we were born. He has special plans for us! No one has ever seen God, but we know what God is like because Jesus came to earth to show us. We hear all about God in the Bible.
3. **Do you know the name of Jesus's earthly Father?** His name is St. Joseph! We know that Jesus's true Father is God, but while Jesus lived on earth, his adopted (or earthly) father was St. Joseph. St. Joseph was married to Jesus's mother, Mary. He was an extremely kind, honest, and hardworking man and he loved Jesus very much. Saint Joseph is celebrated as the Patron Saint of fathers! Our earthly fathers have important roles also. Together with our mother, God designed our parents to provide for and take care of the family together!. Fathers do so many cool things with us and today, we should celebrate the unique ways our Catholic fathers care for and spiritually lead our families. This week, Let's remember to ask

St. Joseph for prayers for all the Fathers in our lives (Dad, Godfather, Uncles, Grandfathers, etc)

4. The Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus is this week. **Remember what the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus tells us?** It tells us that Jesus's heart is burning and on fire with love for YOU! He loves you so much! **How will you celebrate this special feast day?** Here are some ideas:
 - Pray for peace in our families.* One of Jesus's promises is that through devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, He will bring peace to families. Can you think of any families who might be hurting right now who need your prayers? Or maybe your own family needs prayers? Remember this intention and try to pray it throughout the week!
 - Draw a picture of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus!*
5. This week we celebrate the Birthday of St. John the Baptist. The Church calls it the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. **Who is St. John the Baptist?** St. John the Baptist was Jesus's cousin! God sent him to the Israelites to prepare the way for Jesus. Just like God knew and loved him in the womb and planned for his birth and spiritual mission - God does the same for each one of us! We are all born with special traits and skills that need God's nourishment throughout our lives. Staying close to our Catholic Faith, in the Eucharist, with spiritual leadership from our parents are great ways to become what God wants us to be!

Review Question: What season of the liturgical calendar are we in? Ordinary time!
Remember what color the priest wears? Green!

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