

<u>Faith in Five- Children</u> Ordinary Time Week 27

- 1. Read from Matthew 21:33-43 as a family. What is this parable about? This parable is about tenants who abuse the landowner's servant at the time of harvest. They even killed the landowner's son! How do the disciples answer Jesus when he asks them what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants? The disciples say the tenants will be punished and he will allow others to produce fruit in the vineyard. What is this parable about? The Jews were God's chosen people. In the Old Testament, they were constantly forgetful of God, and wandered far from him despite his faithfulness to them. Many of God's prophets were mistreated. Even worse, God's own son was killed! Despite being God's chosen people, some of them lost the kingdom of Heaven. In the New Testament we see many times it was the gentiles who embraced Jesus and his message about the kingdom of Heaven! How can we apply this to our journey of faith? We also can be forgetful that God chose us and wander from his faithfulness. We pray to be faithful to God and ask for grace to produce fruit for the kingdom of God! We produce fruit by loving God and our neighbor as ourselves and obeying the will of God in our lives.
- 2. What is the month of October dedicated to in the Catholic Church? The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. The best way to celebrate is by praying the rosary! What are tips if you are new to the rosary? It can be overwhelming to start praying the rosary. One idea is to begin by just praying a decade at a time. To help meditate on the mysteries, using a picture for each mystery can help focus. If you are praying as a family, try different family members leading each decade. Try finding the time of day that works for your family. It may be in the car on the way to school or perhaps right at the dinner table after you eat.
- 3. Who is St. John XXIII? St. John XXIII was born Angelo Giuseppe and was elected a Pope in 1958. He is most known for calling the Second Vatican Council which revised the liturgy (the mass), promoted Christian unity and worked to recognize the importance of the laity and create new roles for them. But St. John XXIIIrd was so much more than the Second Vatican Council. During WWII, as a diplomat in Turkey, he helped Jews escape from the Holocaust. His nickname was "John-Outside-The-Walls" because he visited prisons and hospitals. He made many public calls for peace during the Cuban Missile Crisis and spoke out for the rights of workers. His feast day is October 11th.

- **4. What is the Vatican?** The Vatican is a city-state ruled by the Pope. It is the center of the Catholic Church. It is also called the Holy See, derived from the Latin word *sedes* for seat. **Where is the Vatican?** Vatican City is in the center of Rome, Italy.
- 5. Apologetics- Isn't the rosary "vain repetition?" Is the rosary against the Bible? Jesus was against insincere repetition, not all repetition. Vain means useless or excessively focused on self. The rosary is neither of those things. It is not useless or self focused because our meditations honor Mary and bring us closer to Jesus. Jesus himself used repetition. "He prayed a third time, saying the same words." (Matthew 26:44) The rosary is also biblical, as we meditate on the different events of Mary and Jesus' life.

REVIEW QUESTION: **What is the Guardian Angel prayer?** Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits thee here. Ever this day be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule, to guard.

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