

Date: November 8, 2020 – 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

What is happening this week

11/9 – Dedication of St. John Lateran

11/10 – St. Leo the Great

11/11 – St. Martin of Tours

11/13 – St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Theme: – Prayer

The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of three expressions of prayer: Vocal, Meditation, and Contemplative Prayer. These are meant for all believers. Vocal and mental (interior) prayer are expressions of who we are as human beings. We can raise our voice to God in prayer and song, or we can pray from the intense feelings of our heart §2701-2701. We can meditate; allow our mind to seeks to understand the why and how our Christian life that we might adhere to and respond to what the Lord is asking §2705. We are also called to contemplative prayer. “St. Teresa answers: ‘Contemplative prayer, in my opinion, is nothing else than a close sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with him who we know loves us.’ ” §2709

Start Here

There are many options on these pages.

This section is the basic class. If you do not have time for anything else. This is the important section.

What To Do

1. Preparation

a. Clear away distractions

b. Set the “mood”

i. Find your gathering space

ii. Bring out a Cross, Crucifix, Bible, Holy Picture, and/ or a statue

- iii. Include some family photos
- c. Explain what is going to happen
- d. Be flexible with distractions
- e. Give everyone a chance to share

2. Prayer

- a. Play a prayer video
 - i. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-b7TQMoZsM>
 - ii. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LR2hFP1yb4>
 - iii. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o4FFMLqSNRo>
- b. Pray from the heart
- c. Select one of the prayers on the last page

3. Question: What is Friendship with God?

The Children of the King <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWYygA0trpc>

4. Family Discussion questions

- a. What talents do you have?
- b. Why do people have so many different talents?
- c. What does it feel like to have “no gifts?”
- d. Share about someone you know who has a good heart.
- e. Why did all the other sisters and brothers miss the king?
- f. Why did the King come in a way that no one would recognize him?
- g. What is the job of a King?
- h. Why did the girl with nothing get to go to the palace?
- i. Do we need to impress God?
- j. What is prayer?

5. Why is Prayer So Hard

- a. Fr. Mike Schmitz <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Smana2aJxkQ>
- b. What makes prayer hard?

6. Close with a prayer

- a. One of the prayers on the last page
- b. Share a favorite hymn/song

The above basic class outline seeks to teach what we believe as Catholics. This can be found in the **Catechism of the Catholic Church**. These paragraphs from the Catechism are here to help us understand what we need to know about

Theme Refresher

Catechism of the Catholic Church

2685 The Christian family is the first place of education in prayer. Based on the sacrament of marriage, the family is the "domestic church" where God's children learn to pray "as the Church" and to persevere in prayer. For young children in particular, daily family prayer is the first witness of the Church's living memory as awakened patiently by the Holy Spirit.

2688 The catechesis of children, young people, and adults aims at teaching them to meditate on The Word of God in personal prayer, practicing it in liturgical prayer, and internalizing it at all times in order to bear fruit in a new life. Catechesis is also a time for the discernment and education of popular piety.⁴⁶ The memorization of basic prayers offers an essential support to the life of prayer, but it is important to help learners savor their meaning.

2694 The Christian family is the first place for education in prayer.

Discovering God in Everyday Life

Prayer is as essential as breathing or food. Prayer is life for our soul. When we get to heaven, will God know us? Will we know Him?

'As sailors are guided by a star to the port, so are Christians guided to Heaven by Mary.' -- St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

This section on **God's Word** has many uses.

It could be used in place of the section above if you want to talk about the readings you have heard at Mass or will hear at Mass.

It could be used for private prayer

It could be skipped

There are links to the readings

God's Word

Looking at the Readings at Mass from this Sunday, November 8, 2020. **32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time**



Readings:

Reading 1: Wisdom 6:12-16

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 63: 2-8

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Copy of Readings

English <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/110820.cfm>

Spanish <http://www.usccb.org/bible/lecturas/110820.cfm>

Today's gospel story reminds us to stay alert and be ready. Jesus tells the story of 10 bridesmaids waiting to welcome the groom to a wedding banquet. All of the women took lamps, but only five came prepared with extra oil. When the foolish bridesmaids went off to get more oil, the five others remained, and they greeted the bridegroom when he came. When the five foolish bridesmaids returned, the door was closed and they could not get into the wedding banquet. In this parable (a story that Jesus would tell to teach his followers about the kingdom of God), the wedding banquet is like God's kingdom and the coming bridegroom represents Christ. For all listeners, the story teaches us to be prayerfully alert and ready for the Lord's coming.

As a family, think and talk about the following

- What are the 10 bridesmaids doing in the story?
- What happens to the foolish bridesmaids?
- What happens to the bridesmaids who came prepared with oil?
- What does Jesus teach his listeners in this story?

Source: Sacred Heart Church, Southbury, CT <https://sacredheartchurch.info>

These questions help us to go deeper into God's Word

- How do I "keep vigil" for Wisdom in my life? What do I understand by Wisdom? What ways do I have of "keeping vigil" in my life?

- What/who am I grieving these days?
- In what ways am I in need or desirous of consolation these days?
- How can we live our lives so that we are “awake”?
- What are my thoughts/feelings about death right now?

Looking at the Readings at Mass for next Sunday, November 15, 2020. **33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time**

Readings:

Reading 1: Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 128: 1-5

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

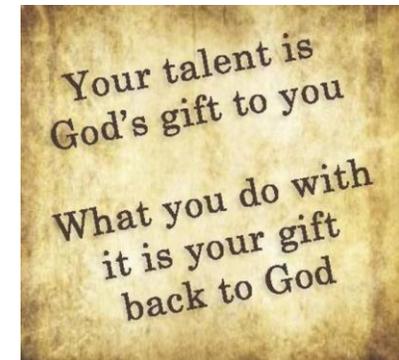
Copy of Readings English <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/111520.cfm>

Spanish <http://www.usccb.org/bible/lecturas/111520.cfm>

In this parable, the master is like Jesus, away for a time in heaven, until he returns to settle things with his followers. When Jesus comes again, he will see if we have used our gifts for good. In the story the servants’ rewards and punishments are meant to remind listeners of the importance of using God’s gifts wisely and well.

As a family, think and talk about the following

- What does the master give the three servants?
- How does he divide the coins among the servants?
- How do the servants use their gifts?
- Why is the master disappointed with the servant who buried his gift?
- What does Jesus want us to do with our gifts?



- What gifts and abilities has God given you?
- What do you do with the gifts that God has given you?
- Who helps you to discover your gifts?

Source: Sacred Heart Church, Southbury, CT <https://sacredheartchurch.info>

These questions help us to go deeper into God's Word

- What reward have I seen from my labors lately?
- How does my life display the fact that I am a child of the light?
- How well have I been using the gifts the Lord has entrusted to me?
- What gifts have we been given as a community of faith in the course of the liturgical year now drawing to a close?
- What gifts in my own life have I not exercised according to my potential for doing good? What fear led me to burying my native abilities?
- What bad experiences have I had that now prevent me from letting my light shine before others? What can I do to remove these obstacles?
- Does our community effectively use all the talents of its members for the glory of God?

This section is here if you need some additional ideas about what you can do as a family. It is a way of adding things to do during the week.

This Could Be Fun

1. God's Story: Prayer https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrdlXOk_QdQ
2. What is the meaning of A. C. T. S. (answer is here) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gJW9QJ1suM>
 1. Say or write an A.C. T. S. prayer

3. Write (draw) a “love letter” to God
4. If God were writing you a “love letter” What would it say? How would the letter begin? [write it]

Do you need some additional things to do during the week?
This section is to help.

More Ideas

How Do I Pray? <https://youtu.be/tflzRyTGtWY>

Intimacy in Prayer: Hearing the Father’s Love https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_j3asVodNE

Make a list of things you are thankful for that God has given you. Make sure you include your name on the list.

What are your treasures? Imagine you are going away for a whole year. You are allowed to take 10 items from your house. What 10 things would you take?

Another fun thing to learn about as a Catholic is our friends, the saints. They may have lived in a different time. Some of these saints had a very difficult life. All try to live their life for God. Sometimes it is good to spend some time learning about other human beings so that we might learn how to love God more.

At the end of every story is a question to help us learn from these Church heroes

The Church Has Heroes Too.

Coloring pages of the Saints:

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/tags/saints>

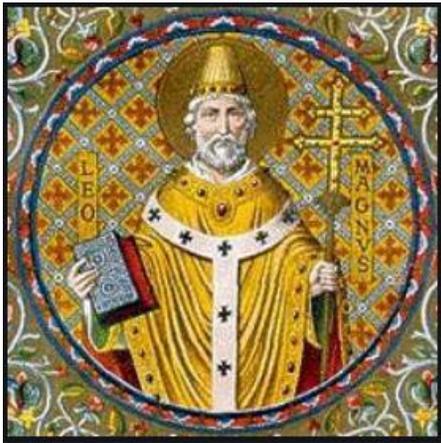
<http://www.catholicplayground.com/saints-coloring-pages/>

November 9 – Dedication of St. John Lateran

Most Catholics think of St. Peter's as the pope's main church, but they are wrong. St. John Lateran is the pope's church, the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome where the Bishop of Rome presides.

The first basilica on the site was built in the fourth century when Constantine donated land he had received from the wealthy Lateran family. That structure and its successors suffered fire, earthquake, and the ravages of war, but the Lateran remained the church where popes were consecrated. In the 14th century when the papacy returned to Rome from Avignon, the church and the adjoining palace were found to be in ruins.

Pope Innocent X commissioned the present structure in 1646. One of Rome's most imposing churches, the Lateran's towering facade is crowned with 15 colossal statues of Christ, John the Baptist, John the Evangelist, and 12 doctors of the Church. Beneath its high altar rest the remains of the small wooden table on which tradition holds Saint Peter himself celebrated Mass. Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/dedication-of-saint-john-lateran/> In your prayer, have you thanked God for our Church?



November 10 – Pope St. Leo the Great

With apparent strong conviction of the importance of the Bishop of Rome in the Church, and of the Church as the ongoing sign of Christ's presence in the world, Leo the Great displayed endless dedication as pope. Elected in 440, he worked tirelessly as "Peter's successor," guiding his fellow bishops as "equals in the episcopacy and infirmities."

Leo is known as one of the best administrative popes of the ancient Church. His work branched into four main areas, indicative of his notion of the pope's total responsibility

for the flock of Christ. He worked at length to control the heresies of Pelagianism—overemphasizing human freedom—Manichaeism—seeing everything material as evil—and others, placing demands on their followers so as to secure true Christian beliefs.

A second major area of his concern was doctrinal controversy in the Church in the East, to which he responded with a classic letter setting down the Church's teaching on the two natures of Christ. With strong faith, he also led the defense of Rome against barbarian attack, taking the role of peacemaker.

In these three areas, Leo's work has been highly regarded. His growth to sainthood has its basis in the spiritual depth with which he approached the pastoral care of his people, which was the fourth focus of his work. He is known for his spiritually profound sermons. An instrument of the call to holiness, well-versed in Scripture and ecclesiastical awareness, Leo had the ability to reach the everyday needs and interests of his people. One of his sermons is used in the Office of Readings on Christmas.

It is said of Leo that his true significance rests in his doctrinal insistence on the mysteries of Christ and the Church and in the supernatural charisms of the spiritual life given to humanity in Christ and in his Body, the Church. Thus Leo held firmly that everything he did and said as pope for the administration of the Church represented Christ, the head of the Mystical Body, and Saint Peter, in whose place Leo acted.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-leo-the-great/>

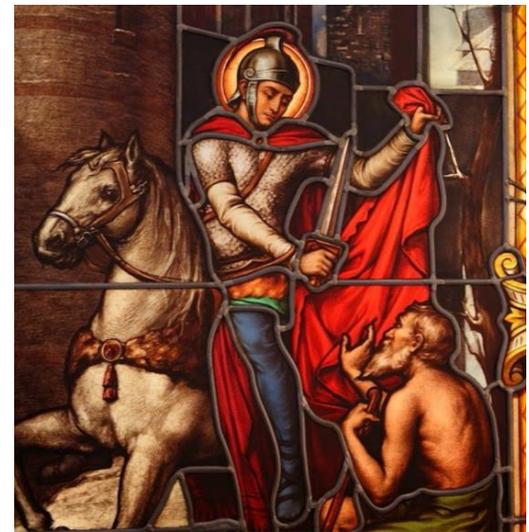
In your prayer, have you thanked God for our Pope?

November 11 – St. Martin of Tours

A conscientious objector who wanted to be a monk; a monk who was maneuvered into being a bishop; a bishop who fought paganism as well as pleaded for mercy to heretics—such was Martin of Tours, one of the most popular of saints and one of the first not to be a martyr.

Born of pagan parents in what is now Hungary, and raised in Italy, this son of a veteran was forced at the age of 15 to serve in the army. Martin became a Christian catechumen and was baptized when he was 18. It was said that he lived more like a monk than a soldier. At 23, he refused a war bonus and told his commander: "I have served you as a soldier; now let me serve Christ. Give the bounty to those who are going to fight. But I am a soldier of Christ and it is not lawful for me to fight." After great difficulties, he was discharged and went to be a disciple of Hilary of Poitiers.

He was ordained an exorcist and worked with great zeal against the Arians. Martin became a monk, living first at Milan and later on a small island. When



Hilary was restored to his see following his exile, Martin returned to France and established what may have been the first French monastery near Poitiers. He lived there for 10 years, forming his disciples and preaching throughout the countryside.

The people of Tours demanded that he become their bishop. Martin was drawn to that city by a ruse—the need of a sick person—and was brought to the church, where he reluctantly allowed himself to be consecrated bishop. Some of the consecrating bishops thought his rumpled appearance and unkempt hair indicated that he was not dignified enough for the office.

Along with Saint Ambrose, Martin rejected Bishop Ithacius's principle of putting heretics to death—as well as the intrusion of the emperor into such matters. He prevailed upon the emperor to spare the life of the heretic Priscillian. For his efforts, Martin was accused of the same heresy, and Priscillian was executed after all. Martin then pleaded for a cessation of the persecution of Priscillian's followers in Spain. He still felt he could cooperate with Ithacius in other areas, but afterward his conscience troubled him about this decision.

As death approached, Martin's followers begged him not to leave them. He prayed, "Lord, if your people still need me, I do not refuse the work. Your will be done.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-martin-of-tours/>

In your prayer, have you thanked God for our soldiers and first responders?

November 13 – St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (1850-1917), Italian-born founder of the Roman Catholic Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, became famous as the "the saint of the immigrants" during nearly 3 decades of service in the United States.



Maria Francesca Cabrini was born on July 15, 1850, at Sant'Angelo Lodigiano. The young girl was drawn toward a life of religious service at an early age, influenced by her older sister, a schoolteacher; her uncle, a priest who captured her imagination with tales of missionary work; and the Daughters of the Sacred Heart, who prepared her for a normal school diploma in 1870. Francesca, who had already vowed herself to virginity at the age of 12, tried to enter the Daughters of the Sacred Heart in 1872 but was denied on grounds of health. She had contracted smallpox while caring for the sick during an epidemic, and though recovered she did not seem physically strong. After brief employment as a teacher in Virdardo, she was persuaded to do charitable work in an orphanage at

Codogno, where in 1877 she made her vows. In the same year she was appointed prioress of her new foundation, the

Institute of Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, which consisted at the outset of seven orphaned girls whom she had trained. As head of a religious order, she was entitled to be called "Mother."

Mother Cabrini had much to do in Italy, but she soon craved fulfillment of a lifelong wish to do missionary work in China. Pope Leo XIII and Bishop Scalabrini of Piacenza instead urged her to carry her talents to Italian immigrants in the slums of the United States, and dutifully but reluctantly she sailed in 1889 with six sisters. From modest beginnings in the New York City area Mother Cabrini and her followers gradually built a national and international network of some 70 institutions. In 1909 she became an American citizen. Her journeys in behalf of her mission, including 30 crossings of the Atlantic, occupied much of her time and energy, though she remained physically frail throughout her life. When World War I broke out in Europe, she dedicated her hospitals and nuns in Italy to the war effort there. On Dec. 22, 1917, after a brief illness, she died of malaria in her own Columbus Hospital in Chicago.

Cardinal George Mundelein of Chicago and others launched the process of her canonization in 1928. She was pronounced venerable in 1933, beatified in 1938, and canonized in 1946. Her remains, originally at West Park, N.Y., are now enshrined in the chapel of the Blessed Mother Cabrini High School in New York City. St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, though declared to have effected the two miracles necessary for canonization, is best remembered for her energetic labors among immigrants and the poor in the United States and for the establishment and staffing of orphanages, schools, hospitals, convents, and other facilities throughout the world.

Source <https://biography.yourdictionary.com/st-frances-xavier-cabrini>

In your prayer, pray for immigrants.

More information on the saints

<https://lifeteen.com/blog/biggest-best-list-confirmation-saints-guys-girls/>

<https://www.catholic.org/saints/popular.php?year=2017&page=1>

Do you have children preparing for Sacraments? Here are some extra resources just for these Sacraments.

Reconciliation <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXLiyY6II6Q>

First Communion <https://youtu.be/pvmDk1bPKa0>

Confirmation Your Choices Matter <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YK06JrqkVGc>

There are many useful resources available on YouTube and other web sites. If you want to learn more. This section is a way of helping you find other Catholic Resources.

Resources

Praying with the Bible: Ignatian Meditation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NS8W3xZeyo>
Cómo encontrar a Dios, orar y discernir. <https://youtu.be/5DjIUAzbfFk>

Tips for Praying <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yk8In-6KUGc&t=167s>

Papa Francisco dice cómo encontrar a Dios en medio del Smog <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ugAq4t7FNM>

The Science of Prayer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUHGBdkYt9w>

Encontrar a Dios en el silencio https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hc_tZC-qLIU

Dedication of St. John Lateran Church <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2TZ970BGNpk> or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VfEhf30NLJQ>

Dedicación de la Basílica de San Juan de Letrán <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e624wPlu55M>

Pope Saint Leo the Great <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tH4oLYeHNxw> or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEJgd5W5bsA>

San León Magno (10 de noviembre) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiBXLtBjMUs> or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kquujC2uKc8>

St. Martin of Tours <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWyRGLI82DQ> or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwD8YEW-YOw>

San Martín de Tours - 11 de noviembre <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGkd73qlzj4> or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4zXez12nqo>

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1HHA8Wm1Pc> or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xq1qutC6oT4>

La vida de Santa Francisca Javier Cabrini 1850-1917 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jGNAMWL4yiY> or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TqYDR6crEn8> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmcEQO8Tzs0>

Additional Information can be found on this easy to use topical outline:

Catechism of the Catholic Church, Simplified

<https://www.catholicity.com/catechism/>

This final section list the prayers that were talked about in the **What To Do section**.

Prayers

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and

was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.
Amen.

Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you all my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my relatives and friends, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father.
Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Praise to the Sacred Heart

Lord, you deserve all honor and praise, because your love is perfect and your heart sublime. My heart is filled to overflowing with gratitude for the many blessings and graces you have bestowed upon me and those whom I love.
Forever undeserving, may I always be attentive and never take for granted the gifts of mercy and love that flow so freely and generously from your Sacred Heart.
Heart of Jesus, I adore you.
Heart of Jesus, I praise you.
Heart of Jesus, I thank you.
Heart of Jesus, I love you forever and always.
Amen.

For Healing of Family Relationships

Many of us struggle with family relationships. In our relationships with family, we must learn to admit our failings and ask forgiveness. And we must learn to forgive in return. For only then can relationships heal.
Lord, family is a special gift, but even the best families at times can struggle with one another. Now is our time. We should be building one another up, but life has turned us around, and we are hurting one another. Help us to forgive quickly so that we do not waste life in regret. Holy Spirit, guide us in mind and in heart. Help us to let go of our pettiness and heal our family.

*Lord, you have made me part of this wonderful family filled with differences of opinion and strong wills. Help me to let go of my self-righteousness. Help me to forgive first. Teach me your virtues of humility and charity and kindness, so we may live in peace and unconditional love.
Holy Spirit, be our guide and our healer.*

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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