

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2017-2018

1st Grade

- 4:00pm Welcome (Last Supper coloring page and *to ensure accuracy, class attendance must be accurately recorded by a catechist and not another student - class attendance is an official document retained by the parish and the diocese*)
- 4:05pm We Gather - in Prayer at the prayer table
(*use colored table covering for appropriate liturgical season*)
Use the Gospel Reading “Hearing the Word” from the previous Sunday in Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families book in the prayer box
- 4:10pm Story time at the Prayer Table – a prime time to share our faith teaching children the Word of God. Read aloud the true story of God's amazing love for us in “*Catholic Book of Bible Stories*” written in reverent tone just for young children. Start at the beginning with “*God’s Wonderful Creation*” read a new story each week and use *God’s Blessing* to end the story.
- 4:15pm Review previous lesson using one of the pages from the Activity Book.
- 4:20pm **Chapter #27 “Following Jesus”**
Chapter #28 “Jesus Will Come Again”

During the church season of Ordinary Time (green = life), we celebrate the life and teachings of Jesus. Sunday is the day when the community of believers “encounters the risen Lord who invites them to his banquet.” (ccc1166) When we gather to celebrate the Eucharist we rejoice in Jesus’ promise of life, now and forever. Every Sunday we show God our love by keeping that one day holy. **Jesus loves us and he died on the cross and rose to new life for us!** Jesus’ message from the Father was one of love. Through his Death and Resurrection, Jesus rose so that all people could live in God’s love. The promise of Eternal Life enables Catholic Christians to be people of hope...we have faith in what Jesus did for us.

We come together for Mass each week to give praise and thanks to God. The Mass has two major parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. When we go to Mass; we gather, we tell stories and we share a meal. A good way to describe the Mass is to say that it is Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday made present today in ritual. It is not merely a meal which reminds us of the Last Supper, or a Passion play which helps recall Good Friday, or a Sunrise Service which celebrates the Lord’s Resurrection. It is Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday! **Jesus is present on the altar at Mass ---** it is as though Heaven comes to earth! The members of the Church community take care of one another, out of faith and love for each other! They eat and pray together and spread the Good News to others.

Jesus invited many people to follow him, some did and some did not. The Apostles were the first followers of Jesus...they dropped everything and went with him immediately. “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men. At once they left their nets and followed him” (Matthew 4:18) We believe that each of us as baptized Catholic Christians is called in the same way...we find any way to use whatever talents God has given us to encourage others to follow Jesus! In Heaven, all Jesus’ followers will be united with him, Mary, the angels, the saints and those we loved on earth. Our whole person (body and soul) will be happy with God forever in Heaven.

- *We Believe -*

The Saints are a very important part of the Church. That is why we gather with our Church family on All Saints’ Day to honor them. The saints loved God faithfully. They kept the Commandments and made sacrifices. Together with the priest we celebrate Mass, and listen to Jesus’ teaching about the ways we can live as children of God and followers of Jesus. The Saints have truly witnessed their faith and try to see Jesus in every person and in every situation. *How can we be followers of Jesus?*

Saint = people who practice virtue on earth with their prayers and good example of their life.

Serve = to know, love and serve God through deeds and behavior (action).

Apostles = 12 men Jesus chose to lead his followers.

Lord's Prayer = the prayer Jesus taught his followers.

• *We Respond* –

1. **“Walk with Jesus” activity** or **People in the Church - trying to get to Heaven” game**

*Follow Jesus as a model of love and goodness. Across the center of the craft paper write – **Walk in love with Jesus!** Have the children talk about times they have done good things for family and friends. Next, have the children trace their feet/shoes (all in the same direction), walking together through deeds and action like the Saints to Jesus. Write their names beneath the traced feet/shoes and have the children color them in.*



2. **“People in the Church - trying to get to Heaven” game**

Have the children write their first and last name on the back, color and cut out the shape of a child (draw the heart of flame representing the Holy Spirit in us on the front) – this child is you! Each child will take turns closing their eyes and turning in a circle (eg. like “Pin the Tail on the Donkey”) and placing themselves in a pew of the poster-sized church (use the enclosed poster putty on the back of the cut-out). How do we get to Heaven? We ALL belong to “The Church” and we need to share our experiences with each other by being together at Mass on Sundays and helping our parish family.

4:55pm

Closing Prayer –

“Our Father”

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done, on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Ask the children to say a petition aloud for someone or something they would like to pray for.

“How do Sundays make a difference in your week?”

“Do you pray at meals and when you go to bed?”

“What gives you hope?”