

**St. Aloysius Religious Education 2017-2018**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

4:00pm Welcome (*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 Review previous lesson using Sharing Faith (*chapter test in student book*)

4:15pm **Chapter # 2                      Jesus Teaches Us about God's Love**

**Emphasize Jesus' teaching about God's love for us, about the Kingdom of God, and about the gift of faith. "GOD IS LOVE." (1 John 4:8)** Followers of Jesus show their love for others by respecting them, by helping those in need and by promoting peace and justice. The people were drawn to Jesus because he assured people that faith in God would enable them to trust in God's love and care for them.

- *We Believe* –  
**Bible** = the book in which God's Word is written.  
**Kingdom of God** = the power of God's love active in the world.  
**Faith** = a gift from God that helps us to believe and trust in him.  
**Crucified** = nailed to the cross.  
**Resurrection** = Jesus being raised from the dead.
  
- *We Respond* – Plant seed bookmarks

How do you grow your faith? Read the Parable of the Sower - Luke 8: 4-18. To illustrate the parable (which Jesus used to teach about God's Kingdom), plant the cross shaped seed packet from the bookmarks (*RE will bring seed bookmarks, potting soil and cups to plant the seeds in*) and ask the children to put in a sunny place in their house, they need to water and care for the growing plants and bring pictures of their plant to class for the last week of Religious Education. *They can say the prayer from the bookmark when they are looking at their plants progress.* This activity illustrates that **faith needs fertile ground (open hearts) and nurturing (sacraments, prayer) to grow to fullness. Jesus said his words are like seeds. Let us all resolve to make our hearts like the good soil, where his words of love can grow in us.**

4:55pm Closing Prayer –

*"Loving God, you teach us that the little things we do are important when they are done with love. Teach us to pray and remember your presence in our lives. Help us to love!"*

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

**"How do my words and actions show that I trust in God's love for me?"**  
**WWJD = What Would Jesus Do!**

*These are the bookmark seeds after 4 months of loving care and prayer!*



**THE PARABLE OF  
THE SEEDS**  
*(Luke 8:4-18)*

A farmer went out to plant some seed. As he was throwing the seeds on the



ground, some fell onto the path and were eaten by birds. Some of the seeds fell on rocks and dried up in the sun. Some of the seeds fell into a patch of weeds and died in the shade. But some of the seeds fell on good ground. Those seeds grew tall and strong and had plenty of fruit.

Open your  
heart to  
Jesus.

Jesus said his words are like the seeds. Is our heart like the bad ground, where the seeds of Jesus' message will die? Or is our heart like the good soil, where his words of love can grow?





## THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

*(Luke 13:18-19)*

Jesus' listeners asked him to explain what the kingdom of heaven is like. Jesus said it is like a mustard seed — it starts out very, very small, but if it is planted in good ground, it will grow big enough for birds to make their nests in.