

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2017-2018
4th 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 Read about a Saint from the “Patrons and Protectors” series (*Occupations, More Occupations and In Times of Need*) by Brother Michel (Mickey) McGrath and show the artwork – Brother Mickey puts the Holy Spirit (*symbolized by a white dove*) somewhere in each painting ... see if you can find Him☺
- 4:15pm Review previous lesson using Sharing Faith (*use chapter test in book*)

4:20pm **Lesson #2** **Jesus Leads Us to Happiness**

Jesus trusted God his Father and showed us the way to live. In times of frustration, pain and loss, we are apt to cry out, “God, what do you want from me?” He wants us to be happy, not just in Heaven but here on earth. When we feel powerless is when we most need and feel God’s presence. The Ten Commandments given on Mt. Sinai summarize pre-Christian morality. **The Beatitudes are a summary of Christ's own practice of virtue. In the Beatitudes, He tells us to do things that we don't naturally enjoy and then tells us we are going to have joy.**

- *We Believe* -

Beatitudes = teachings of Jesus that describe the way to live as his disciples

Peace = the freedom that comes from loving and trusting God and respecting all people

Kingdom Of God = the power of God’s love

Justice = respecting the rights of others and giving them what is rightfully theirs

Mission = the work of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and spreading the Kingdom of God

Discussion on the Sermon on the Mount and how to live the Beatitudes,

1. listen to the song “*Blest Are They*” 1:13min
2. or watch/listen to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9ek5YQmBmk> 8:18min

- *We Respond* – make St. Theresa sacrifice beads (*instructions attached*)

St. Theresa was a saint who died in her early twenties. She did nothing major but counted all her small sacrifices for Jesus. Therese's "little way" of trusting in Jesus to make her holy and relying on small daily sacrifices (selflessness) instead of great deeds is an example to us to find holiness in our ordinary lives. You too can do “little things for God”. Every time you sacrifice or do something good ...slide a bead to Jesus, you are showing how to live the virtues daily!



4:55pm Closing Prayer –

St. Theresa's Prayer:

*May today there be peace within.
 May you trust your highest power
 that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
 May you not forget the infinite possibilities
 that are born of faith.
 May you use those gifts that you have received,
 and pass on the love that has been given to you.
 May you be content knowing you are a child of God.
 Let this presence settle into our bones,
 and allow your soul the freedom
 to sing, dance, praise and love.
 It is there for each and every one of you.*

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

“What will make you truly happy?”

Catechist background:

<http://www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/saint.aspx?id=1155>

http://www.dioceseoflacrosse.com/ministry_resources/catechesis/1_beatitudes.pdf

<http://gardenofpraise.com/bibl42s.htm>

THE BEATITUDES	TODAY'S MEANING
1. Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.	To be poor in spirit means to depend on God for everything.
2. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.	To mourn means to comfort those who suffer.
3. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.	To be meek means to use God's gifts to help others.
4. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.	To hunger and thirst for righteousness means to share with those in need.
5. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.	To be merciful means to forgive those who have hurt others.
6. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.	To be clean of heart means to stay devoted to God and to love neighbors.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.	To be a peacemaker means to help bring God's peace to the world.
8. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.	To suffer unfair treatment for doing what is right means to carry on Jesus' work in the world.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897)

Name _____

Feast: October 1
Saint of the Little Way

When Thérèse was only four years old, her mother died. Thérèse was raised by her older sisters, and followed their examples by becoming a Carmelite nun. Thérèse really always wanted to be a missionary and to do grand and wonderful things for God. When this didn't happen, she decided she would do every little thing she could for God—every little chore would be her prayer, her gift to God. She called it her "little way to Jesus." Besides being known as the Little Flower, St. Thérèse has also been called

the "saint of the little way."

You, too, can do "little things for God" each day just as Thérèse did. Here is a good way to remind yourself each day this week to do something for God. Make a prayer chain by coloring these "Little Prayer-and-Action Strips" in whatever colors you choose. Cut out the strips, and connect them to make the chain. Hang the chain near your bed. Each morning, carefully remove one strip, say the prayer, and follow the day's directions.



Sunday: St. Thérèse, help me to smile at everyone I meet today.



Monday: St. Thérèse, I will do one extra chore today in Jesus' name.



Tuesday: St. Thérèse, today I will plant a seed to thank God for the wonders of our world.



Wednesday: St. Thérèse, on this day I will draw a picture for someone who is lonely or sad.



Thursday: St. Thérèse, I will thank my teacher today for helping my mind to grow.



Friday: St. Thérèse, today I will be good to someone who is younger than I am.



Saturday: St. Thérèse, today I will say an extra prayer for those who take care of me every day.