

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 **Chapter #15 “The 4th Commandment”**
“Honor your Father and Mother.”

Obedience is not a popular concept in today’s individualistic society. Yet, obedience is a central discipline for a Catholic Christian! The 4th commandment calls for sons and daughters of all ages to honor their parents and members of the extended family. We also have a lifelong responsibility and challenge to respect those who have legitimate authority in our society. Jesus taught us to call God our Father and by doing so was reminding us that our first obedience also is to God!

- *We Believe* –
Honor – to show respect and reverence for one another.
Domestic Church – the church in the home, which every Christian is called to be.

- *We Respond* – discussion

We have a commitment to preserve family ties. We are called to honor and respect those who love and care for us. How do we choose to live this commandment? Do we have a sense of loyalty toward our country and respect for its laws? (*Laws that are made for the benefit of the people.*) We must appreciate that we owe respect to others and our family!

1. How does obeying your parents honor them?
2. Why is staying in close contact with parents important in the context of this commandment?
3. Can you honor your parents after they have died?
4. How and why does the 4th commandment extend to elders, teachers, and others?

- *We Respond* – Read “Miracle of the Wedding Feast in Cana.” By Tomie DePaola (*Jesus did what his mother asked, even though it was something he really did not want to do right then.*)
- *We Respond* – Play 10 Commandment Pictionary (*the Re office will provide*)

4:55pm Closing Prayer – Luke 2:51 – 52

“He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced (in) wisdom and age and favor before God and man.”

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

***“Whom do you honor?
How do you show honor or respect to that person?”***

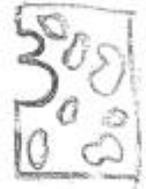
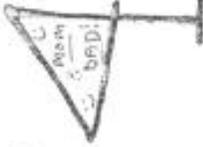
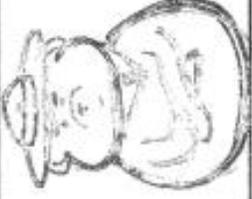
Ten Commandments Pictionary

The game of quick draw! In 60 seconds or less, your classmates have to identify which of the Ten Commandments you are drawing/have drawn, just by your artwork, on the white board. A child picks one of the 10 Commandments from the brown bag and draws that commandment. Whoever guesses correctly picks and draws next.

Equipment: White Board, dry erase marker, dry eraser and 1-minute timer, bag with each of the 10 Commandments.

1. I, the Lord, am your God. You shall not have other Gods besides me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.
4. Honor your father and mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor’s goods...nor anything else that belongs to him.

Ten Commandments Pictionary

1		2		3		4	
5		6		7		8	
9		10					

Catechist Background on the 10 Commandments:

http://www.catholicity.com/catechism/the_first_commandment.html

The first three Commandments are about honoring God and understanding ourselves in relationship to and with Him. **The last seven commandments are about honoring other people** and understanding ourselves in relationship to and with them. It is here that God instructs us in what Jesus later summed up so perfectly in John 13:34: “Love one another even as I have loved you.” It makes sense, therefore, that the first of these commandments would begin with our relationship with the people who brought us into the world and taught us to understand it – our parents.

At its most basic, this commandment boils down to two terms that are key to Christian living but tend to challenge Americans greatly, authority and obedience. If we obey our parents, then we are accepting their authority over our wishes in a way that may not always be agreeable. We may be allowing them to make decisions we would rather make for ourselves and feel that they are not qualified to make. Certainly, obeying or even respecting a parent may be irksome no matter what the age. Our first reaction is often rebellion.

It is here we may practice in real life what we often merely give lip service to in our relationship with God. **We are offered the opportunity to respect, love, and trust those other people in our lives so much that we relinquish control.** At all ages this encourages us to look past the immediate possible annoyance to a greater good, whether that greater good is considering unsolicited advice or something as simple as taking out the trash. In turn, this may help us to reflect upon our relationship with God through those very practices. Do we trust His love and care for us even when our lives are taking turns that we do not understand or, often, appreciate?

Church teachings on this subject have considered such larger issues as citizens’ duty to civil authority and the family as the foundation of society. These too have their place in our meditations, as we see in the examination of conscience below. **However, at the heart of this commandment we see the fundamental call of love, both of God’s love for us and our expression of that love as we interact with each other in our families.**

It can be helpful to examine our consciences in light of this consideration. The examination below is offered in that spirit.

Parental Examination of Conscience: 4th Commandment

- Do I obey and respect my parents or legitimate superiors?
- Do I give good religious example to my family?
- Do I give my children proper food, clothing, shelter, education, discipline and care?
- Do I actively take an interest in the religious education and formation of my children?
- Do I educate myself on the true teachings of the Church?
- Do I pray with and for my children?
- Do I cause tension and fights in my family?
- Do I care for my aged and infirm relatives?
- Do I give a full day’s work for a full day’s pay?
- Do I give a fair wage to my employees?
- Do I live in humble obedience to those who legitimately exercise authority over me?

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

"Honor your father and your mother" (Ex 20:12, Deut 5:16).

Fulfilling the Two Commands (2196)

Jesus gave two commandments: to love God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. "There is no other commandment greater than these" (Mk 12:29). "The commandments are summed up in this sentence, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'" (Rom 13:8-10).

Positive Duties in Correct Order (2197-2198)

This commandment begins the second table of the Ten Commandments and shows the correct order of charity. After God, we owe honor first to our parents who have given us life. We must also obey those to whom God has given his authority.

This commandment speaks of positive duties, introduces the other commandments (which regard specific duties), and constitutes the foundation of the Church's social doctrine.

To Children and to Others (2199)

The commandment speaks first to children concerning their parents (the most universal relationship), but also requires honor toward elders and ancestors. The commandment extends to pupils, employees, and citizens in their relationships to authority. The commandment presupposes the responsibilities of those in authority (parents, teachers, leaders).

A Promised Reward (2200)

God promises a reward: "long life in the land your God gives you" (Ex 20:12). Honoring authority does result in peace and prosperity. Failure to obey harms the family and community.

Prayer for Families

“God, our Father, loving and merciful, bring together and keep all families in perfect unity of love and mutual support. Infuse in each member the spirit of understanding, forbearance and affection for each other.

Keep quarrels, bitterness and pettiness far from them, and for their occasional failures instill forgiveness and peace.

May the mutual love and affection of parents be a source of loving obedience and discipline. May their chastity and fidelity be an inspiration to their children.

Instill in children such self-respect that they may respect others, obey their parents and those in authority and grow in mature independence and the tender joys of friendship.

Make the mutual affection and respect of families a sign of Christian life here and hereafter, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen”