

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 #17 & #22** **"The 6th and 9th Commandments"**
"You shall not commit adultery."
"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife."

The Sixth and Ninth Commandments reminds us that God call us to be faithful (*to be loyal and true to someone*). Recognize that faithfulness in marriage begins with faithfulness to friends. There is a proper way to express our feelings when it comes to loving others.

Do I show respect for the relationships I have? Am I true to my friends? Do I respect my parents' marriage and their relationship? In a culture, awash with images the denigrates the human body and promote the misuse of human sexuality, we need to keep ourselves pure, *that is clean, in body (6th) and mind (9th)*. Self-mastery is learning the ways to use our God-given freedom that lead to holy and peaceful lives by being present to God in prayer, receiving the grace of sacraments, practicing self control, developing food moral habits and obeying the commandments! This gift of marriage is very special between a man a woman and God doesn't want any other man or woman to take this gift away. When two people get married, they promise to share their love only with each other. They must keep that promise. **This commandment reminds us to honor ourselves and be sincere with our friends.** We should be a true friend and not break promises and not lead our friends to break their promises. We also practice discretion by not meddling in other people business, treating others courteously and being respectful of our body and those of others. *The Beatitudes can be discussed here.*

- *We Believe* –

Virtue – a good habit that helps us to act according to God's love for us.

Chastity – the virtue by which we use our human sexuality in a responsible and faithful way.

Covet – to wrongly desire something, which is someone else's.

Modesty – the virtue by which we think, speak, act and dress in ways that show respect for others and ourselves.

- *We Respond* – Read about Saint Margaret

"A virtuous woman, and in the sight of God she showed herself to be a pearl, precious in faith and works."

http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=304

- *We Respond* – Watch “*The First Valentine*” DVD 25 min.

In this adventure of imagination, young Tess, a shy 13year old girl, discovers a new meaning for love on Valentine’s Day. Through a very special book, she meets the third century martyr Valentine and his Christian friends. They show her what it means to love others as Jesus loves us, and to receive that love in return.
<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/ValentinesDay/origins.asp>

- *We Respond* – Make a paper “Valentine” for someone

Make a paper “Valentine” for one of the St. Aloysius parishioners listed in the bulletin (use prayer below) and offer to say a specific prayer for them!

4:55pm Closing Prayer –

“Jesus, you teach us how important it is to be faithful in love. Guide us in our daily lives to stay faithful to God, family, ourselves and others.”

Wedding Song: the prayer of Tobit and Sara

Words based on Tobit 8:4-9 and (c) Stephen Eric Smyth 2006.

Music (c) Gerry Fitzpatrick 2009.

“God ever blest, our mothers and fathers
 taught us to praise you, source of true love.
 All of the heavens, all of creation
 sing of your blessings, age upon age.
 God, you created Adam ‘the Man’ and
 Eve as ‘the Woman’; made to be one.
 All human being are their descendants,
 all one great fam’ly, formed of your love.
 God, now today, this man and this woman
 stand here before you. Witness their love.
 Lavish your graces, lavish your mercy.
 Give them fulfilment. Let them be one.
 God, may you bless this couple together,
 guide them to old age, loving and close.
 God, hear our prayers of love and affection.
 We sing out... *Amen.*”

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

“What can I do now to prepare for the faithful relationships that God wants for me?”

Catechist Background on 6th & 9th Commandment:

<http://www.cin.org/dec8.html>

<http://www.cin.org/dec11.html>

http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a6.htm

http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a9.htm

A Valentine from God

“For God so loved the world
that he gave
his one and only son,
that whoever
believes in him
shall not
perish but have
eternal
life.”

John 3:16

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Saint Margaret of Scotland

November 16th



Margaret of Scotland was a truly liberated woman in the sense that she was free to be herself. For her, that meant freedom to love God and serve others.

Not Scottish by birth, Margaret was the daughter of Princess Agatha of Hungary and the Anglo-Saxon Prince Edward Atheling. She spent much of her youth in the court of her great-uncle, the English king, Edward the Confessor. The young princess had been educated by the Benedictines in Hungary, and could read Latin at an early age. In England Margaret (whose name derives from *margon*, "pearl") became known for her devout faith and the beauty of her nature.

Her family fled from William the Conqueror and was shipwrecked off the coast of Scotland. King Malcolm befriended them and was captivated by the beautiful, gracious Margaret. They were married at the castle of Dunfermline in 1070. Malcolm was good-hearted, but rough and uncultured, as was his country. Because of Malcolm's love for Margaret, she was able to soften his temper, polish his manners and help him become a virtuous king. He left all domestic affairs to her and often consulted her in state matters. Margaret tried to improve her adopted country by promoting the arts and education. With her husband, she founded several churches. She initiated an authentic reform of the Scottish Church, which had been in decline and corrupted by abuses of the celebration of Mass and bad leaders, rebuilt and re-established decayed monasteries at Iona and Dumferline, embellished churches with beautiful artifacts -- including embroidered vestments in a style she learned from Hungary (many of which she embroidered herself).

She spent many hours in prayer, said the Divine Office daily, using beautifully illuminated books which Malcolm (who couldn't read himself) gave her. In sum, she fostered a renaissance of Catholic belief, learning and culture in Scotland. Her biographer and confessor, Turgot, wrote, "Many have got their name from a quality of their mind. The same was true of this virtuous woman, for the fairness pre-shadowed in her name was eclipsed in the surpassing of her soul". (*This biography by her confessor Turgot, a monk of Durham who later became Bishop of St. Andrews, was written at the request of Margaret's daughter Matilda, who married Henry I of England, son of William the Conqueror.*) Her private life was austere. She had certain times for prayer and reading Scripture. She and Malcolm kept two Lents, one before Easter and one before Christmas. During these times she always rose at midnight for Mass. Her charity to the poor, particularly to children and the elderly, was unparalleled. (Not only did she feed and clothe the many beggars who presented themselves, but she and Malcolm personally washed the feet of these impoverished visitors.)

Margaret was not only a queen, but also a mother. Malcolm and Margaret had eight children, who were carefully educated and instructed in the Christian faith, and who never wavered in their own fidelity to the Catholic Church. Her sons and grandsons would rule Scotland for 200 years. One son, David, is also a saint especially revered in Scotland. It was he who built a tiny stone chapel for his mother at Edinburgh Castle, where she heard Mass on the day she died. (Completely restored in the 19th century, the little chapel is a gem of Romanesque architecture, and is used today mostly for weddings.)

In 1093, King William Rufus made a surprise attack on Alnwick castle. King Malcolm and his oldest son, Edward, were killed. Already gravely ill, Margaret died after learning that her beloved husband, Malcolm, and son Edgar had been killed in battle -- on November 16, 1093. She was buried at Dumferline, which instantly became a pilgrimage site. Later a shrine was built in the church at Dumferline, and Pope Innocent IV officially canonized her in 1249. Her feast day was established as June 10th on the Roman calendar of saints, though it has always been celebrated in Scotland on November 16th. Only the base of the shrine remains today, however. Reformers destroyed the abbey at Dumferline in the sixteenth century.

Sixth Commandment

- Discuss that men and women are equal in dignity, yet they have complementary differences
- the sixth commandment opposes adultery, the breaking of the promise by a husband or wife to love only the other faithfully and fully
- the sixth commandment prohibits us from engaging in any behavior or activity against chastity. It calls us to be pure in thoughts, in speech, and in deed

Ninth Commandment

- the desiring of your neighbor's wife or husband is always a sin
- Present that the kingdom of God is the presence of God's love, peace, and justice

Sixth Commandment:

Out of all of the Ten Commandments, the one that you probably think most applies to you is to honor your mother and father. When you hear the Sixth Commandment: Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery, you probably think that it doesn't have anything to do with you and so you think you can just skip over it.

Even though the word adultery has the word adult in it, it's not just for adults. **Adultery actually means "to change or corrupt."** So if you adulterate something it means that you change it or make it impure. You've taken something good and hurt, broken or ruined it. If you take a little boy and give him matches to start a fire, then you have adulterated him. If you encourage someone to steal, you've adulterated them. If you take a rosary and make it into a piece of jewelry, you've adulterated it. **To commit adultery then means to take something good and make it bad.**

What is the opposite of adultery or adulterated? Unadulterated. If something is adulterated, it's bad. If something is unadulterated, it's good, or in this case, it's pure and uncorrupted. It is better to be unadulterated because that means you haven't been hurt or broken or corrupted by bad or impure things. The sixth commandment forbids adultery (corruption) and wants you to be unadulterated (pure).

What are things that we can do to be pure and not corrupted? We should always wear appropriate clothing, being sure that our body is properly covered. The way that you dress says a lot about who you are, so it's always important to dress in a way that lets people know that you are a child of God. It's also important to be pure in our behavior, making sure we don't use language or gestures that could corrupt or hurt others. Being pure means never offending God with the way we behave, the way we look, the way we talk, or with the thoughts we have.

Remember, if our hearts or minds are filled with anger or thoughts of revenge, it's becomes easier for us to act on those thoughts or feelings. But when the heart and mind are pure we are able to love God and others freely and are an example of holiness for others to follow.

When you get up in the morning and you get ready for school, do you throw on dirty clothes and leave your hair uncombed and your teeth unbrushed? Of course not. Just like you wouldn't walk around looking disheveled or dirty, you should likewise not walk around with impure or corrupt thoughts or actions on your mind or in your heart.

How do we avoid impurity?

The best way to avoid impurity is by praying often, and if we ever feel tempted to do or say something impure, to pray right away to God for help. Praying a Hail Mary right away is always a good way to quell temptation.

Other ways to avoid impurity is by avoiding exposure to things that are impure. Many of the shows on TV are not good for children to watch. You probably have noticed that on TV the kids are often rather snotty and rude, always showing up grown ups, and behaving in ways that are disrespectful and inappropriate. Sometimes the kids on TV dress in impure ways and make it look glamorous to do things that good Catholics should never do. Just because Hollywood kids on TV wear inappropriate clothes, use foul language and make it appear glamorous, a good Catholic child of God should know to avoid these things in order to keep their soul clean and pure.

If you find that the shows you watch, the books you read, or the friends you keep are corrupting you or making you have impure thoughts in your mind or in your heart, you must avoid them as best as you can.

So does the commandment “don’t commit adultery” apply to kids?

You bet it does!

Let’s read the story about St. Maria Goretti and how she gave up her life rather than allow herself to be impure.

Maria Goretti was born on 16 October 1890 in Corinaldo, Italy. She was the third out of six children. By the time she was six, her family had become so poor that they were forced to give up their farm, move, and work for other farmers. Soon, Maria's father Luigi became very sick, and died when Maria was nine. While her brother, mother and sisters worked in the fields in order to feed and support the family, Maria would cook, sew, and keep the house clean. It was a hard life, but the family was very close. They shared a deep love for God and the faith. She and her family shared a home with another family, a dad and a son, called the Serenellis. In 1902 an eighteen-year-old neighbor, Alexander, grabbed her from her steps and tried to make her do impure things. When Maria said that she would rather die than submit or commit an impure act, Alexander began stabbing her with a knife.

As she lay in the hospital, she forgave Alexander before she died. Her death didn't end her forgiveness, however.

Alexander was captured and sentenced to thirty years. He was unrepentant until he had a dream that he was in a garden. Maria was there and gave him flowers. When he woke, he was a changed man, repenting of his crime and living a reformed life. When he was released after 27 years he went directly to Maria's mother to beg her forgiveness, which she gave. "If my daughter can forgive him, who am I to withhold forgiveness," she said.

When Maria was declared a saint in 1950, Alexander was there in the St. Peter's crowd to celebrate her canonization. She was canonized by Pope Pius XII in 1950 for her purity as model for youth.

She is called a martyr because she fought against Alexander's attempts at making her commit an impure act. However, the most important aspect of her story is her forgiveness of her attacker -- her concern for her enemy extending even beyond death. Her feast day is July 6.

Ninth Commandment:

When Adam and Eve committed the first sin in the Garden of Eden, they gave every human after them something called “concupiscence.” *Concupiscence is the feeling that we have inside of us that sometimes gets us to sin, even though we know in our mind that we shouldn’t. Sometimes the human body desires things that the human mind knows is bad. This causes temptation and sometimes sin.* Have you ever heard the phrase “the mind is willing but the flesh is weak?” It means that the wants of our body – for food or for fun or for fame – often get us to sin even though our mind knows it’s wrong.

Everybody daydreams. Some people daydream that they are famous. Others daydream that they are wealthy. Some wish for a life of luxury, and some wish for a life of excitement. It’s normal to dream of a perfect life.

Unfortunately there’s no such thing as a perfect world. We can’t always have everything we want. The problem is, some people don’t understand that. Some people think that they can and should have everything they want. And when they don’t get everything they want, they covet what they don’t have.

What does the word ‘covet’ mean? It means to longingly desire something that belongs to another person. It means to feel envious of the things that others have, which means not just wanting something, but wanting to do something bad to get it. It’s fine to wish you had a toy that your friend has, but it’s coveting if you are thinking off a way to take that toy for yourself. Coveting often leads to stealing.

It’s hard to be a kid in today’s world because there are temptations all around you. When you watch TV you are inundated with advertisements trying to convince you that you need certain products. You see kids on TV show who appear to have it all: the latest clothes, the coolest toys, the most hi-tech gadgets. It’s easy to think that we should have all of this stuff, too.

Sometimes we see people with special friendships or even marriages, and we may wish that we could have a friend or a husband or wife like that. It’s alright to admire other people’s relationships, and even try to copy the successful parts of it. But it’s wrong to try to take one of the people out of their relationship for ourselves. That’s when the Ninth Commandment, Thou Shalt Not Covet Thy Neighbor’s Wife (or Husband) is broken.

When we get the feeling that our admiration for someone is becoming coveting it is important to turn to God in prayer. God will help conquer those feelings and make our hearts pure.