

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2018-2019
1st Grade

- 4:00pm Welcome (Four Evangelists 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 # 14 “Jesus Tells the Good News”**

The Good News (Gospels) of the kingdom of God was the starting point and the center of Jesus’ whole public life. He was sent to announce the kingdom, to encourage men by performing His miracles to believe in His gospel message, and to unite all the faithful in this new kingdom - *the time of preparation on earth and in finally in Heaven.* The four Evangelists: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John wrote the Gospels – the stories of Jesus’ life (His miracles and teachings), death and Resurrection. ***Jesus brought he Good News that God loves everyone and wants every person to be with Him forever in Heaven!***

- *We Believe* -

Good News = the message of Jesus .. God loves everyone!

Bible = the Word of God. The written story of God’s actions in the world and the teachings of Jesus and His Apostles.

- *We Respond* – read The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12) from the Catholic Bible for Children page 142

From the time we are born, we begin to learn. We learn from our parents, our grandparents, our friends and families, even our brothers and sisters. As we get older, we go to school and learn from our teachers. We have many to learn from and many teachers. We also had many teachers to teach us about God and the Kingdom of Heaven. Many men from the Old Testament brought us messages from and about God that helps us work toward reaching Heaven. Before Jesus was born, Moses was considered “The Greatest Teacher”. He was such a special helper for God that God delivered the ‘**Ten Commandments**’ to him. These Commandments are the rules God gave us to live good, Godly lives. Following them leads us to happiness.

The most important teacher we ever had was Jesus! One of His most important lessons was The ‘**Beatitudes**’, *or sometimes called The Sermon on the Mount.* Jesus spoke to the people in a gentle and kind way telling them that they could only find true happiness in following Jesus. His words taught them how to reach the Kingdom of Heaven. Through Jesus’ teachings He gave us all a way to live with Him eternally. Jesus taught that happiness is not a feeling that is brought about by the things that happen to us. It is an attitude that we have because of what we have in our heart. In the Beatitudes, God gives us an idea of what we need to do to be good people and to live in Heaven for eternity. They are focused on our hearts becoming more like Christ’s heart☺

The Ten Commandments keep us out of trouble, and the Beatitudes guide us on our way.

- *We Respond* – The BE ATTITUDES activity (see below)

4:55pm Closing Prayer –

“There are four corners on my bed,
four angels over head.
Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Bless the bed that I lay on.
Guard me Jesus through the night,
And wake me with the morning light.”

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

“How can you prepare the way of the Lord in your life?”

The following chart summarizes the eight **attitudes** of Christ’s kingdom (which are part of the Sermon on the Mount):

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Be – thankful for God!
2. Blessed are they who mourn: for they shall be comforted.
Be – sad for others!
3. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Be - helpful to others!
4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be satisfied.
Be – able to share with others!
5. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
Be – forgiving!
6. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
Be – open to loving God and others!
7. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
Be – kind!
8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Be – a courageous follower of Jesus!

BE Attitude versus BAD Attitude activity

Large poster board with “**BLESSED Hive of Heaven**”

Yellow “BE Attitude” bees (use poster putty to put on activity board)

Green “BAD Attitude” bees (use poster putty to put on activity board)

The object of the activity is to get as many **Yellow “BE Attitude” bees** in the BLESSED Hive of Heaven. The **Green “BAD Attitude” bees** are stuck buzzing around outside, trying to get into the BLESSED Hive of Heaven. One of the meanings of "blessed" is happy or joyful. Each of the Beatitudes describes a person who puts God and other's interest above his or her own self. We cannot be blessed if we live selfishly. Negative (sometimes selfish) attitudes can quickly creep into your life. Positive/Joyful/Happy/Blessed people choose to see the bright side of life!

*Do you live a life of **JOY**; **JESUS** first, **OTHERS** next, and **YOURSELF** last?*

Play by asking the children questions using positive (**BE Attitude**) actions and attitudes and negative (**BAD Attitude**) actions and attitudes. See how many **Yellow “BE Attitude” bees** you can get in the BLESSED Hive of Heaven! *You can ask the students as a group or they can individually volunteer a response. Use the poster putty to affix the bees on the poster board.*



Listed below are some ideas you can use.

Positive Expressions:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Someone prays every day, but always offers prays for others and not him or herself.

A family works to ensure that God is part of their daily lives and by going to church on Sunday.

Be thankful for _____.

"Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Many things happen to us in life that make us sad, but God will comfort us when we turn to Him.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

Do you donate to charity? (food, clothes, etc...)

These are people who are humble and who do not think of themselves more highly than they ought.

Do you donate toys you don't use anymore to other children?

"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

A student stands up for another student who is being bullied or teased.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

A child forgives someone who hurt him or her at school.

Are you kind and forgiving?

Do you look for the good qualities in people?

"Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God."

Children play together at a playground.

A person completes a good act without expecting a reward in return.

Smile at strangers.

We can be pure in heart if we fill our minds with good thoughts. We need to be careful of the things we watch, read, and hear.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

Two old friends who are angry at each other forgive each other.

Family members who disagree – agree.

Do you encourage people to get along and to be friends?

"Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Someone is mocked for standing up for an individual that others do not like.

Don't get angry.

We must stand up for what is right, even if it means making someone angry or upset with us.

Negative Expressions:

aggression, anger, betrayal, blame, cowardice, dishonesty, envy, greed, irresponsibility, jealousy, pride, resentment, revenge, selfishness, suspicious, thoughtlessness and untrusting.

Do you push a friend at the line in the cafeteria? (aggression)

Do you lie to your parents about brushing your teeth? (dishonesty)

Do you feel jealous when your friend gets a new toy you really want? (greed)

You don't clean up your room when you are told to! (irresponsibility)

You tell your siblings or cousin they can't use your stuff! (selfish)

You plan to get back at someone that was bothering you! (revenge)