

## St. Aloysius Religious Education 2018-2019

### 4<sup>th</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 Read about a Saint from the “Patrons and Protectors” series (*Occupations, More Occupations and In Times of Need*) by Brother Michel (Mickey) McGrath (*books in art room RE cabinet*) 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 #6 & #7 “Liturgical Year” and “Ordinary Time”**

**Throughout the Liturgical year we remember and celebrate Jesus Christ.** Since the time of Moses, God’s People have celebrated an annual cycle of feast days commemorating the events of salvation history. The liturgical celebrations of the Eucharist, the other sacraments, and the Liturgy of the Hours unfold the mystery of Christ. They also honor Mary, the Mother of God, and the birthdays (or days of death) of the saints.

The season of Ordinary Time lasts 33 or 34 weeks. During these weeks the Church celebrates no “specific aspect of the mystery of Christ” but “the mystery of Christ in all its aspects.” **The Sunday cycle of Gospel readings for Ordinary Time is; Matthew = year A, Mark = year B and Luke = year C. The Gospel of John is proclaimed primarily during the season of Christmas, Lent and Easter.** The stories of Jesus’ life and teachings are read in order during Ordinary Time.

- *We Believe* -

Discuss the meaning of the Liturgical Year (and colors) and have the children complete the puzzle on page 64a and the Liturgical Colors worksheet.

**Advent = purple**

**Christmas = white and gold**

**Ordinary Time = green**

**Lent = purple**

**Triduum = white with red**

**Easter = white and gold.**

Composed nearly fifteen hundred years ago by the father of Western monasticism, **The Rule of St. Benedict** has for centuries been the guide of religious communities. St. Benedict’s rules of obedience, humility, and contemplation are not only prerequisites for formal religious societies; they also provide an invaluable model for anyone desiring to live more simply. While they presuppose a certain detachment from the world, they provide guidance and inspiration for anyone seeking peace and fulfillment in their home and work communities.  
*Read about St. Benedict and St. Scholastica (see attached)*

- *We Respond* –

Have the children list rules they follow each day at home, school, in the car or on the bus, on the playground, etc. *Discuss why we need rules and how we can obey them.*

- *We Believe -*

We celebrate Ordinary Time by praying, learning about Christ and spreading the Good News that is written in the Bible by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. They are called evangelists, a word meaning people who proclaim good news, because their books aim to tell the Good News of Jesus. Have them recite the following prayer:

“There are four corners on my bed  
four angels over-head  
Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John  
Bless the bed that I lay on.”

**Matthew** – September 21<sup>st</sup> - angelic young man - a former tax man who was called by Jesus to be one of the Twelve Apostles,

**Mark** – April 25<sup>th</sup> - royal winged lion - a follower of Peter and so an "apostolic man",

**Luke** – October 18<sup>th</sup> - winged ox - a doctor who wrote what is now the book of Luke to a friend. Also believed to have written the book of Acts (or Acts of the Apostles) and a close friend of Saul of Tarsus (St. Paul),

**John** – December 27<sup>th</sup> – eagle - a disciple of Jesus and possibly the youngest of his Twelve Apostles.

- *We Respond –*

Have volunteers come to the board and draw the symbol of one of the evangelists and have the class guess which evangelist it is. *Note that the front doors of our church have glass depictions of the 4 evangelists.*

4:55pm Closing Prayer – recite one of the Psalms and have the children pray it at home

**Psalm 9**

2 I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart;  
I will declare all your wondrous deeds.  
3 I will delight and rejoice in you;  
I will sing hymns to your name, Most High.

**Psalm 18**

2 I love you, LORD, my strength,  
3 LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer,  
My God, my rock of refuge,  
my shield, my saving horn, my stronghold!  
4 Praised be the LORD, I exclaim!  
I have been delivered from my enemies

**Psalm 34**

2 I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall be always in my mouth.  
3 My soul will glory in the LORD;  
let the poor hear and be glad.  
4 Magnify the LORD with me;  
and let us exalt his name together.

**Psalm 96**

1 Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.  
2 Sing to the LORD, bless his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.  
3 Tell his glory among the nations;  
among all peoples, his marvelous deeds

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

***“How do you celebrate the special times of the Church year with your family”?***

***“How do you encounter Jesus Christ in your daily life”?***

**Catechist Background:**

Information on the Liturgy of the Hours – <http://www.osb.org/gen/rule.html>

<http://www.communityofsaintbenedict.com/liturgy-and-prayer-hours>

<http://www.ewtn.com/expert/answers/breviary.htm>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liturgy\\_of\\_the\\_Hours](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liturgy_of_the_Hours)

<http://www.catholicliturgy.com/index.cfm/FuseAction/DocumentContents/Index/2/SubIndex/39/DocumentIndex/2>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rule\\_of\\_Saint\\_Benedict](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rule_of_Saint_Benedict)

# Saint Benedict

(c. 480–547)

July 11

**B**enedict was a young man who followed his heart. He found something so wonderful that men and women have been following his example ever since—even today!

Benedict was born in Nursia, Italy. His parents were fairly rich, so they sent him to Rome to be educated. After a few years, when he was about 17 years old, he became disgusted with the lack of morality he saw all around him. Benedict decided to leave Rome and become a hermit. With the help of an old monk, Benedict found a lonely cave on Mount Subiaco, about 50 miles south of Rome. For three years he lived there as a hermit, garbed in a habit. Gradually other men recognized his holiness and wanted to live the way he did. Benedict set up 12 monastic communities, each with 12 monks.

Sometime around 529 Benedict led a group of monks still further south, and he built Monte Cassino. This monastery was destroyed and rebuilt three times over the centuries and has become the best known of all Benedictine abbeys. At Monte Cassino Benedict wrote his famous Rule. This rule of life, based on Scriptures, was written to help all the monks live in community. It is full of common sense. Benedict's monks followed the motto *Ora et labora*, which means "Pray and work." The first duty of the monks was liturgical prayer.

Benedict's twin sister, Scholastica, became a nun and she, too, was later canonized. Both were buried at Monte Cassino.

The Benedictine monasteries that spread over much of Europe became centers of learning, agriculture, hospitality, and medicine. Benedict's monks helped repair the damage caused by the barbarian invaders. It was Pope Gregory the Great who encouraged the Benedictines to move north past the Alps.

Benedict, whose name means "blessed," was a blessing to the world. In pictures and church windows, Benedict is usually shown with a copy of his Rule, which became the basis of all western monasticism. In 1964 Pope Paul VI named him the patron of all Europe.



JULY

# Saint Scholastica

February 10

(c. 480–547)

Sometimes we can learn big lessons from small events. Although we know very little about Saint Scholastica, we do have one recorded event that teaches us much. Pope Gregory the Great wrote a collection of stories and events about the saints called the *Dialogues*. He devoted the entire second book of the *Dialogues* to Saint Benedict. It is from that collection that we learn of a simple and loving event in the lives of Saints Scholastica and Benedict.

Scholastica was the twin sister of Benedict. Benedict had spent some time studying in Rome, but then decided to devote all his life to the search for God. He first organized several clusterlike community dwellings, but finally established a very important monastery at Monte Cassino. Scholastica founded a community of religious women at Plombariola, about five miles south of her brother's monastery. Benedict directed the progress of these women, so Scholastica must have been the abbess there.

Scholastica and Benedict visited together only once a year. They would go to a small house near their monasteries, for no women were permitted at Monte Cassino. On one occasion Benedict, with several of his monks, met Scholastica at the house. They spent the day praying and speaking of God and the spiritual life. After they had eaten, they continued their conversation late into the night. When Benedict said he had to

return to his monastery, Scholastica begged him to stay and talk a while longer. Benedict refused, saying that his rule required that the monks be in the monastery at night. Heartbroken at his refusal, Scholastica folded her hands, put her head on the table, and quietly wept and prayed. While she was praying, a terrible storm began, a storm so terrible that no one could venture out into it. "God forgive you! What have you done?" Benedict exclaimed to his sister. She explained that since he had refused the favor she asked, she had turned to Almighty God instead and he said yes. What more could Benedict say? They continued their conversation and prayer until morning, and then Benedict and his monks left. Three days later Scholastica died. They had enjoyed their final conversation. Benedict told the monks that he saw her soul, like a dove, ascend toward heaven. He had her buried in the tomb he had built for himself.

We may not know much about Scholastica's early life, about her penances or powerful virtues, about her hopes and her dreams. But we do know that she valued people more than things. She knew it was important to listen to and care about others. And she also knew how to pray. So complete was her trust in God that she turned to him often. She placed her problems and her hurts in his loving heart. And that made all the difference. From this small event, we know all we need to know to become saints: love God, love others.

