

Lesson for Sunday, January 17, 2021 (The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Dear Grade 4-5 Venture Students and Families,

Blessings to each of you. I am praying that you are well and having a good week! Please find below the outline to this week's lesson for your child. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you are having difficulty with anything or need clarification.

- We are working this week on the January 17th Pflaum Gospel weekly lesson.
- **If you have not yet picked up your child's materials, you DO NOT HAVE THIS WEEKS LESSON! Please call the office (781-871-1244) and make arrangements to pick them up as soon as possible. Thanks!**
- The complete lesson can be found by going to the Holy Family website at holyfamilyrockland.org. Hover over the Menu button on the right corner of the main landing page and then Click on Faith Formation. Next, choose your child's grade level, **Grade 4-5 Venture**. Everything you need for the week is found there: (Remember, I will always give you lots of options – you do what you can get to each week based on your families schedule and your child's abilities.)
 1. Links to the Parent Teaching Guide pages to help your children each week
 2. A digital copy of their lesson (they have the hard copy)
 3. A video clip and activities to support the lesson.
 4. Prayers: **The Morning Offering – Page 55** of your Student Handbook. If your child has not mastered the following prayers please continue to review them as well: **The Sign of the Cross, the Lord's Prayer (The Our Father), the Hail Mary, the Glory Be and the Act of Contrition**, all found in the Student Venture Handbook on page 52.
- If you and I were together for class this week in person, we would be looking at our big Liturgical Calendar, like the one pictured on your webpage, and talking about what comes next, now that the Christmas season has ended. (Remember, the liturgical calendar is the calendar the Catholic Church uses to celebrate Sundays, Saints feast days, and special seasons in the Church.)
- Today we celebrate the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Ordinary time is green on the calendar. These next six weeks will pick up from John baptizing Jesus and we will listen to readings in church of Jesus gathering his apostles and beginning his ministry of teaching.
- **This Sunday's Gospel: John 1:35–42** In our lessons this week, the Gospel tells of the call of the first apostles or disciples. The story reminds us that we too have been called to share in the mission of Jesus, his joy, and his sufferings. We learn the word "vocation", something that we are called to do. At our birth, God called us by name. God has given us our personal vocation. Last week we learned about Jesus' Baptism and we talked about our own baptism. During your Baptism, the priest says, "you have put on Christ,". The personal vocation we have received is the call to live like Jesus – to be Christ to everyone we meet. May we be faithful in supporting and sharing in Christ's call for each of us - to share God's love in our families, community and in our world!
- **Venture Grades 4–5:** Lesson Summary: (The complete lesson can be found on your child's webpage.) This week your child will learn about one of the Church's more recently canonized saints, Pope Saint John XXIII, and how he helped to renew and change the Church. Ask your child to tell you about what they read about Saint John or take turns reading to one another. Read together about vocations and discuss that everyone has a call from God. Some are called to serve in a special way. Talk with them about the vocations to the priesthood, sisterhood, and brotherhood and others who serve. Discuss that marriage is also a special call from God.

- **Pray Together:** When you complete your lesson this week, talk with your child about the two of you or your whole family committing to starting each day with a morning prayer together or ending each day with an evening prayer together. The prayer does not have to be formal or structured, and it certainly does not need to be long. Pray together in your own words about what God is calling each of you to do and how you can answer Him with a resounding yes. Remember, the personal vocation we have received is the call to live like Jesus – to be Christ to everyone we meet. May we be faithful in supporting and sharing in Christ’s call for each of us - to share God’s love in our families, community and in our world!

Lastly, and most important: Please make a point of signing up to attend 10:00 AM Sunday Mass in person (if your family is comfortable with that) or watching Mass together as a family this week (preferably on Sunday). The easiest way to access the Mass recording is on our website. It is also showing on local cable WRPS. We always want our children to make the connection, like the great Road to Emmaus story in the Bible (Luke 24: 13-35), that we learn the scripture readings and then we celebrate Eucharist in the Mass – even if it is Spiritual Communion during this time of the pandemic.

We miss you! We love you! Please let us know if we can help in any way to make this process as smooth as possible for your family. We continue to pray for the health and safety of all our families and offer prayers of gratitude for all those that are working here in our area and around the world to aid those affected by the Coronavirus. **God Bless You!**

Yours in Christ,
Mrs. Liz Davis