

# St. Joseph's Parish





# **Family Activity Sheet**

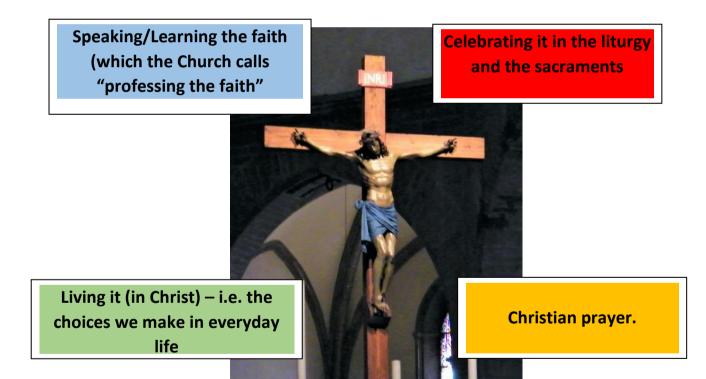


## 11-17 October 2020

#### Introduction:

The family is the domestic Church – that is, the Church at home. In these "Covid" times, not everyone can get to Mass easily and there is no children's liturgy of the word for families, so here are some family orientated activities to consider doing this week:

There are Four Dimensions of the Faith which we can put around the cross, making sure that Jesus Christ is the centre of everything we do:



These notes will use these colours to show the balance of activities – some of course reflect more than one dimension of the faith, but over the month, try to pick a variety of activities.

We would love any pictures of you doing these activities! If you have any, please send to the parish office. By sending them to the office please state if you are happy for them to be included in the newsletter (which is emailed to everyone and put on the website) and/or the parish Facebook page

Date	Feast/memorial	Activity
11 <sup>th</sup> October	In the Gospel today (Mt. 22 1-10) Jesus tells a parable about a man who was planning a wedding for his son. None of the invited guests came, so he asked his servant to call all the poor people instead.  This reminds us that Jesus is calling each one of us to Him, whatever and whoever we are, rich or poor, black or white, young or old sick or in good health.	Family reflection on the Gospel Whenever Jesus talks about a wedding feast, he is telling us that our life in heaven will be a great celebration. As a family think about the fact that Jesus is calling each one of us to spend more time with Him, may be in quiet personal prayer  • Light a candle • Put up a picture of Jesus and look at it, just saying to Him, "Jesus I love you"  (If you find this hard, say "Jesus, I want to love you, help me to love you")  • Thank Jesus for His love for us • Finish by praying the Our Father together.

11 <sup>th</sup>	28th Sunday of Ordinary Time						
October	In the Gospel today (Mt. 22 1-10) Jesus tells a						
	parable about a man who was planning a wedding						
	for his son. None of the invited guests came, so he						
	asked his servant to call all the poor people						
	instead.						
	Jesus' love for us is unconditional – that means we						
	cannot earn His love, He loves us all the time.						
11 <sup>th</sup>	28th Sunday of Ordinary Time						
October	Today's responsorial Psalm is the "The Lord is my						
	Shepherd" (Ps.23).						
	Responsorial Psalm						
	Psalm 22(23)						
	In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.						
	The Lord is my shepherd;						
	there is nothing I shall want.						
	Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.						
	Near restful waters he leads me,						
	to revive my drooping spirit.						
	In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.						
	He guides me along the right path;						
	he is true to his name.						
	If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.						
	You are there with your crook and your staff;						
	with these you give me comfort.						

#### Care for our neighbours

Share that love Jesus has for us by showing it to other people. Maybe you can:

- Make a card or a write a letter for someone on their own, to cheer them up.
- Ask your parents if you can pick some flowers and colourful leaves from the garden to give to a neighbour.

#### **Family Liturgical moment**

• Either one person read the whole Psalm or share out the verses.

#### To think about:

- What words or phrases in the Psalm reflect care, protection, leading, guiding, feeding, caring.
- What verse shows that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who loves us and wants to lead us to His Father in heaven? (ans: the last one)

#### To do:

- Light a candle and say thank you for the times when Jesus has been there for us
- Say a prayer for those who are on their own or who don't realise that they are loved by Jesus
- Ask Jesus to help you to love other people as He loves us.

*In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.* 

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

*In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.* 

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

## Copy out the Psalm and decorate it, and put it up at home

• Try learning it by heart – may be one verse a day.

A bit of explanation: In the days when Jesus was giving His teaching on earth, the sheep followed the shepherds who called to them. So, the sheep knew the voice of their shepherd and followed behind the shepherd. The shepherd would literally lead his sheep to where there was better grass (fresh pastures) which were watered by a brook and which has some trees for shade.

#### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October

### St. Edward the Confessor St Edward the Confessor (1003 - 1066)

He became King of England in 1042. He was famous for his generosity to the Church and for helping the poor. Unlike many kings of his day, he listened to his people and tried to help them as much as possible. His palace was on the banks of the Thames opposite a small abbey that he had rebuilt and enlarged. This was "called Westminster" Abbey (as opposed to the "East Minster" Abbey on the site of where St. Paul's is in the city of London). He is buried in Westminster Abbey.

He died on 5 January 1066, the last of the old Anglo-Saxon line, and his death eventually led to the conquest of England by William of Normandy later the same year.

- Find a picture of St. Edward the Confessor and either print or copy it.
- What else can you find out about him?
- Tell someone else, may be a grandparent, or a friend, what you have learned about St. Edward the confessor.
- As St. Edward the Confessor was famous for giving away things to the poor; find some things which you can give to a charity shop.
- Pray for anyone called Edward
- Pray for our queen, Queen Elizabeth, that she may remain strong and healthy in this difficult time.

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15 <sup>th</sup>
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#### St. Teresa of Avila

St. Teresa was a Carmelite nun who worked hard to reform her order which had grown very lax. She was a great pray-er and realised that the more we pray, the closer we become to Jesus. She particularly encouraged people to "contemplate" Jesus in prayer.

# This is a famous prayer of St. Theresa which you can learn:

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.

### **Try Contemplative prayer:**

One person slowly read out a story from the Gospels, about Jesus, and everyone else shut their eyes, imagining that scene in their mind.

When the reading has finished, sit in silence for a few moments and just allow yourself to be filled with Jesus' love. Feel the warmth of His love for you. End by saying in your heart, "I love you Jesus".

This is an exercise you can do over and over again and can even do on your own.

#### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October

#### St. Ignatius of Antioch

St. Ignatius of Antioch was a very early martyr of the Church, (he died in 107 AD) and may have known St. Peter. He was captured by the Romans and taken to Rome where he was thrown to the wild beasts because he was a Christian and refused to worship the Roman gods. On his way he wrote letters to other Christians and taught them about Jesus Christ. He was a deeply holy man who spent a lot of time in prayer.

Write a letter to a friend or a family member, telling them who Jesus is.

#### You can say:

- Where He was born,
- What He did during His time on earth
- How He died
- That He rose from the Dead in Easter Sunday
- That He ascended into heaven
- And that He is waiting there for us to join Him.

Remember, any pictures or prayers or copies of the letters you write, would be lovely to have for the parish newsletter. Just email copies or photos of them to the office.