

# St. Joseph's Family Activities



## October 2021

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### October: Month of the Holy Rosary

October is a month dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, and so there are instructions on how to make a one-decade rosary. Although the solemnity of All Saints is normally celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> November, this year it's been transferred to the nearest Sunday (31<sup>st</sup> October).

All Saints Day is about celebrating all those who are in heaven, not just the named (canonised) saints. Saints come in all shapes and sizes, and vary from very young to very old, men, women, rich poor, kings and the lowest in the country. "Halloween" means "All Hallow's Eve"? It's the day before All Saints Day, (just like Christmas Eve is the day before Christmas Day). So instead of celebrating all that is nasty and evil in this world (there is already too much of that), there are some ideas for you on the last page.

One change to the format of these sheets is that at the beginning of the discussion on the Gospel each week, there is a heading for the Children's Liturgy of the Word. Some parishes are using these notes to help with this valuable activity, and others are giving it to parents to use with their own families each week.

As ever, if you wish to see past copies of these sheets, please go to <https://www.stjosephsmalvern.org/j/> and then click on the dropdown box for past editions.

***There are Four Dimensions of our Faith, and the activities all reflect one or more of each of these dimensions.***

October is the month of the Holy Rosary and this is a prayer that you don't regularly pray, may be this is the month to give it a go. One of the activities for this month is to make a one decade rosary – if you do, please send us photos.



*The family is the "domestic Church" and if we are not able to gather in person with the parish, it's a good idea to set aside special times to pray with the family, even if it is just 10 minutes two or three times a week. These are graced moments. Light a candle and have a few moments' silence and remind everyone that they are in the presence of God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These times are very precious and even if it is just a few minutes after a meal, it can be a fruitful time. Don't bite off more than you can chew! Start with just a few moments and build up the scope and variety of prayers slowly. Give everyone the opportunity to voice their own prayers as well as reciting traditional prayers.*

**Speaking/Learning the faith  
(which the Church calls  
"professing the faith")**

**Living it (in Christ) – i.e. the  
choices we make in  
everyday life**

**Celebrating it in the Liturgy  
and the Sacraments**

**Christian  
prayer.**

## First reading and Gospel for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October: 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### First reading: "Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' ... So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man.

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, ... "from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

## Children's liturgy of the word for this week



### Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

*Introduction: Again, it's worth looking at both the first reading and the Gospel. I've edited both readings here. This teaching is really difficult for those families which have spilt up. Don't condemn those who have divorced and re-married, after all, the Lord did not condemn the woman caught in the act of adultery (Jn. 8:3-11). Help the children to see that marriage is God's ideal and that His grace helps us all in whatever circumstance we find ourselves in. It is important that the children know this.*

**Q: In the first reading, why did God create the woman for the man?** (A: to be a partner/companionship/... to have children.....)

**Q: What does "become one body" mean?** (A. to be united, to work together, to be a team, a partnership.)

**Q: What did Jesus say that God's plan was from the beginning?** (A. That men and women are to become "one body" – to be a team/partnership)

**Q: Who unites the man and the woman in marriage?** (A: God.)

**Q: What did disciples do when the children are brought to Jesus?** (A: They tried to send them away.)

**Q: What did Jesus do?** (A: He puts his arms around the children and welcomes them).

**Q: Jesus loves our families, whatever shape and size they are. How can we be more aware of Him in our homes?** (A: Again, various ; family prayer, grace before meals, create a prayer corner.....)

**Finish by sitting in silence with your eyes closed, and imagine that Jesus is with you. See Him in your imagination, and see Him reaching out to you. See Him mouth your name and tell you that He loves you. What do you say back to Him?**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit....**



I realise that we have used this before but it's a lovely activity. Invite the children to draw themselves in the blank space. This Icon is called "Jesus and friend!"

He is our best and most loyal friend.

Why not make a family prayer corner – these are some examples of ones made by the children in our parish.





## Gospel for Sunday 10<sup>h</sup>October: 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Gospel: Mark 10:17-27

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

## Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

**Q: What kind of man ran up to Jesus?** (A: A young man who was rich.)

**Q: What did he ask Jesus?** (A: What he had to do to inherit Eternal Life.)

**Q: What is Eternal Life?** (A: Living with God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit in heaven for ever and ever.)

**Q: Which commandments does Jesus list?** (A: Do not steal, kill, commit adultery, honour father and mother, defraud, lie [bear false witness])

**Q: What is the man's response to Jesus at this point?** (A: That he's done all these things.)

**Q: What did Jesus then ask him to do?** (A: To sell all that he had and to follow Jesus.)

**Q: How did the man respond to this?** (A: He went away sad.)

**Q: Why was the man so sad?** (A: Because he was very rich and could not give up all that he had.)

**Q: Which saints do you know of responded like this to Jesus' command?** (A: St. Peter and the Apostles, St Paul, St. Anthony St. Francis of Assisi, St. Maximilian Kolbe [who gave up his life] St. Bridget of Sweden, St. Catherine of Siena, in fact, most of them in one way or another....)

**Q: Let's think about this... if we want to live with Jesus in heaven, Jesus is asking us to get our priorities right. It may not be the right thing for us to give away or sell EVERYTHING, but we can begin to think about the difference between what we NEED and what we WANT.)**

**Q: What are the most important things in life that we need?** (A: Homes, food, clothes, family, education, times of relaxation, playing, especially outdoors....)

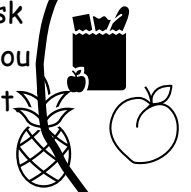
**Q: Think about what you have at home that you have, but don't need or use any more... are there any things that you can give to charity shops?** (A: Various.)

**Finish with this prayer: Jesus, I love you above all things, give me the grace to ask for only what I need and not just what I want. Amen.**

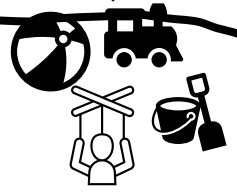
Which of these actions will lead you to Jesus?



You only ask for what you need to eat



You gave away toys to a charity shop



You kept asking for new computer games



You gave away outgrown clothes to a charity shop



You kept eating too many sweet things



Start



here

A

B

C

D

E

## Children's liturgy of the word for this week



### Gospel for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October: 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Gospel: Mark 10:42-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

### Discussion on the Gospel

- † Light a candle
- † Make the Sign of the Cross
- † Someone read the Gospel slowly

*The aim of the discussion is to think about how we can serve other people.*

**Q: What did James and John want?** (A: To sit next to Jesus in heaven.)

**Q: Jesus' answer is a bit confusing but basically He is saying that if they want to sit with Jesus they need to suffer like Him. How did Jesus suffer?** (A: He was crucified and died on the Cross.)

**Q: Do you know how James and John suffered?** (A: James was martyred in Jerusalem by the Romans and John stood beside Jesus when He was killed on the Cross, which must have been horrendous seeing your best friend go through so much.)

**Q: Why do you think that the others indignant, (cross with James and John)?** (A: Possibly because they also wanted to sit next to Jesus...)

**Q: What does Jesus mean when He says that if you want to be great, you need to be the servant?** (A: Great people are not those who demand everyone else does things for them but who do things for other people.)

**Q: If a great person is someone who serves (looks after) other people, who do you know who is great?** (A: Various....)

**Q: Which saints do you know gave their lives to serve other people?** (A: Mother Teresa (St. Teresa of Calcutta), St. Frances of Assisi, St. Margaret of Scotland... [Most saints])

**Q: How can we serve other people at home/at school/in Church?** (A: Various....)

**Finish with this prayer by St. Ignatius of Loyola:**

***Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will. Amen.***

**How can I serve others this week?**

Fill in the boxes below with either a picture or an activity that you could do each day to serve people around you. There are some ideas in the first box, but you can make up your own. Then tick in the box when you have done it.

<b>Ideas</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lay the table</li><li>• Pick up a coat on the floor</li><li>• Do the washing up</li><li>• Make all the beds</li><li>• Tidy your room</li><li>• Sweep outside</li><li>• Help a neighbour in their garden</li><li>• Tidy up another room at home</li><li>• Clean the bathroom basin</li><li>• Tidy the classroom</li></ul>			
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>

# Children's liturgy of the word for this week

## Discussion on the Gospel



### Gospel for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October; 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: **Praise to you Lord Jesus  
Christ**

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

*This is a lovely story of healing which we can read on different levels. On the simple level it's about Jesus enabling a blind man to regain his sight, but we can also reflect on the fact that Jesus helps us all to "see" things differently. Depending upon the age of your children you might want to explore the deeper meaning of "seeing" with them, as in understanding better. Don't we say "I see" when we mean "I understand"?*

**Q: Who came up to Jesus?** (A: Bartimaeus, a blind man.)

**Q: What did he want?** (A: Jesus to have pity on him/to be able to see again.)

**Q: What was Jesus' response to Bartimaeus' request?** (A: He just told him that his faith had saved him.)

**Q: What/who did Bartimaeus have faith in?** (A: That Jesus could heal him.)

**Q: Who else in the Gospels had faith in Jesus that he could heal?** (A: The woman who was bleeding for 12 years/ the father of the little girl who dies, the centurion whose servant was ill, the father of the boy who had epilepsy, the Phoenician woman, the lepers.... And lots more!)

**Q: Faith is something that we are given when we are baptised but it needs to be fed and grow. Who has ever looked after a plant?** (Open.)

**Q: What happens to a plant that is not watered?** (A: It dies!)

**Q: The watering of the plant feeds it and so the plant can live and grow. Our faith needs to be "watered" or fed, how do you think that that can happen?** (A: Various, e.g. we can pray every day, e.g. grace before meals/ bedtime prayers/ pray the rosary, read the Bible, go to Mass regularly, talk about Jesus with other people, go to adoration.)

**Q: Who else in the Gospels had faith in Jesus that he could heal?** (A: The woman who was bleeding for 12 years/ the father of the little girl whom Jesus restored o life, the centurion whose servant was ill, the father of the boy who had epilepsy, the Phoenician woman, the lepers.... And lots more!)

***One of those who had faith said to Jesus, "I believe, help my unbelief" (Mk. 9:24). This is something that we can all say together as we all have faith but all of us can grow in faith more and more, and Jesus can help us. Let's say together:***

***Jesus, I have faith in you. Help me to have more and more faith in you each day. Amen.***



## Various activities which help to reflect on blindness, then write a prayer in the scroll

### Blindfold Kim's game:

Place a number of safe objects on a tray and invite everyone to look very hard at them. Remove the tray and whilst it is out of sight remove an object. Then blindfold everyone and invite them in turns to feel what is missing. Depending on the age of the children more than one item may be removed. For larger groups, several trays may be set up.

### What is the object?

Get a cardboard box with a lid. Cut a hole in the lid that is just big enough for a child's hand to go through. Put an object in the box and invite participants to feel what is there.

### Blindfold taste/smell test:

Before planning this game be aware of any allergies.

Invite participants to taste or smell various objects to see if they can work out what they are without seeing them.

### Blindfold walking: (best done outside where there is more space)

Plan a route - on grass you can peg down tape or string, on a hard surface a chalk route can be drawn.

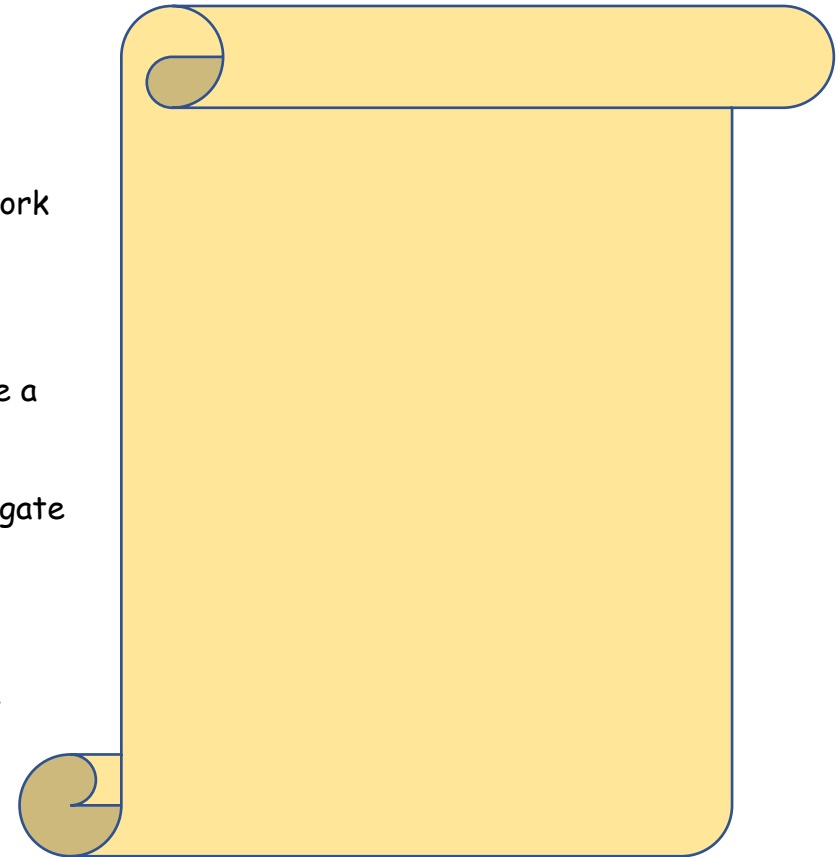
In pairs, one person blindfolded and the other giving instructions to navigate the course e.g. "forward, stop, turn right, forwards... stop... etc

### Listening exercises:

Play a series of familiar sounds and invite participants to guess what the sound is.

**To Sum Up:** What was it like to walk/taste/feel etc without sight?

What can we do to be more aware of those who can't see?



# Children's liturgy of the word for the solemnity of All Saints



## Gospel for Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October; Solemnity of All Saints

### Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

## Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

*The Solemnity of All Saints has been transferred from tomorrow (1st November) to today. This solemnity is about celebrating all who are in heaven, not just the named saints and this would include our family members who have gone before us, may be many generations ago. We are reminded that the vocation (calling) of every Christian is to be holy and to share in God's eternal glory in heaven.*

**Q: Who is Jesus talking to?** (A: The crowds.)

**Q: Who does He describe as happy?** (A: The poor in Spirit, the gentle, etc... or those who are kind and/or those who are suffering now.)

**Q: Who will see God?** (A: The pure in heart.)

**Q: Who will be comforted?** (A: Those who mourn.)

**Q: Who will be satisfied?** (A: Those who hunger and thirst for what is right.)

**Q: Who do we know who hungers for what is right?** (Open.)

**Q: Who shall be the sons (and daughters) of God?** (A: Peacemakers)

**Q: What is a peacemaker?** (A: Someone who tries to stop wars or who on a smaller scale, who tries to stop arguments or who won't get into an argument.)

**Q: Who do we know who is a peacemaker?** (Open.)

**Q: What characteristic is common to all these kinds of people?** (A: They are all loving)

**Q: Who are the most loving people that we know?** (Open.)

**Q: Heaven then, is for those who love, above all else. St Paul said that love is the most important virtue. How can we be more loving to those around us?** (A: Open.)

To learn by heart:

***"As it is, these remain: faith, hope and love, the three of them; and the greatest of them is love."*** (I Corinthians 13:13)



# Some October Feasts



## 1<sup>st</sup> October, St. Therese of Lisieux

St. Therese of Lisieux:

A Carmelite nun who died aged 24. Her desired to "be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect". She promoted her "little way" which means that each day we can do small things as well as we can.

She never left her convent but had a great desire to pray for missionaries and said that she would spend her time in heaven praying for missionaries.



In honour of St. Therese, do something small, but really well today, such as lay the table beautifully for a meal, or make a little bunch of flowers to go on the table.

Find out about the APF (Missio)

[www.mission.org](http://www.mission.org)

May be with your class at school, see how high you can stack coins, and then put all the coins gathered into the red Missio box.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> October, Holy Guardian Angels

Learn the prayer to your guardian angel:

Angel of God, my guardian dear,  
To whom God's love commits me here,  
Ever this day, be at my side,  
To light and guard,  
Rule and guide.

Amen.

Remember to pray this every morning.



## 4<sup>th</sup> October, St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis was the son of a rich man, and he gave up everything and relied on charity to live. Other men came to live with him, as he was known for his love of all of God's creation, people as well as the natural world. St. Francis was also known for creating the first nativity scene to help people understand the true meaning of Christmas.

Go on a bug hunt outside and see how many different creatures you can find. Look out for beautiful spiders' webs in the morning.



## 5<sup>th</sup> October, St. Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938)

She was a Polish nun who promoted the devotion to the Divine Mercy of Jesus. She received this vision and directed another artist (Eugeniusz Kazimirowski) to paint what she saw. Since then the image has been copied a number of times.

Sometimes the painting has the words, "Jesus I trust in you" written across the bottom.

### Pray a simple version of the divine mercy chaplet:

- Pray x 1: *Our Father...*
- Pray x 10: *For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*
- Pray x 3: *Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*

If you are artistic, may be make your own copy of this image. You could use paints, pencils or even collage. (If you do this, please send me a photo to include in a future edition).

Think about the people you have hurt and say sorry to them.

Ask them to forgive you (show you mercy)



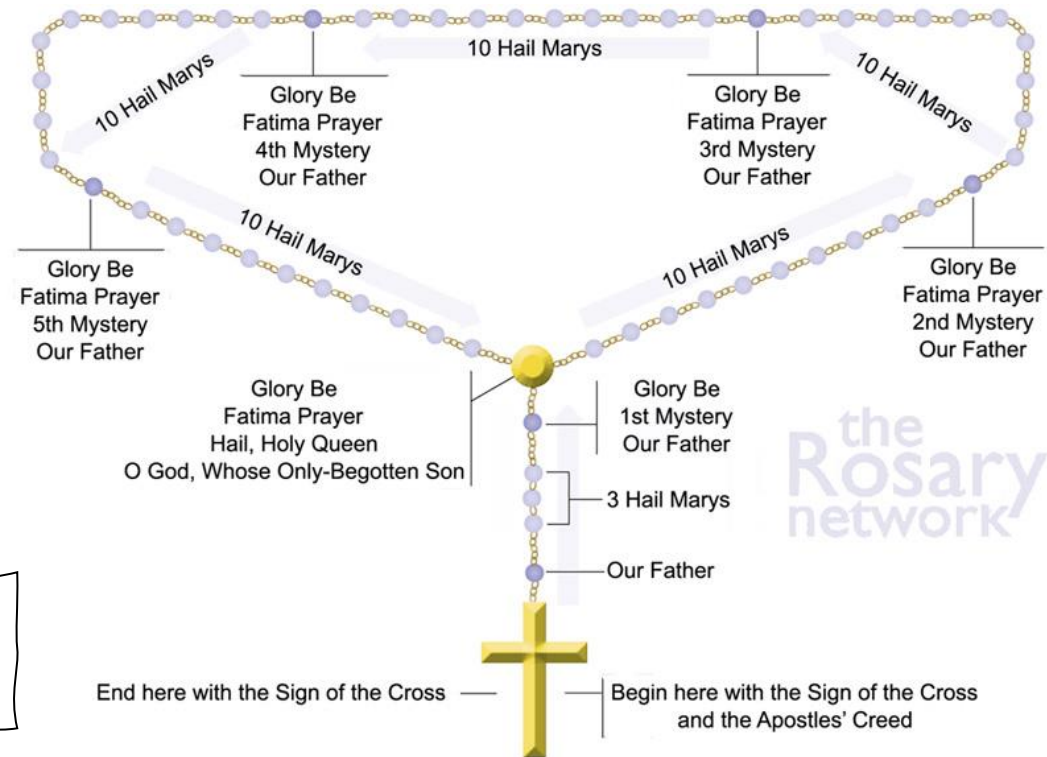
## 7<sup>th</sup> October, Our Lady of the Rosary

October is the month of the rosary and it's a great time to begun to pray the rosary if it is not something that you regularly do.

See this link for details on how to pray the Rosary:

<https://therosarynetwork.org/one-page-sheet-how-to-pray-the-rosary-pdf/>

Next time you come to Mass, ask the priest to bless it and then keep it safe in a pretty box or bag.



## How to make a one-decade Rosary

You will need: string or ribbon, 11 beads, a crucifix or cross (may be one that has fallen off a broken Rosary.)

1. Loop the string through the crucifix and hang it from the middle so that there is equal amount either side. Tie both ends together so that the crucifix is fixed securely in the middle of the string.
2. Thread both pieces of string through the first bead which is the Our Father/Glory be, bead, and if you can, tie an overhand knot to keep his bead in place.
3. Separate the two ends of the string and thread 5 beads on each side, joining them together so that there is now a loop with 10 beads, in addition to the single bead above the crucifix.

You are now ready to pray a decade of the rosary with the beads.

## 13<sup>th</sup> October, 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 West Minster" 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, maybe 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

## 15<sup>th</sup> October, 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.

### 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.*

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.*

## 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.

## 18<sup>th</sup> October, St. Luke

He is the author of the third Gospel and of the Acts of the Apostles. He was probably a Greek convert and not a Jew, and so his Gospel is written for Greeks and those who are not so familiar with life in Israel at the time of Jesus. Tradition also teaches us that he was a doctor and that possibly he painted the first picture of Our Lady.

Pray for  
all doctors  
and nurses

Paint a picture of  
Mary and send it to  
me to publish in the  
Christmas edition.

Write out your favourite  
verse from Luke's Gospel in  
the banner here



## 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Pope Saint John Paul II (1920-2005)

He was born Karol Józef Wojtyła in 1920 in Wadowice, Poland. His studies for the priesthood were often carried out in secret and in fear of being caught by the government of Poland at that time which did not like Christians. Eventually in 1964, he became Archbishop of Kraków and on 16 October 1978 he was elected pope and took the name John Paul II. He recognised the importance of families spending "quality time" together and praying together. He had a special fondness for young people and the sick, and travelled widely around the world meeting Catholics of all ages.

## Living in Christ as a family

Organise a "secret surprise" for members of the family:

- Write everyone's name on a piece of paper and put the papers in a box.
- Each person closes their eyes and takes out a name at random (if it's their own, put it back)
- Do something nice or kind in secret for that person this week. Make sure you don't give the game away!
- Younger members of the family may need help with this!

**Suggestions:** make someone else's bed, lay the table ready for a meal, tidy or clean up after someone else, make a nice card for someone... help carry bags, bring in the washing, put away the laundry, clean the inside of the car....

## 28<sup>th</sup> October, St. Simon and Jude, Apostles

St. Simon was known as Simon the zealot which means that he was a man of great faith.

St. Jude was also called Thaddeus and was the Apostle who asked Jesus at the Last supper why Jesus only showed Himself to His disciples and not to the world. He is not to be confused with Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus. He is the patron saint of desperate and impossible causes.

*Write a prayer to St. Simon and to St. Jude:*

*You can ask St. Simon to help you have more faith*

*You can ask St. Jude to pray for final end to the covid crisis. This is a big prayer!*



### Finally, in preparation for All Saints day

- As the saints come in all shapes and sizes, so do leaves! Collect as many different shapes and colours of leaves, clean them with a paper towel and make a circle with them around a candle to put on the table for your main meal on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November (All Saints day).
- Maybe you could do leaf rubbings or draw around them and cut out leaf shapes
- How about writing the name of different saints on each leaf?
- Find out about your own patron saint and draw a picture of him or her - we would love to put them up at Church, just bring them in next time you are passing by, or post in the letter box at the Church.

Have family fancy dress competition - dress up as a saint?

