

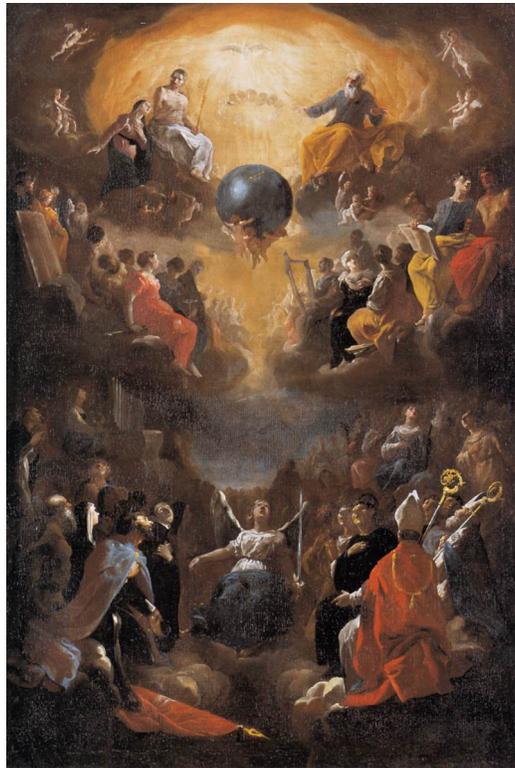
# THE ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA CATECHETICAL SERIES

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## PART II: THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH THROUGH HER SAINTS

### 1-YEAR CATECHETICAL PROGRAM

*with Geography, History and Arithmetic*



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*Rev. John-Mary S. W. Bowlin, KCHS, etc.*

### **General Structure of each class:**

- ✓ Opening Prayer: Saint's collect
- ✓ Saint Biography with Discussion Questions (Emphasis should be given to this part.)
- ✓ Catechetical Lesson
- ✓ Practice memorizing prayers
- ✓ Closing prayer: Prays as listed *and* the Pater, Ave, Gloria into October. After October, a decade of the Rosary for the rest of the year: Joyful through Epiphany, Luminous until Lent, Sorrowful until Easter, Glorious through the end of the year.

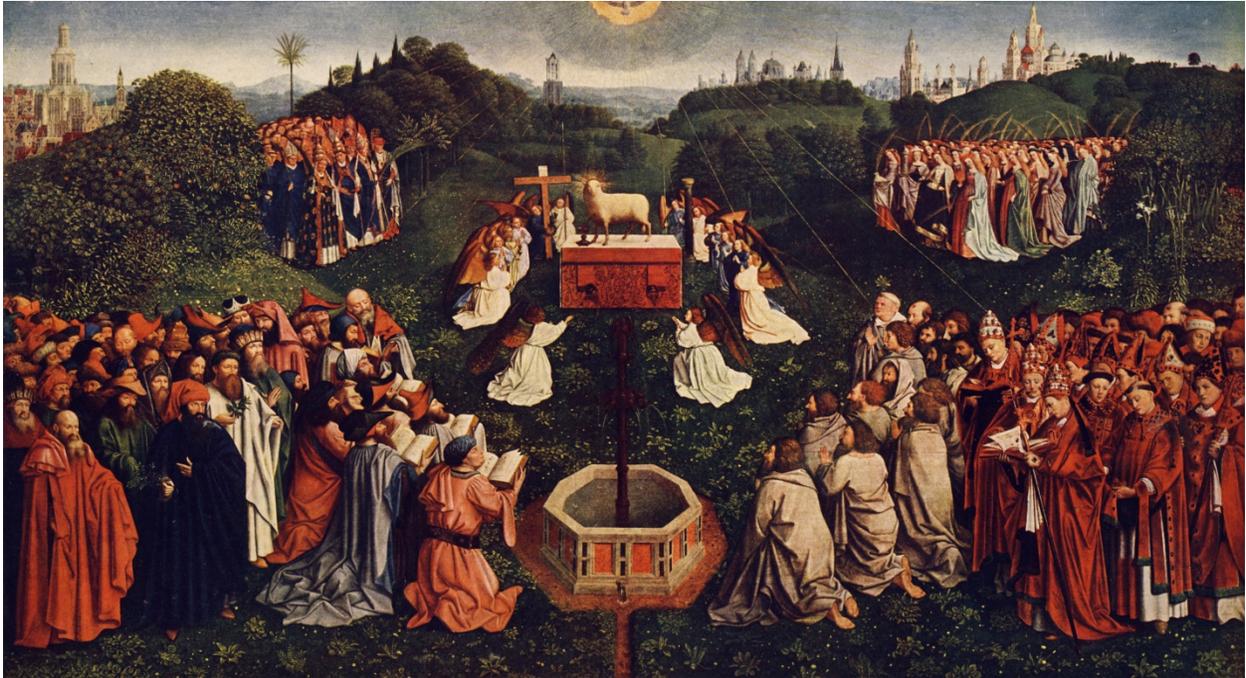
PBS = Picture Book of Saints (Lovasik)

CIC = Immaculate Christian Initiation Catechism

Prayers for each of the Saints is taken from the English and Spanish translations found in the Saint Andrew Daily Missal or from the Roman Missal (Third Edition).

Always refer back to previous lessons when possible and review geography

Unless otherwise indicated, all page numbers refer to Fr. Lovasik's *Picture Book of Saints* (PBS)



*Adoration of the Lamb vaneyck-ghent-stbavon*

## **Introduction: Old Testament, World/Middle East Geography, Salvation History**

God created us to live with Him forever in Heaven. Adam rejected that plan and God sent His Son, who became flesh, Jesus Christ, and suffered and died to redeem us. He rose from the dead and ascended to Heaven. We, who are united to Him in His Mystical Body, the Church, on Earth, are meant to join Him in Heaven forever if we remain united to Him and do not separate ourselves from Him by mortal sin.

Those who have lived and died in God's grace are in Heaven and are called "Saints". The word means "the ones who are holy". Everyone in Heaven is a Saint. Some people who have made it to Heaven are particularly honored by the Church (they have been "canonized", that is, been added to the list of those who are in Heaven). These Saints are not only honored because of God's work in them, but also because they are good examples for us.

This program this year is going to look at the history of the Catholic Church from the time of Jesus until today by studying the lives of some of the more important Saints.

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Dios nos creó para vivir con Él por siempre en el cielo. Adán rechazó ese plan y Dios mandó a su Hijo, quien se encarnó, Jesucristo, sufrió y murió para redimirnos. Él resucitó de entre los muertos y ascendió al cielo. Nosotros que estamos unidos a Él en su cuerpo místico, la Iglesia en la tierra, estamos llamados a reunirnos a Él en el cielo para siempre, si permanecemos unidos a Él y no nos separamos de Él por el pecado mortal.

Aquellos que han vivido y muerto en Gracia de Dios están en el cielo y les llamamos “Santos”. Esta palabra significa aquellos que son sagrados. Todo el que está en el cielo es un santo. Algunos que han logrado llegar al cielo son especialmente honrados por la Iglesia (han sido canonizados esto quiere decir que se han unido a la lista de los que están en el cielo). Estos santos no son solo venerados por el Trabajo que Dios hizo en ellos, sino también porque son un buen ejemplo para nosotros.

El programa de este año veremos la historia de la Iglesia Católica desde el tiempo de Jesús hasta el día de hoy y estudiaremos las vidas de algunos de los santos más importantes.

Why do we learn about and venerate the Saints?

- ✠ They are our brothers and sisters in Christ.
- ✠ They have a role in interceding for us.
- ✠ They provide us an example to follow in various concrete circumstances of how to live the Gospel.
- ✠ Honoring the Saints honors God, because it is God’s work that made them succeed.

In Baptism and Confirmation, we have the opportunity to establish a relationship with particular saints, taking their name, following their example, and invoking their intercession.



*John the Baptist (Domenico Ghirlandaio – Preaching of St John the Baptist)*

## 1. St. John the Baptist (p. 55)

**FEAST:** June 24 (Nativity)  
August 29 (Passion)

John was the last of the prophets and the herald of the Messiah. He is an example of a life of penance and called the Jews to repentance, which is the first part of the proclamation of the Gospel. John was baptizing in the Jordan River which was the eastern border of Palestine, the Promised Land. His baptism was a baptism of repentance, which was not necessary for Jesus, although Jesus did want to be baptized by John because He was bringing all of our humanity with Him to His Baptism. Cf. Matthew 3: 13 et seq.

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Juan fue el último de los profetas y heraldo del mesías. Es un ejemplo de una vida de penitencia, llamó a los judíos al arrepentimiento, lo cual es la primera parte del Evangelio. Juan bautizaba en el río Jordán el cual estaba en la frontera Este de Palestina, en la tierra prometida. Su bautismo era un bautismo de arrepentimiento, lo cual no era necesario para Jesús, sin embargo Jesús quiso ser bautizado por Juan porque el trata a toda la humanidad al bautismo. San Mateo 3: 13 et seq.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Whom we honor in St. John the Baptist; pour forth upon Your people the grace of spiritual joys, and direct the souls of all Your faithful into the way of eternal salvation. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, que hiciste memorable [este día por] el nacimiento de San Juan. Concede a Tu pueblo la gracia de los goces espirituales, y guía las almas de todos los fieles por el camino de la salvación eterna. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

**HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:** *none*

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Who foretold John's birth?

What did John wear? What did he eat? What did he not drink?

What was his relationship to Jesus?

What was his message?

What words of John are used in the Mass?

How did John die?

What do we call it when someone dies this way?

**GEOGRAPHY:** the Middle East (Palestine and Jordan) – Vademecum p. 7, nn. 1, 2

**MATH:** How much older was St. John the Baptist than Jesus?

**LESSON:** the Sacrament of Baptism (CIC qq. 30, 34 and appendix A)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Anne (p. 67)  
St. Joachim (p. 76)  
Blessed Virgin Mary (p. 11)  
St. Gabriel (p. 28)  
Sts. Phillip & James (p. 41)  
St. Barnabas (p. 120)  
St. Paul the Apostle (p. 57)  
St. Peter the Apostle (p. 56)  
St. James the Greater (p. 65)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



**2. Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Gabriel (pp. 11, 28) FEAST:** March 25  
September 29 or  
March 24 (Trad.)

God sent the Archangel St. Gabriel to ask the Blessed Virgin Mary to become the mother of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Mary accepts God's invitation and Jesus is conceived in her by the Holy Spirit. St. Gabriel tells Mary that the baby's name is going to be "Jesus", which means "God saves". (St. Luke 1: 26-38)

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Dios envió al arcángel san Gabriel a pedirle a la santísima virgen María que fuera la madre del mesías, Jesucristo, María aceptó la invitación de Dios y Jesús es concebido por el Espíritu Santo. San Gabriel le dice a María que el nombre del niño será "Jesús" que significa "Dios salva" (San Lucas 1, 26-38).

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who willed that Your Word should take flesh at the message of the angel Gabriel, in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary, grant that those who pray to You, believing her to truly be the Mother of God, may be aided by You through her intercession. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, que quisiste que Tu Verbo se encarnase en el seno de la Santísima Virgen María, después de anunciárselo el Ángel: concede a nuestras humildes suplicas que, pues la creemos verdadera Madre de Dios, seamos ayudados ante Ti con su intercesión. Por el mismo Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

Who was St. Anne the mother of? The Blessed Virgin (Mary)  
How long did St. Joachim spend fasting so that God would give him and St. Anne a child? 40 days and nights  
What was St. James the Less' relationship to Jesus? He was His cousin.  
Which apostle did Barnabas work with most closely? St. Paul  
What was St. Paul's name before he became a Christian? Saul  
What did Jesus say that He would give St. Peter? The keys to the kingdom of heaven.  
What did Jesus call St. James? "Son of Thunder"

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Who is Mary the mother of?  
Who was God's messenger (the Greek word is "angel") to Mary?  
What does the name "Gabriel" mean?  
Who is Jesus descended from?  
What does the name "Jesus" mean?  
What was Mary's answer?  
Why is Mary the Queen of all Saints?

**LESSON:** the 2nd Commandment (CIC qq. 49, 50; appendix B)

**GEOGRAPHY:** Palestine (particularly Galilee) – Vademecum, p. 7, n. 1

**MATH:** How many months after the Annunciation was Jesus born?

**HOMEWORK:** St. Bartholomew (p. 81)  
St. Thomas the Apostle (p. 114)  
St. Matthew the Evangelist (p. 86)  
St. Jude Thadeus (p. 100)  
St. Andrew (p. 108)  
St. John the Evangelist (p. 116)  
St. Christopher (p. 66)  
St. Mary Magdalene (p. 64)  
St. Joseph (p. 25)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



**3. St. Joseph (p. 25)      FEAST DAY:** March 19  
May 1 (Workman)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday after Easter (Patron of the Universal Church) (Trad.)

Our blessed Mother was married to St. Joseph, a craftsman, who was faithful to God. God chose him to be father of Jesus. Jesus was obedient to Joseph and Mary like all children ought to be obedient to their parents. Cf. St. Matthew 1: 20-21, 25; St. Luke 2: 4-7, 23-24, 33, 39-40; St. Matthew 2: 13-23; St. Luke 2: 41-50. From *Joseph, the Patron for Catholic Men* (Bowlin):

St. Joseph's fatherhood is not biological, yet no less real on account of it: "In this family, Joseph is the father: his fatherhood is not one that derives from begetting offspring; but neither is it an "apparent" or merely "substitute" fatherhood. Rather, it is one that fully shares in authentic human fatherhood and the mission of a father in the family."<sup>1</sup> Indeed, "[a]n exclusively biological concept of fatherhood belongs to the animal realm."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Redemptoris Custos*, 21

<sup>2</sup> *Joseph of Nazareth*, p. 157

Nuestra madre se casó con San José, un carpintero, que era fiel a Dios. Dios lo escogió para ser el padre de Jesús. Jesús fue obediente a José y María como todos los hijos deben ser obedientes a sus padres. Cf. San Mateo 1;20-21,25; San Lucas 2;4-7, 23-24, 33, 39-40; San Mateo 2; 13-23; San Lucas 2; 41-50. De *San José: patrón de los hombres católicos* (Bowlin):

La paternidad de san José no es Biológica, sin embargo no es menos real a causa de eso: en esta familia san José es el padre; su paternidad no es una que se deriva de engendrar descendencia; pero tampoco es “aparente” o meramente “sustituto”. Más bien, es una que comparte una paternidad auténticamente humana y la misión de un padre en la familia. En efecto, en concepto exclusivo de paternidad biológica pertenece al reino animal.

**OPENING PRAYER:** We beg You, O Lord, that we may be helped by the merits of St. Joseph, the spouse of Your holy Mother, so that what we cannot obtain for ourselves, may be given to us through his intercession. Who lives and reigns, forever and ever. Amen.

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Te rogamos, Señor, nos ayuden los méritos del Esposo de Tu Santísima Madre: para que alcancemos por su intercesión lo que no podemos conseguir por nuestros méritos. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

Where did Bartholomew preach the Gospel after the Ascension? Arabia and India

What does St. Thomas' nickname “Didymus” mean? Twin

What did St. Matthew write? The first Gospel

Where did St. Jude suffer martyrdom? Persia

What shape was the cross on which St. Andrew was put to death? X-cross, X- frame, saltire, crux decussata

What is the symbol of St. John? The eagle

Who baptized St. Christopher? Jesus

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Who was Joseph's wife?

What role did Joseph have in the life of Jesus?

What does Jesus' relationship with Joseph teach us about our relationship with our parents?

Why is Joseph a good example especially to Christian men?

**LESSON:** the 4th Commandment (CIC qq. 33, 49, 50; appendix B)

**GEOGRAPHY:** Palestine, Vademecum, p. 7, n. 1

**HOMEWORK:** St. Ignatius of Antioch (p. 123)  
St. Cecilia (p. 105)  
St. Barbara (p. 110)  
St. Lucy (p. 113)  
St. Stephen (p. 115)  
St. Agnes (p. 15)  
St. Lawrence (p. 72)  
St. Tarcisius (p. 75)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



#### 4. St. Tarcisius (p. 75) (3<sup>rd</sup> Century)

**FEAST:** August 15

In the Church, there are different levels of ministers: deacons, priests and bishops. There are also some other ministers, who are not ordained, but who are given a special ministry, such as acolytes. Tarcisius was one who helped the ordained ministers perform their roles in making the people of God holier.

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En la Iglesia hay diferentes niveles de ministros: Diáconos, Sacerdotes y Obispos. También hay algunos ministros, que no son ordenados, pero que tienen un ministerio especial tales como los Acólitos. Tarcisio fue uno que ayudo a los ministros ordenados a desempeñar su rol de hacer mas santo el pueblo de Dios.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Grant, we beg You, O almighty God, that we who celebrate blessed Tarcisius, Your martyr, may by his intercession be strengthened in the love of Your name and reverence for the most Blessed Sacrament. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Concede, Te suplicamos, Oh Dios todo poderoso, que los que celebramos al bienaventurado Tarsicio, Tu mártir, por su intercesión ser fortalecidos en el amor de Tu nombre y en la reverencia al Santísimo Sacramento. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

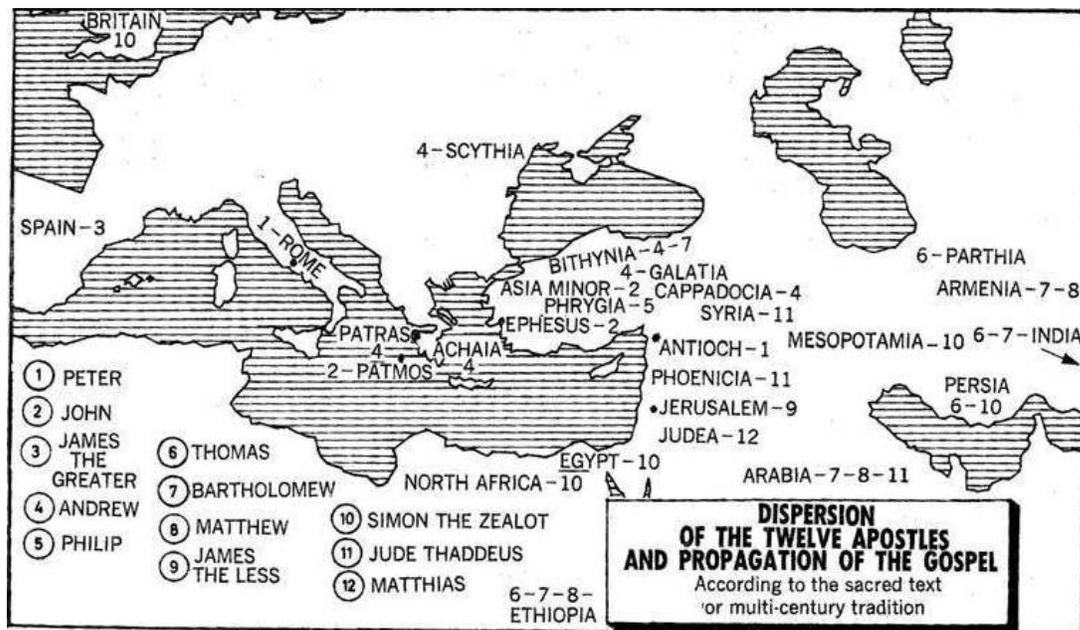
## HOMWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:

How many letters did St. Ignatius of Antioch write on his long journey to Rome? 7  
Where was the body of St. Cecilia buried? The catacombs  
St. Barbara is the patroness for whom? Prisoners  
By whom is St. Lucy invoked? People who have trouble with their eyes  
St. Stephen was one of the first what? Deacons  
St. Agnes' name comes from the Latin word for what? Lamb  
St Lawrence served the Roman Church as a what? Deacon

## SUMMARY QUESTIONS:

What is the holy Eucharist?  
Why was Tarcisus willing to die?  
What does he teach us about the Holy Eucharist?

## GEOGRAPHY:



**LESSON:** Holy Eucharist (This is the only Lesson, so make it count)  
(CIC qq. 37-41, and appendices E & F)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Anthony the Abbott  
St. Helen (p. 77)  
St. Martin of Tours (p. 121)  
St. Sebastian (p. 14)  
St. George (p. 34)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



*Right: Mural of St. George at a Restaurant in Bethlehem (found in Vademecum, p. 36)*

**5. Sts. Sebastian (p. 14)(c. AD 288) & George (p. 34) (c. 303)**

**FEASTS:** January 20  
April 23

The Catholic Church began to spread with the preaching of the Twelve Apostles (Peter, Andrew, James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon, and Jude). Many people began to follow Jesus throughout the Roman Empire. But the Roman Emperors treated themselves like gods and wanted the people to worship them along with all the other Roman gods. Christians could not do this and many of the Emperors decided to kill the Christians because they could not control them.

Both Saints George and Sebastian were soldiers in the Roman Empire who became Christians and were eventually killed because they told the government that what they were doing was wrong. St. Sebastian is often shown shot with arrows, but he did not actually die from those wounds. A Christian woman nursed him back to health and he went back to preaching Christ. Eventually, he was beheaded.

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La iglesia Católica empezó a expandirse con la predicación de los doce apóstoles (Pedro, Andrés, Santiago y Juan, Tomás, Santiago, Felipe, Mateo, Simón y Tadeo). Mucha gente empezó a seguir a Jesús a través del imperio Romano. Pero los emperadores romanos se creían como dioses y querían que la gente les diera culto junto con los otros dioses romanos. Los cristianos no podían hacer esto, así que muchos de los emperadores decidieron matar a los cristianos porque no los podían controlar.

Ambos santos Jorge y Sebastián eran soldados del imperio Romano que se convirtieron al cristianismo y fueron asesinados por decirle al gobierno que lo que hacían estaba mal. San

Sebastián es común verlo atravesado por flechas, pero el no murió de esas heridas. Una mujer cristiana lo cuidó hasta que se recuperó y siguió predicando a Cristo. Después fue decapitado.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Mercifully look on our weakness, O almighty God; since the weight of our own sins weighs us down, may the glorious intercession of your martyrs Sebastian and George be our protection. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, todopoderoso, mira propicio a nuestra flaqueza; y pues nos abrumba el peso de nuestras propias acciones, protéjanos la gloriosa intercesión de Tus Mártires Jorge y Sebastián. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

**HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What did St. Helen go to Jerusalem to find? The Holy Cross  
Until he was 23 years old, what was St. Martin? Barber/surgeon, volunteer in Dominicans of Holy Rosary Priory in Lima, performed most menial tasks

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What occupation did St. Sebastian have?  
What did Sebastian do to help the Christians who were suffering?  
What did Sebastian do after he was shot with arrows?  
What virtue is St. George known for? Courage.  
What does St. George's combat with the dragon symbolize? The Christian's combat with the Devil.

*Commentary:* We can never forget that we have a spiritual enemy and that we must be brave – what is fortitude? “Fortitude is the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good. It strengthens the resolve to resist temptations and to overcome obstacles in the moral life. The virtue of fortitude enables one to conquer fear, even fear of death, and to face trials and persecutions. It disposes one even to renounce and sacrifice his life in defense of a just cause. “The Lord is my strength and my song.” [Psalm 118: 14] “In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” [John 16: 33] [2848, 2473]” CCC 1808

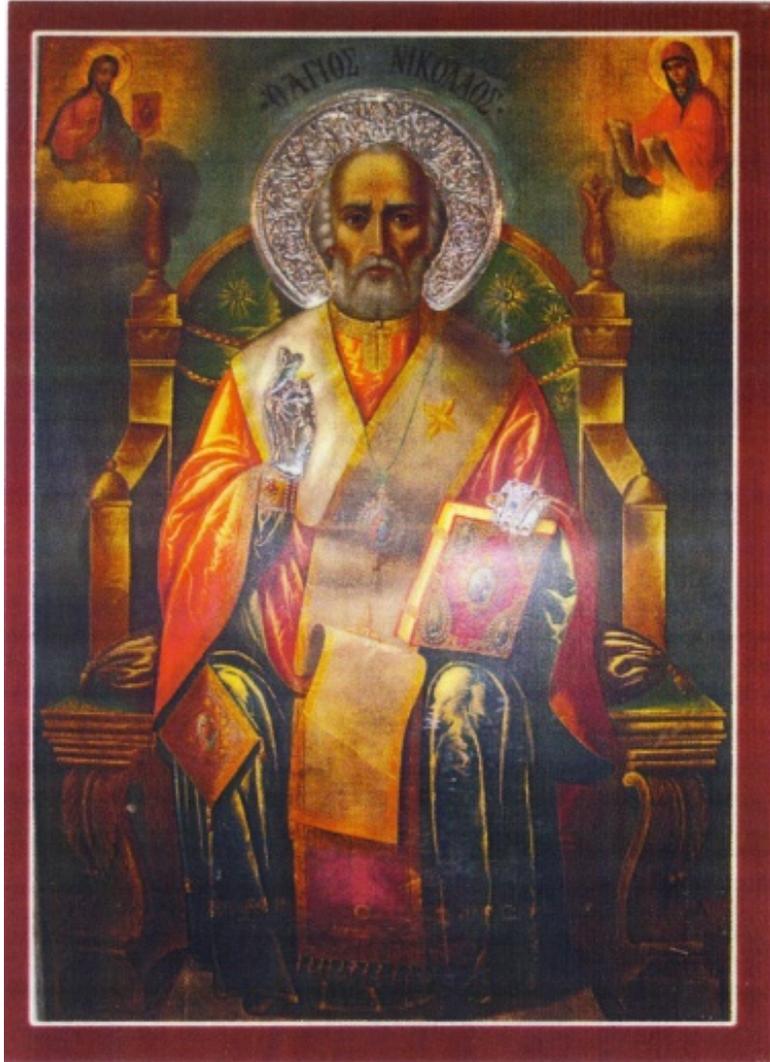
**GEOGRAPHY:** Europe and Roman Empire, Vademecum, pp. 8-9

**MATH:**

**LESSON:** Rite of Penance (CIC qq. 35; appendices B & C)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Basil the Great (p. 53)  
St. Nicholas (p. 111)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



## 6. St. Nicholas [of Bari, Bishop of Myra] (p. 111) (4<sup>th</sup> Century)

FEAST: December 6

God ordains some men to be deacons, priests and bishops. They are given authority and power to do things to help people follow the will of God and come closer to Him. There are things that a priest can do that a deacon cannot and there are things that bishops can do that deacons and priests cannot. One of the things that priests can do but is normally only done by Bishops is to administer the sacrament of Confirmation. The sacrament of Confirmation is special because:

- 1) the Holy Spirit comes to us in a more complete way;
- 2) we are given strength in order to better live our faith, especially when other people try and stop us, as soldiers of Christ.

St. Nicholas was a bishop who also fought against those people who wanted to teach that Jesus was not God. He was also very generous to the poor and that is why his story became what we know today as Santa Claus.

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Dios ordena algunos hombres para ser diáconos, sacerdotes, y obispos. A ellos se les da la autoridad y el poder para hacer cosas para ayudar a la gente que haga la voluntad de Dios y acercarse más a Él. Hay cosas que un sacerdote puede hacer pero un diácono no. También hay cosas que un obispo puede hacer y un diácono o sacerdote no. Una de las cosas que un sacerdote puede hacer pero que es normalmente hecha por los obispos es administrar el sacramento de la confirmación. El sacramento de la confirmación es especial porque:

- 1) el Espíritu Santo viene a nosotros de una forma más completa;
- 2) nos da la fuerza para mejor vivir nuestra Fé, especialmente cuando otra gente trata de detenernos, como soldados de Cristo.

San Nicolás fue un obispo que combatió en contra de unas gentes que querían enseñar que Jesús no es Dios. Él era muy generoso es por eso que su historia se convirtió en lo que hoy conocemos como Santa Claus.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, who worked countless miracles by Your holy Bishop Nicholas; grant, we beg You, that by his merits and prayers we may be delivered from the flames of Hell. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, que honraste al santo Pontífice Nicolás con innumerables Milagros; Te suplicamos, que por sus méritos e intercesión, nos libres de las llamas del infierno. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

With whom was St Basil good friends? St. Gregory Nazianzen

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Who was Nicholas a special protector of?

Which person that we associate with Christmas comes from St. Nicholas?

Where did Nicholas die?

The picture tells us that Nicholas had what role in the Church?

**GEOGRAPHY:** Turkey (Vademecum, pp. 8-9)

**LESSON:** Hierarchy &  
Sacrament of Confirmation (CIC qq. 26, 36; appendix D)

There are levels of authority in the Church who act as shepherds.

They are all under the Pope, who is the Bishop of Rome.

Cardinals are not their own rank: they are deacons, priests and bishops with a special role. The Cardinals elect the Pope.

Bishops are the chief shepherds of a Diocese. If the Diocese has responsibility for other dioceses, it is an Archdiocese and the Bishop is called an archbishop.

Priests are the local pastors in parishes, who work with deacons, and reports to the Bishop.

*Show Chrism to students (if possible) and let them smell it.*

**HOMEWORK:** St. Ambrose (p. 112)  
St. Augustine (p. 82)  
St. Patrick (p. 24)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Come, Holy Ghost



## 7. St. Patrick (p. 24) (c. AD387-461)

**FEAST:** March 17

There is only one God, and He is the only one that we should worship. We can not have “false gods”. The Catholic Church, started by Jesus through the Apostles in Jerusalem, and commissioned to make disciples of all nations, began to spread. Most Christians lived around the Mediterranean Sea. Those who went out and worked to bring salvation to the rest of the world were known as *missionaries*.

St. Patrick was originally from Scotland but was made into a slave and sold to a place that is today known as Ireland. After he escaped, he came back to Ireland to teach them about the one, true God.

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Solo hay un Dios y solo a El le debemos adorar. No debemos tener “falsos dioses”. La Iglesia Católica la fundo Jesús a través de los apóstoles en Jerusalén y la comisionó a hacer discípulos a todas las naciones y comenzó a expandirse. Muchos cristianos vivían al rededor del mar Mediterráneo. Aquellos que salieron y trabajaron en llevar la salvación al resto del mundo eran conocidos como *misioneros*. San Patricio era originario de Escocia pero fue tomado como esclavo y vendido a lo que hoy conocemos como Irlanda. Después de escapar, regreso a Irlanda para enseñar acerca del único y verdadero Dios.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who did graciously grant to send blessed Patrick, confessor and bishop, to preach Your glory to unbelievers, grant that, through his merits and intercession, we may be able to accomplish what You command us to do. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, que dignaste enviar a Tu Confesor y Pontífice San Patricio para predicar Tú gloria a los gentiles: concédenos por sus méritos e intercesión que, merced a Tu misericordia, podamos cumplir cuanto nos tienes mandado. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

**HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

Which Saint did St. Ambrose admit to the Church? St. Augustine of Hippo  
Who was the Mother of St. Augustine? St. Monica

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Where was St. Patrick born?  
Where was Patrick ordained a priest?  
Where was Patrick sent to preach before he went to Ireland?  
Who is he the patron of?  
What does the picture tell us about St. Patrick's role in the Church?

**GEOGRAPHY:** Scotland/Ireland/Mediterranean Sea, Vademecum, pp. 8-9, nn. 5b, 6

**MATH:** What year was Patrick captured by pirates?

**LESSON:** First Commandment (CIC qq. 49, 50; appendix B)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Jerome (p. 89)  
St. Leo the Great (p. 31)  
St. Benedict (p. 26)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Act of Faith



## 8. St. Benedict (p. 26) (AD480-547)

**FEAST:** July 11  
March 21 (Trad.)

*Context:* After most of Europe was Christian, communities of men and women were founded to allow them to spend their time dedicated to God. St. Anthony was the “father” of eastern monasticism in the early days of the Church. The founder of western monasticism was St. Benedict. His motto was *Ora et Labora* (pray and work). Benedict’s sister, Scholastica, also founded an order of religious women.

The devil did not like the holiness of Benedict and tried very hard to stop his work. Because of St. Benedict’s ability to stop the devil’s attacks, he is a Saint who we can pray to when we are attacked by the devil.

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Contexto: después de que Europa era mayor parte cristiana. Se fundaron comunidades de hombres y mujeres que les permitían pasar su tiempo dedicados a Dios. San Antonio fue el padre del monasticismo del este en los primeros años de la iglesia. El fundador del monasticismo en el oeste fue San Benedito. Su lema era ora et labora ( ora y labora). La hermana de Benedito, Escolástica, también fundó una orden religiosa de mujeres.

Al demonio no le gustaba la santidad de Benedicto y trato arduamente de detener su obra debido a las habilidad de San Benedicto de detener los ataques del demonio, el es un santo a quien podemos orar cuando somos atacados por el demonio.

**OPENING PRAYER:** May the intercession of the blessed abbot Benedict, we beg You, O Lord, commend us to You, that what we cannot have through our own merits we may obtain through his patronage. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Te suplicamos, Señor, que la intercesión de San Benito, nos recomiende para contigo, a fin de que consigamos con su patrocinio lo que no podemos con nuestros méritos. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What did St. Jerome translate into Latin? The Bible  
From whom did St. Leo save the city of Rome? Attila the Hun, hordes of Huns, Genseric

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Where did Benedict live in a cave for three years?  
What did the monks with Benedict do?  
What was their motto?  
What is the name of Benedict's sister?  
Why is Benedict the patron against poisoning?

**GEOGRAPHY:** Italy

**MATH:** How many years ago was Benedict born?

**LESSON:** Spiritual Combat

As Christians, we are soldiers of Christ. We receive the strength we need to fight from the Sacrament of Confirmation.

There are three traditional "enemies" of our Salvation: the World, the Flesh and the Devil.

1) By "the Devil", we mean "Satan and all the wicked angels, who are ever seeking to draw us into sin, that we may be damned with them."<sup>3</sup> The demons have the ability to put thoughts into our minds, but they cannot make us sin and they cannot read our minds. However, they have been watching us all our lives and know us better than we know ourselves, which is why it is very important that we know ourselves and how we should follow God's Law.

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<sup>3</sup> *ibid.*





**9. St. Gregory the Great (p. 22) (AD540-604)**

**FEAST:** September 3  
March 12 (Trad.)

The Church is the Mystical Body of Christ and is made up of all the Saints in Heaven (the Church triumphant), the souls in Purgatory (the Church suffering), and those who are united to Jesus in His Church on Earth through Baptism and the true faith, fighting for their salvation (the Church militant). Because the Church on Earth needs organization, Jesus established the priesthood with its three levels: deacons, priests and bishops. The head of the Church militant is the Bishop of Rome, the Pope. They have the responsibility of guiding the Church on Earth so that the flock will be ready to join the Saints in Heaven. One of our great popes was St. Gregory the Great.

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La iglesia es el cuerpo místico de Cristo y se compone de todos los santos en el cielo (la Iglesia triunfante), las ánimas del purgatorio ( la Iglesia purgante), y aquellos que están unidos a Jesús en la tierra por medio del bautismo en la Fe verdadera, luchando por su salvación (la Iglesia peregrina). Debido a que la Iglesia necesita organización, Jesús estableció el sacerdocio en sus tres niveles: diáconos, sacerdotes y obispos. La cabeza de la iglesia militante es el obispo de Roma, el Papa. Él tiene la responsabilidad de guiar a la Iglesia en la tierra para que el rebaño esté listo para reunirse a los santos en el cielo. Uno de nuestros grandes Papas fue San Gregorio el Grande.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who did bestow upon the soul of Your servant Gregory the rewards of eternal happiness; mercifully grant, that we who are oppressed by the weight of our sins, may be relieved through his intercession. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

+

Oh Dios, que donaste al alma de Tu siervo Gregorio los premios de la eterna bienaventuranza: concédenos propicio que, al vernos oprimidos por el peso de nuestros pecados, seamos auxiliados con las suplicas que él te dirija. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

**HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What did St. Isidore run away from as a boy? School  
Where was St. Boniface a missionary and bishop? Germany

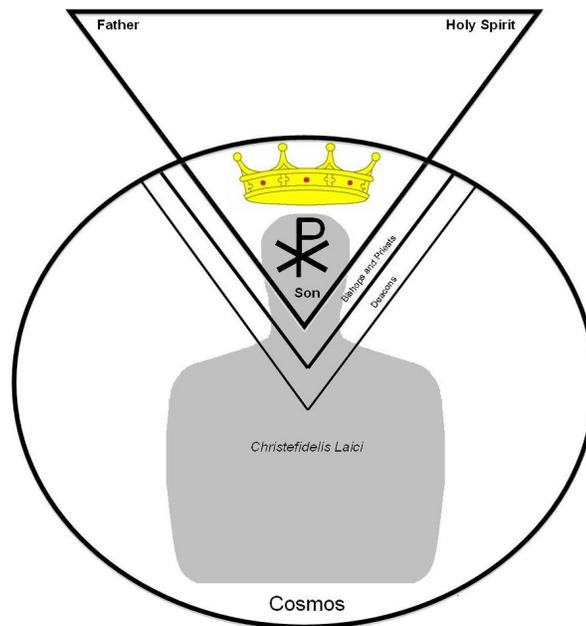
**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What did Gregory do with all the money he got by selling his property?  
Where did Gregory go as a missionary and later send others as missionaries?

**GEOGRAPHY:** Rome, Vademecum, p. 9

**MATH:** How old was Pope St. Gregory when he died?

**LESSON:** Ecclesiology (CIC qq. 24-25)



**HOMEWORK:** St. Dymphna (p. 44)  
St. Edward (p. 93)  
Sts. Cyril & Methodius (p. 59)  
St. Isidore the Farmer (p. 27)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** For the Pope



**10. St. Isidore the Farmer (p. 27) (AD1070-1130) FEAST: May 15  
Mar 22 (Trad.)**

The third commandment tells us that we have to treat Sunday different from every other day of the week. (Ex 20: 8-11) This means that we don't do any "unnecessary servile work", but also that, unless we absolutely cannot, assist at Holy Mass. But even though the minimum requirement is to assist at Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, if we really love God, we will want to attend Mass as often as we can, especially to be united with Him in Holy Communion. St. Isidore worked very hard on the farm of another man, but he always made a point of going to Holy Mass every day.

Even if we cannot assist at the Holy Sacrifice and receive Holy Communion, we can make what is called a "Spiritual Communion".

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El tercer mandamiento nos manda que tratemos el domingo diferente a los demás días de la semana. (Ex 20, 8-11). Esto significa que no debemos hacer ningún trabajo innecesario, y también que asistamos a misa a menos que sea absolutamente necesario faltar. Aun así un requisito mínimo es que asistamos a misa los domingos y las fiestas de precepto, (o días de obligación), si de verdad amamos a Dios iríamos a misa tanto como pudiéramos especialmente a estar unidos a él mediante el sacramento de la Comunión. San Isidro trabajó muy duro en la granja de otro hombre, pero siempre asistió a misa todos los días.

Si no podemos asistir a misa todos los días y recibir la santa comunión, podemos hacer lo que llamamos una “comunión espiritual”.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Grant us, we beg You, O merciful God, by the intercession of Your blessed confessor Isidore, the farmer, to overcome any feelings of pride; and by his merits and example to serve You with that humility in which You take pleasure. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

+

Haz, Oh Señor misericordioso, que, por intercesión de Tu bendito Confesor Isidro, labrador, para superar cualquier sentimiento de orgullo; y por sus méritos y ejemplo servirte con esa humildad que Te complace. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

How old was St Dymphna when she was killed? 15  
To whom was St. Edward generous? The poor and strangers  
Into what language did St Methodius translate the Holy Scriptures? Slavonic

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

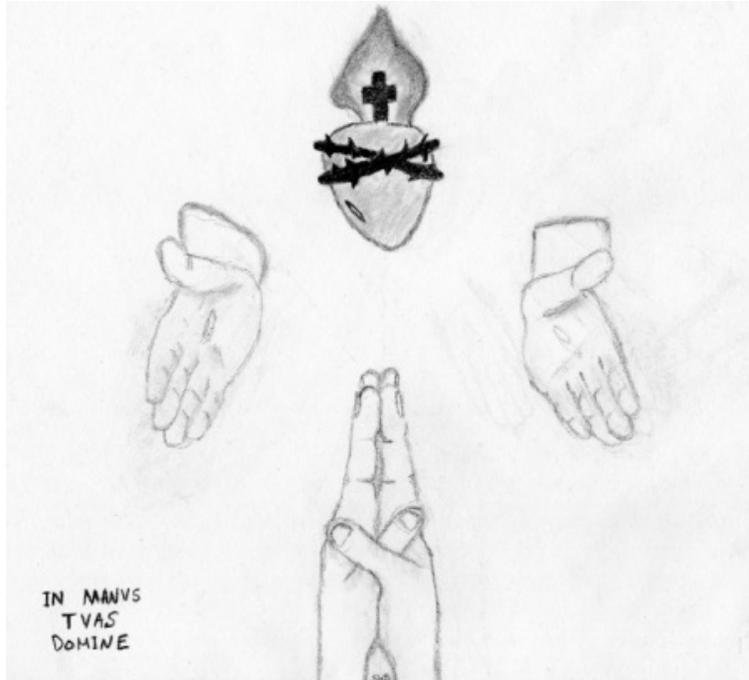
What was Isidore’s priority every day? To assist at Holy Mass.  
Did Isidore purposely neglect work in order to pray? No. But he made prayer his priority and everything else fell into place.  
In the picture, Isidore’s hands are folded in a sign of fealty – whose hands are around Isidore’s? Jesus Christ’s (see image below).

**GEOGRAPHY:** Madrid, Spain (Vademecum, p. 9, n. 1a)

**LESSON:** Third Commandment (CIC qq. 48, 49; appendix B)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Francis (p. 91)  
St. Dominic (p. 70)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Spiritual Communion



This diagram is found on p. 36 of the Vademecum and is included here because of the picture of St. Isidore with his hands folded in prayer. This is an old sign of fealty which knights used to do when swearing allegiance to their lords and which priests still do today when they promise obedience to their bishops. When we use this gesture in prayer, it is the hands of Jesus that are around ours.



**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who by the merits and teachings of blessed Dominic and Francis, Your confessors, has been pleased to enlighten Your Church and enrich her with new offspring: grant that through his prayers she may not be deprived of temporal help, and may continually advance in spiritual growth and, despising the things of this world, may ever rejoice in sharing of Your heavenly gifts. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, que Te dignaste alumbrar a Tu Iglesia con los méritos y doctrina de Tus santos Confesores Domingo y Francisco, concédele que, por su intercesión, no se vea privada de los auxilios temporales; y continúe creciendo espiritualmente, y, a imitación suya, deprecemos las cosas terrenales, y nos gocemos siempre con la participación de los dones celestiales. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

**HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:** None

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

When he was young, what did St. Francis like to do?  
Who do we serve when we serve the poor?  
What happened when Francis had a vision of Jesus crucified?  
What made Dominic stay in France to preach?  
What was the name of the Order Dominic founded?  
What did Our Lady ask Dominic to do?

**GEOGRAPHY:** Italy, France, Assisi, Vademecum, p. 9

**MATH:**

**LESSON:** Religious Life and Vocations

There are some people that God calls to live a life consecrated to Him. They do not get married, but instead give their lives to God and His service. They dedicate themselves to prayer, for themselves and for others. Many of them also perform certain apostolates at the service of others.

The apostolate of certain orders includes working in hospitals and teaching.

These men and women do not enter the Sacrament of Matrimony. Instead, they give themselves to God completely.

This would be a good opportunity for review, especially of the Sacrament of Penance.

**HOMEWORK:** St. Bernard (p. 79)  
St. Clare (p. 73)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** To Know one's Vocation (Vademecum)



**12. St. Clare of Assisi (p. 73) (AD1194-1253)**

**FEAST:** August 11  
August 12 (Trad.)

It was not only men who founded religious orders. Clare is a wonderful example of how women also became mendicants.<sup>6</sup> They lived lives of prayer and working for the needs of others. Their strength was the Sacraments, especially the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

One of the ways that God gives power to His Church is through the prayers of the People of God, but especially the prayers of those who have dedicated themselves to the consecrated life. St. Clare was ill for 28 years and her strength was the Holy Eucharist. The same goes for all of us and with all the Sacraments. Sacraments are “outward signs, instituted by Christ to give grace”. Prayer and Sacraments are how God normally gives us grace. Each of the Sacraments has particular graces that help us in some way.

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<sup>6</sup> A mendicant is a beggar. “**MENDICANT FRIARS.** Members of religious orders who are forbidden to own property in common, are therefore required to work or beg for their living, and are not bound to one monastery by a vow of stability. Originally the name was restricted to the Franciscans and Dominicans. Later on the name and privileges were extended to the Carmelites (1245), the Hermits of St. Augustine (1256), and the Servites (1424). Other orders received the same title later on. According to the Church law, mendicant friars are allowed to beg for alms where their houses are located, given the permission of their own superiors. In other places they must also obtain the permission of the bishop of the diocese. (Etym. Latin *mendicus*, beggar; and infirm, wretched, miserable person.)” from Fr. John Hardon’s Modern Catholic Dictionary

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No solo hombres fundaban organizaciones religiosas. Clara es un ejemplo maravilloso de como las mujeres también se convirtieron en pordioseras<sup>7</sup> Vivieron vidas de oración y trabajo por las necesidades de los demás. Su fuerza eran los sacramento especialmente el Santísimo Sacramento del Altar.

Una de las formas en que Dios da poder a su Iglesia es a través de la oración de la Gente de Dios, pero especialmente de aquellos que se han dedicado a la vida consagrada. Santa Clara estuvo enferma por 28 años y su fuerza era la sagrada Eucaristía. los mismo va para todos nosotros y con todos los sacramentos. los sacramentos son “signos externos, instituidos por Cristo para darnos Gracia.” mediante la oración y los sacramentos es como Dios normalmente nos da Gracia. cada uno de los sacramentos tiene una Gracia particular que nos ayuda de alguna manera.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Hear us, O God, our Saviour; that as we rejoice in blessed Clare of Assisi, Your virgin, se we may be instructed in the affection of pious devotion. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Escúchanos, Oh Dios Salvador nuestro, para que así como nos alegramos en la festividad de Tu santa Virgen Santa Clara, nos inspire el fervor de una santa devoción. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

St. Bernard founded many what? Monasteries

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<sup>7</sup> mendicants= beggar [1] mendígo o pordiosero

Comment from the translator: Father, I suggest to find other word instead of beggar or mendicant since that is commonly used for people who leaves in the streets but that is up to you. I think in these context the word pordiosero is the less harsh the other is mendígo but if is not properly accentuated could mean something else.

The word mendigo is accentuated in the (Í). but a grammatical rule prevents from graphic accentuation so we just pronounced it. this means a person who lives in the street and lives from what he o she gets from others (limosna). This word can be pronounced with the accent in the (e) and is used (vulgar) in many ways for example: mi patron es bien méndigo. this means my boss is an asshole. or can be used to to say: X es bien méndigo para limpiar. it means: X is the shit to clean!

this denotes someone is good to do something. Note that the second word do not exist properly but it is still used vulgar and is crude. meaning.

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Which Saint was Clare friends with growing up?

What made her decide to give up the life she was living?

What order did she found?

What were three characteristics of her order?

How did she repel the attack of the enemies of the Church from her convent? (Why does she have a cloth in her hands in the picture?)

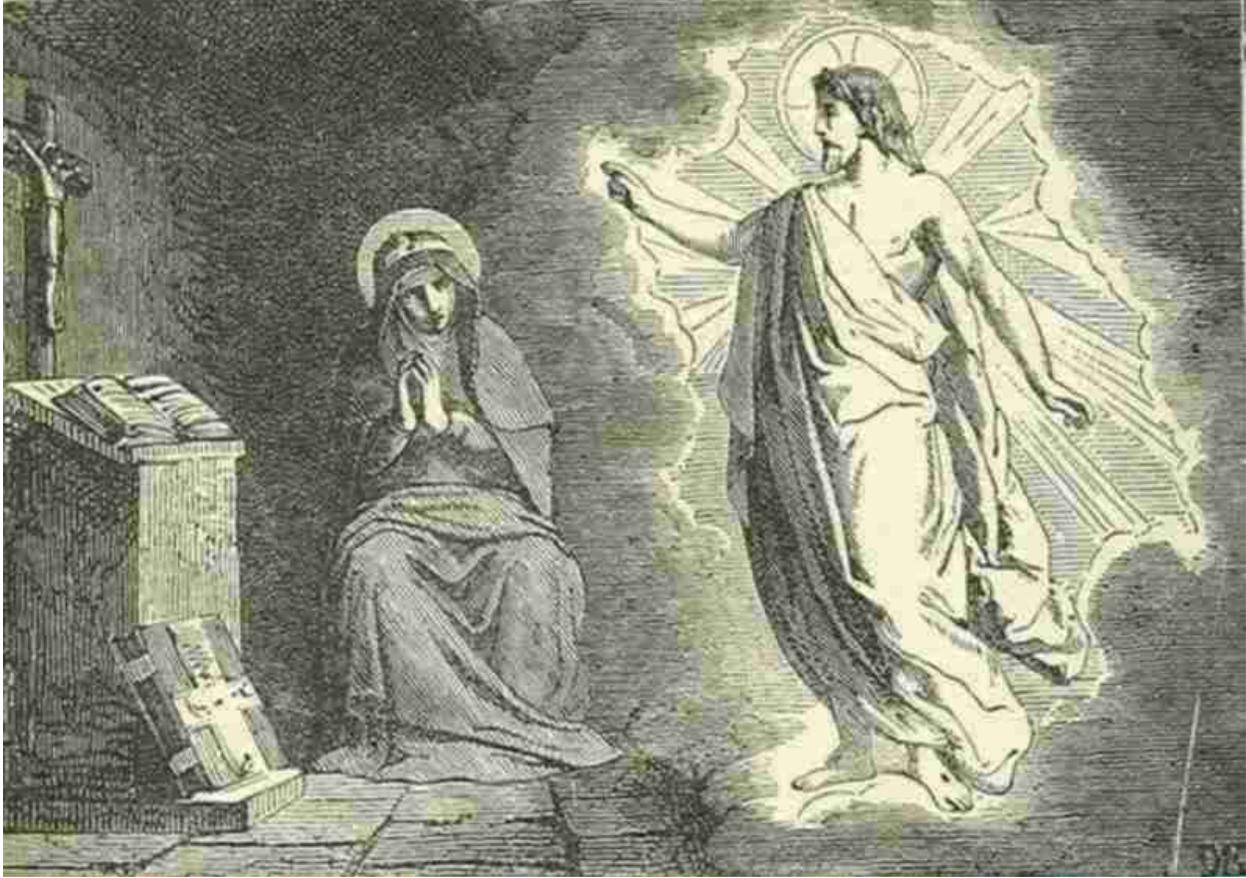
**GEOGRAPHY:** Assisi, Vademecum, p. 9, n. 8

**MATH:** In what year did she become ill?

**LESSON:** Sacraments in General (CIC qq. 30-33)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Anthony of Padua (p. 52)  
St. Bonaventure (p. 61)  
St. Thomas Aquinas (p. 20)  
St. Catherine of Sienna (p. 38)  
St. Peregrine (p. 39)  
St. Elizabeth (p. 104)  
St. Bridget of Sweden (p. 92)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



**13. St. Bridget of Sweden (p. 92) (AD1304-1373) FEAST:** July 23  
October 8 (Trad.)

We can follow God as a priest or a consecrated religious (monk, brother, sister, or nun), but most people follow God as a married person, a husband or wife, mother or father. The family is God's way of creating more people to enjoy Heaven with Him and making sure that their bodies and souls are taken care of.

The family is the domestic Church. The parents (but especially the father) is like the priest. In a Catholic home, the family should pray together regularly, just as the parish family gathers to pray together. The family is supposed to be the support for each other, materially and spiritually and emotionally.

St. Bridget is known for her devotion to the Passion of our Lord. From her prayers on the Passion of our Blessed Lord (n. 12): *O Jesus! I remember the multitude of Wounds which afflicted You from Head to Foot, torn and reddened by the spilling of Your Precious Blood. O great and universal pain which You suffered in Your Flesh for love of us! What is there You could have done for us which You have not done? May the fruit of Your sufferings be renewed in my soul by the faithful remembrance of Your Passion and may Your love increase in my heart each day until I see You in eternity, You Who are the treasury of every real good and joy, which I beg You to grant me in Heaven. Amen.*

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Podemos seguir a Dios como sacerdotes o religiosos (monjes, Hermanos, Hermanas o monjas). Pero muchas personas siguen a Dios en el matrimonio, esposo o esposa, padre o madre. La familia es la forma en que Dios crea más persona para disfrutar del cielo con Él y asegurarse de que sus cuerpos y sus almas sea cuidados.

La familia es la Iglesia doméstica. Los padres (especialmente el padre) es como el sacerdote. En un hogar católico, la familia debería orar unida regularmente, justo como la familia de la parroquia se reúne para orar juntos. Es de suponerse que la Familia es el soporte, material, espiritual y emocional de cada uno de los miembros de esta.

Santa Brígida es conocida por su devoción a la pasión del Señor, De sus oraciones en la pasión de nuestro santísimo Señor: *Oh Jesús! Recuerdo la multitud de heridas que te afligían de la cabeza a los pies, lacerado y enrojecido por tu preciosa sangre derramada. O gran y universal dolor el que sufriste en tu carne por amor a nosotros! Que otra cosa harías por nosotros que no hayas hecho ya?. Que el fruto de tu sufrimiento se renueve en mi alma por el fiel recuerdo de tu pasión y que tu amor crezca en mi corazón cada día hasta que te contemple en la eternidad. Eres el tesoro de toda alegría y dicha verdadera, te ruego que me concedas en el cielo. Amen.*

**OPENING PRAYER:** O Lord our God, who through Your only-begotten Son, did reveal secrets of heaven to blessed Bridget; grant, through her loving intercession, that we, Your servants, may rejoice with gladness at the revelation of Your eternal glory. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Señor y Dios nuestro, que, por medio de Tu unigénito Hijo, revelaste a Santa Brígida los secretos celestiales, concede a Tus siervos por su piadosa intercesión que nos gocemos alegres de la manifestación de su Gloria eternal. Por el mismo Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

Who appeared to St. Anthony when he was praying in his room? The Infant Jesus

What did St. Bonaventure point to when St. Thomas asked him where he acquired his great learning? His crucifix

Whom did St. Catherine tell God wanted the head of His Church to live in Rome? Pope Gregory XI

Why was St. Peregrine going to have his foot cut off? Because of spreading cancer

What did St. Elizabeth build at the foot of the mountain where her castle stood? A hospital

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Why did Bridget marry? Because she was obedient to her father.

How well did she and Ulpho do as parents? They had many children and one of them is recognized as a Saint.

Why did she and Ulpho separate? What does that mean? They separated in order to live a holier life. They were still married as husband and wife, but did not live as husband and wife, nor did they have other relationships.

What about her life is reflected by the shells on her cloak? She was a pilgrim (the symbol is also used for St. James).

**GEOGRAPHY:** Sweden, Vademecum, p. 9, n. 7

**MATH:**

**LESSON:** Holy Matrimony and the Family (CIC qq. 33, 49, 50)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Vincent Ferrer (p. 30)  
St. Joan of Arc (p. 49)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



#### 14. St. Joan of Arc (p. 49) (AD1412-1431)

FEAST: May 30

God has commanded that we not kill. Specifically, this means that we cannot take innocent life. That does not mean that we cannot hurt or kill someone in self-defence. This especially applies to our families and, more generally, to our country. If someone is trying to kill us or our loved-ones, we can take action. This is why it is not a sin to be soldier and why Joan was made a general in the French army.

Normally, we must bear with injustices and not retaliate in anger. The fifth commandment also applies to hurting someone physically unjustly or hurting someone emotionally. Our words to someone or about them can be painful and cause great damage as well.

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Dios nos ha mandado que no matemos. Esto significa que no debemos cobrar vidas inocentes. Pero no significa que no podamos lastimar o matar a nadie en defensa propia. Aplica a nuestras familias y de una manera más general, nuestro país. Si alguien nos quiere matar o a algún ser querido podemos defendernos. Por esta razón no es un pecado ser soldado y por eso Juana de Arco fue General del ejército francés.

Normalmente debemos soportar injusticias y no buscar venganza con coraje. El quinto mandamiento también se aplica a lastimar a alguien injustamente física o emocionalmente. Nuestra palabras acerca o hacia alguien pueden ser dolorosas y también causan gran daño.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who raised up in a wonderful manner blessed Joan the virgin to defend the faith and her country; grant, we beg You, that through her intercession, Your Church, having overcome the snares of her enemies, may enjoy unbroken peace. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, Quien levanto de manera maravillosa bendita Juana, la virgen, para defender la fe y su patria; concédenos, Te suplicamos, que por su intercesión, Tu iglesia, habiendo vencido las trampas de sus enemigos, goce de una paz inquebrantable. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

**HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What was St. Vincent Ferrer's motto? Whatever you do, think not of yourself, but of God.

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

How old was Joan when God spoke to her?  
What did God send Joan to the King to do?  
To whom did Joan have a special devotion?  
How did Joan die?

**GEOGRAPHY:** France, Vademecum, p. 9, n. 2

**MATH:**

**LESSON:** Fifth Commandment (CIC, qq. 49-50; appendix B)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Angela Merici (p. 50)  
St. Stanislaus Kostka (p. 103)  
St. Camillus de Lellis (p. 62)  
St. Thomas More (p. 60)  
St. Rita of Cascia (p. 46)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



**15. St. Rita of Cascia (p. 46) (AD1381-1457)**

**FEAST:** May 22

After the Last Supper, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane and began His Agony and Passion. He suffered in His heart and in His body more than anyone who ever lived and will ever live. Because we are part of Christ's Mystical Body in the Church, He participates in our suffering and we participate in His (cf. Col 1: 24). St. Rita participated in a special way in Jesus' suffering through the wound in her forehead.<sup>8</sup>

Because Christ is with us in our suffering, we can get His help when we are suffering and are in danger of death. There is a special Sacrament called the Anointing of the Sick which priests can give us that asks God to heal us, but, more importantly, asks for the special grace of strength to suffer with Jesus and be ready for Heaven.

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<sup>8</sup> A wound like Christ's miraculously received is called the *stigmata*. The wound on her forehead emitted a terrible stench until the day she died, when it began to smell beautifully.

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Después de la última cena, Jesús se fue al huerto de Getsemaní y empezó su agonía y pasión. Sufrió en su corazón y en su cuerpo más de lo que cualquiera haya sufrido o pueda sufrir. Nosotros somos parte de su cuerpo místico en la Iglesia, él participa en nuestro sufrimiento y nosotros participamos en el suyo ( Col 1: 24). Santa Rita participó del Sufrimiento de Jesús de una manera muy especial: la llaga en su frente.<sup>9</sup>

Cristo está con nosotros en nuestro sufrimiento, nos puede ayudar cuando estamos sufriendo o en peligro de muerte. Hay un sacramento muy especial que se llama unción de los enfermos que un sacerdote nos puede administrar para pedir a Dios que nos cure, pero, más importante, pedir a Dios por la Gracia especial de la fuerza para sufrir con Jesús y estar listos para el cielo.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who to Saint Rita did gracious grant the great grace of very truth to love her enemies, and both to her heart and on her brow to bear the stigmata of Your passion: have regard, we beg You, to her merits and prayers; and grant that we may in the same way show mercy to our enemies, and so meditate on the pains of Your passion, as to make our own the blessedness promised to those who are meek and mourn. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Te pedimos, Señor, que nos concedas la sabiduría y la fortaleza de la cruz, con las que Te dignaste enriquecer a Santa Rita, para que, compartiendo en las tribulaciones la Pasión de Cristo, podamos participar más íntimamente en Tu misterio pascual. Por el mismo Cristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What was the Order that St. Angela founded? The Ursuline Order

St. Stanislaus had to flee Vienna because his plans to join the Society of Jesus were opposed by whom? His father

What did St. Camillus study with children? Grammar

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What was Rita's first love? God.

How did Rita behave when she entered a state in life that was not her first wish? She gave herself to her husband and family like a good husband and mother.

What result did Rita's patience and devotion have? The conversion of her family.

Was Rita's suffering wasted? No. Rita's life was marked by love, courage and patience.

St. Rita is incorrupt – her body has not decomposed:

**GEOGRAPHY:** Cascia, Vademecum, p. 9

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<sup>9</sup> Una llaga recibida milagrosamente es llamada *stigma*. la llaga en su frente despedía un terrible hedor hasta el día en que murió que empezó a oler hermosamente.

**MATH:**

**LESSON:** Anointing of the Sick (CIC qq. 33)



**HOMEWORK:** St. Francis Xavier (p. 109)  
St. John of God (p. 21)  
St. Aloysius Gonzaga (p. 54)  
St. Philip Neri (p. 48)  
St. Ignatius of Loyola (p. 68)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Anima Christi



## 16. St. Ignatius of Loyola (p. 68) (AD1491-1556)

FEAST: July 31

All Christians are Soldiers of Christ. We are in a fight against sin and the Devil, fighting to get as many souls to Heaven as possible. In our Army, Jesus is the King/Commander and St. Michael is the general. Priests are the captains: they teach us what we need to know and direct us to victory. At the time of the Protestant revolt, the Church responded by holding a Council of Bishops from all over the world to make sure that the teachings of the Church were very clear. They also allowed a man named Ignatius from Loyola, Spain, to start an order called the Society of Jesus. They were founded in order to combat the rebellion of the Protestants.

St. Ignatius was a priest. This means that he was ordained to bring people to God, specifically through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, but also through the other Sacraments (such as Penance) and in their teaching. While Ignatius had a specific role of bringing people back to God who had become Protestant, all priests share this role. Jesus works in a special way through deacons, priests and bishops that He doesn't work through other people.

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Todos lo cristianos somos soldados de Cristo. Estamos en guerra contra el pecado y contra el demonio, luchamos para llevar tantas almas al cielo como podamos. En nuestro ejército Cristo es nuestro Rey y comandante, San Miguel es el General. Los sacerdotes son los capitanes: ellos nos enseñan lo que debemos hacer para conducirnos a la victoria. En el tiempo de la revuelta protestante la iglesia respondió formando un consejo de obispos de alrededor de todo el mundo para asegurarse de que las enseñanzas de la Iglesia fueran claras. También le permitieron a un Hombre llamado Ignacio, de Loyola, España, a que formara una orden llamado la Sociedad de

Jesús. con el objetivo de combatir la rebelión de los protestantes.

San Ignacio era un sacerdote, esto quiere decir que fue ordenado para llevar gente hacia Dios, especialmente a través del santo sacrificio de la misa. Pero también de los otros sacramentos (como la penitencia) y sus enseñanzas. Aunque Ignacio tenía un rol específico de traer aquellos que se habían hecho protestantes de regreso a Dios. Todos los sacerdotes comparten este llamado, Jesús trabaja de manera especial a través de los diáconos, sacerdotes y obispos algo que no pasa con otras personas.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, who for the spreading of the greater glory of Your name, did, by means of blessed Ignatius, strengthen Your Church militant with a new army; grant that by his aid and by his example, we may so fight on earth as to become worthy to be crowned with him in Heaven. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Señor, Dios nuestro, que has suscitado en Tu Iglesia a San Ignacio de Loyola para extender la gloria de Tu nombre; concédenos que después de combatir en la tierra, bajo su protección y siguiendo su ejemplo, merezcamos compartir con él la gloria del cielo. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

#### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

In the picture the burning flame coming forth from St. Francis Xavier's heart is a symbol of what? His burning love for souls  
What did St John of God leave the army in order to do? Make up for his sins  
What was the motto of St. Aloysius Gonzaga? I was born for greater things  
What did St. Philip Neri encourage? Frequent confession and Communion

#### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What was Ignatius' profession? He was a soldier.  
What began his conversion? He read the lives of the Saints.  
What works did the Jesuits do? Schools, preaching, retreats, missionary work

**GEOGRAPHY:** Spain (Vademecum, p. 9, n. 1)

**LESSON:** Holy Orders (CIC qq. 33)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Francis de Sales (p. 16)  
St. Rose of Lima (p. 83)  
St. Charles Borromeo (p. 101)  
St. Jane Frances de Chantal (p. 80)  
St. Juan Diego (p. 139)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** To know one's vocation



### **17. St. Juan Diego (p. 139) (AD1478-1548)**

**FEAST:** December 9

At the time of the Protestant rebellion, when many people were leaving the Catholic Church, our Blessed Mother appeared in Mexico and converted more people to Jesus and His Catholic Church. Mary appeared to St. Juan Diego in what we call Mexico City. She sent him to ask the bishop to build a church in her honor. She performed several miracles during these apparitions, including leaving an image of herself on the tilma (a kind of poncho) that Juan Diego was wearing.

Perhaps the most beautiful thing that our Blessed Mother says to Juan Diego during her apparition was: “Am I not here, who am your mother?” Juan Diego was worried about his sick uncle, but Mary reminded Juan Diego that she would take care of us. Because she is the mother of Jesus, she is also our mother.

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En el tiempo de la rebelión protestante, mucha gente estaba dejando la Iglesia católica, nuestra madre santísima se apareció en México y se convirtió más gente a Jesús y a su iglesia Católica. María se apareció a Juan Diego en lo que conocemos como la ciudad de México. Ella lo mandó a pedir al obispo para que construyera una iglesia en su honor. Realizó varios milagros durante sus apariciones incluyendo dejar una imagen de ella misma en la tilma (que es una especie de poncho) que Juan Diego llevaba.

Tal vez lo más hermoso que la virgen dijo a Juan Diego en sus aparición fue: “Acaso no estoy yo aquí, que soy tu madre?”. Juan Diego estaba preocupado por su tío que estaba enfermo, pero María le recuerda que ella cuida de nosotros. porque ella es la madre de Jesús y también nuestra madre.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who by means of Saint Juan Diego showed the love of the most holy Virgin Mary for your people, grant, through his intercession, that, by following the counsels our Mother gave at Guadalupe, we may be ever constant in fulfilling Your will. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Dios nuestro, que manifestaste el amor de la santísima Virgen María hacia Tu pueblo por medio de San Juan Diego, concédenos por su intercesión que, dóciles al mensaje de nuestra Madre de Guadalupe, nos esforcemos en cumplir siempre Tu voluntad. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

Why did St. Francis de Sales look for the poor and the sinners? So that he may win them for Jesus

For whom did St. Rose offer to God all her sufferings and good works? Sinners

What was St. Charles’ great work? The direction of the Council of Trent

What Order did St Jane Frances found? The Order of the Visitation of Our Lady

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What did Mary want Juan Diego to tell the bishop?

What sign did Mary give to Juan Diego to prove that his message was from her?

**GEOGRAPHY:** Americas / Mexico (Vademecum, pp. 10-11 *all*)

### **MATH:**

**LESSON:** Apparitions of Guadalupe and Devotion to our Lady  
(CIC, qq. 20, 21, 45)

The reason we venerate Mary is because she is our mother. Why is Mary our mother?

- † Mary is the mother of Jesus
- † We are all brothers and sisters
- † Church=body of Christ
- † Mary is our spiritual mother

We want to remember that our Lady’s apparitions to Juan Diego are not her only apparitions. As a good spiritual mother, she has appeared throughout history in various places. We will discuss two other important apparitions later in the year.

The most important devotion we can have to our Blessed Mother Mary is to pray the Hail Mary, which is like a flower we give her every time we pray it. It begins with the words of the Archangel St. Gabriel.

**HOMEWORK:** St. John of the Cross (p. 106)  
St. Martin de Porres (p. 102)  
St. John Eudes (p. 78)  
St. Robert Bellarmine (p. 42)  
St. Lawrence Ruiz (p. 138)  
St. Teresa of Avila (p. 94)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



**18. St. Teresa of Avila (p. 94) (AD1515-1582)**

**FEAST:** October 15

Prayer is “the elevation of the heart and mind to God”. Along *with* the Sacraments, it is the way in which we are connected to God. Prayer is a part of our relationship with Him. It is how we “talk” to Him. We could not have a good relationship with anyone if we do not stay in contact with him. The same can be said of our relationship with God. Imagine if we had a friend who we could call or text at any time, day or night, but we only did it once a week?

St. Teresa of Avila became a Carmelite so that she could pray all the time. Even though not all of us are called to the religious life, all of us are called to a relationship with God and that requires regular prayer. It is so important that we learn how to pray well in whatever state in life we find ourselves, whether we are priests or consecrated religious or still single.

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La oración es “la elevaciones del corazón y la mente a Dios”. Junto con los sacramentos, es como estamos conectados a Dios. Oración es una parte de nuestra relación con Él. Es el modo en que “Hablamos” con él. No podríamos tener una relación con nadie sin estar en contacto. Lo mismo se puede decir de nuestra relación con Dios. Imagine que tuviera un amigo al que pediera llamar y textear en cualquier tiempo, día o noche, ¿pero que solo lo hacemos una vez por semana?

Santa Teresa de Ávila fue una carmelita para poder orar todo el tiempo. Aunque no todos estamos llamados a la vida religiosa, todos estamos llamados a una relación con Dios y eso requiere

orar regularmente. Es muy importante que aprendamos como orar en cualquier situación de nuestra vida en la que nos encontremos, ya sea que seamos sacerdotes religiosos consagrados o seculares.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Graciously hear us, O God our Saviour; that as we rejoice in Your holy virgin Teresa, so we may be fed with the food of her heavenly teaching and grow in loving devotion towards You. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Señor Dios nuestro, que por medio de Tu Santo Espíritu has suscitado a santa Teresa de Jesús para enseñar a Tu Iglesia el camino de la perfección; concédenos alimentarnos siempre con su doctrina celestial, para que crezca en nosotros el deseo de la verdadera santidad. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

How long was St. John of the Cross in prison? Nine months  
How old was St. Martin when he entered the Dominican convent? 15  
Of what did St. John Eudes' great work consist? Establishing seminaries  
St. Robert Bellarmine wrote two famous what? Catechisms  
How many children did St. Lawrence Ruiz have? 3

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What was one of her favorite games when she was a child?  
What did St. Joseph cure Teresa of?  
How old was she when her mother died?  
How did she bring souls to God?

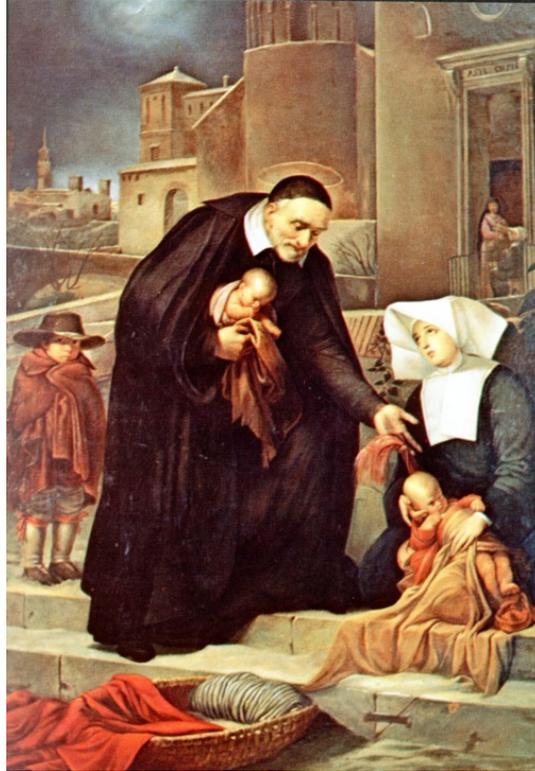
**GEOGRAPHY:** Avila (Vademecum, p. 9, n. 1)

**MATH:** How old was she when she joined the convent?

**LESSON:** Prayer (CIC qq. 24, 42-46; appendix G)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Peter Canisius (p. 36)  
St. John Berchmans (p. 74)  
St. Peter Claver (p. 85)  
St. Louise de Marillac (p. 23)  
St. Vincent de Paul (p. 63)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



**19.St. Vincent de Paul (p. 63) (AD1581-1660) FEAST:** September 27  
July 19 (Trad.)

God provides for us and sometimes some people do not have enough to eat or clothes to wear or a house to live in. When that happens, God works through us to help these people. We have to respect other people's property and we have to share what we have with those who need it. Material things are not the most important thing in the world, and so we should not make money or material stuff a goal.

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Dios siempre provee, algunas veces ciertas personas no tienen suficiente para comer o vestir o una casa donde vivir. Cuando esto pasa, Él trabaja en nosotros para que ayudemos a esa gente. Debemos respetar las cosas ajenas y compartir lo que tenemos con aquellos en necesidad. Las cosas materiales no son lo más importante en el mundo. y no debemos hacer el dinero y las cosas materiales nuestra meta final.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who, for the preaching of the Gospel to the poor and for promoting the honour of the priesthood, did strengthen blessed Vincent with the zeal of an apostle; grant, we humbly pray, that we who venerate his holy life, may profit by the examples of virtue he left us. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Señor, Dios nuestro, que dotaste de virtudes apostólicas a Tu presbítero san Vicente de Paúl para que entregara su vida al servicio de los pobres y a la formación del clero, concédenos, Te rogamos, que, impulsados por su mismo espíritu, amemos cuanto él amó y practiquemos sus enseñanzas. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

For what did St. Peter Canisius become known? His preaching and writing  
As a boy, to what did St. John Berchmans have a very great devotion? Holy Mass and the Rosary  
What did St. Peter Claver call himself? The slave of the slaves  
To what were the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, founded by St. Louise de Marillac, dedicated? Bodily and spiritual service of the poor  
Who were the most war-like of the Native American Tribes? The Iroquois  
Kateri was converted to the Catholic Faith by whom? Jesuit missionaries

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Who captured St. Vincent as a young priest?  
How did he get away?  
What did the groups that St. Vincent found do to help the poor?  
What orders did he found?  
Who continues the work of St. Vincent?  
What does it mean that he is incorrupt?

**GEOGRAPHY:** Paris, France (Vademecum, p. 9, n. 2a)

### **MATH:**

**LESSON:** Seventh & Tenth Commandments (CIC qq. 49, 50; appendix B)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Pius V (p. 118)  
St. Alphonsus Liguori (p. 69)  
St. Gerard Majella (p. 95)  
St. John Mary Vianney (p. 71)  
St. Isaac Jogues (p. 87)  
St. Kateri Tekakwitha (p. 135)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Act of Charity



**20. St. Isaac Jogues (p. 87) (AD-1644) &  
St. Kateri Tekakwitha (p. 135) (AD1656-1680)**

**FEASTS:** October 19 / September 26 (Trad.)  
July 14

*Context:* Remember the Jesuits and missionaries.

Humans want to be comfortable and to have things their own way. We like things that are pleasurable. Pleasure is not a bad thing, but seeking pleasure as a goal in life is very evil. Part of this is because the most important things in life are uncomfortable or painful. When we love, we are willing to suffer more.

Saint Isaac Jogues was a great Saint who loved souls and wanted them to know Jesus Christ. He risked his life to come preach to the native Indians in America. He offered himself so that they could be saved and he was eventually killed because of it.

One of the fruits of St. Isaac Jogues martyrdom was St. Kateri (Catherine) Tekakwitha. She understood that suffering, when it was united to Christ on the Cross, was a good thing, and could be offered to win grace for souls that needed it. Kateri chose suffering, both emotional and physical, because of her love of God (see quote).

We also need to accept suffering and sometimes even look for it so that our souls may be less attached to this world and free to love God. We can also offer this suffering for those who need God's grace.

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*Contexto:* Recordar los misioneros Jesuitas.

A los seres humanos nos gusta vivir cómodos y que las cosas sean como queremos. Nos gustan las cosas que nos dan placer, el placer no es una cosa mala, pero buscar el placer como una meta en

la vida es muy mala. Parte de esto es porque las cosas más importantes en la vida son dolorosas o incómodas. Cuando amamos no nos importa el sufrimiento.

San Isaac Jogues era un gran santo que amaba las almas y quería que ellas conocieran a Cristo, arriesgo su vida para venir a predicar a los indios nativos de América. Se ofreció a sí mismo para que ellos se salvaran y eventualmente fue asesinado por eso.

Uno de los frutos del martirio de san Isaac Jogues fue Santa Kateri Tekakwitha. Ella entendió que aquel sufrimiento, cuando era unido a Cristo en la cruz, era bueno y podía ser ofrecido para ganar gracia para las almas en necesidad. Kateri eligió el sufrimiento emocional y físico porque ella amaba a Dios.

Necesitamos aceptar el sufrimiento y en ocasiones incluso buscarlo para que así nuestras almas estén menos atadas al mundo y libres para amar a Dios. También podemos ofrecer este sufrimiento por aquellos que necesitan la gracia de Dios.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, who made holy the first fruits of the faith in the northern regions of America by the preaching and blood of Your blessed martyr, Isaac, grant, in Your mercy, that through his intercession, and the intercession of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the plentiful harvest of the faithful may increase everywhere from day to day, so that from every nation, tribe and tongue, we may magnify You in a single canticle of praise.. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, que hiciste santos los frutos de la fe en las regiones Nortes de América, por las predicas y sangres de Tu mártir San Isaac, concede en Tu misericordia que por su intercesión y la intercesión de Santa Kateri Tekakwitha, que los pueblos de todas las tribus, lenguas y naciones, congregados en Tu iglesia, Te glorifiquen con un canto de alabanza. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

Pope St. Pius V had the task of carrying out the sweeping reforms called for by what? The Council of Trent

What did St. Alphonsus do before he became a priest? He was a lawyer

Why was St. Gerard called the “wonder worker”? because so many miraculous things happened through his intercession

How many hours a day would St. John Mary Vianney often spend in the confessional? 18

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What are some ways that we can offering our suffering to God?

What are some sacrifices that we can make in order to show our love for God and to save souls?

What did Kateri’s mother die of?

At the new Christian colony in Canada, what kind of life did Kateri live?

What was St. Kateri devoted to?

**GEOGRAPHY:** North America

**LESSON:** Moral Law (CIC qq. 12-14, 48, 50; appendix B)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Paul of the Cross (p. 37)  
St. John Baptist de la Salle (p. 43)  
St. Madeline Sophie Barat (p. 47)  
St. Andrew Dung-Lac (p. 134)  
St. Catherine Laboure (p. 107)  
St. Bernadette Soubirous (p. 18)  
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (p. 96)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



## 21. St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (p. 96) (AD1647-1690)

**FEAST:** October 16  
October 17 (Trad.)

Because God wanted to be closer to us, Jesus, Who is God, also takes a human nature so that He is like us in everything (except sin; cf. Heb 4: 15; Jn 1: 14). That means He also has a human heart that loves like we do. He loves us as God and He loves us as Man. Jesus has asked some people to let as many people as possible know about His love. One of the people who worked especially hard to let everyone know about the love of Jesus, symbolized by His Sacred Heart, was St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. It is thanks to her and those who worked with her devotion to Jesus' Sacred Heart became popular.

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Dios quería estar más cerca de nosotros, Jesús que es Dios, tomó la naturaleza humana para ser igual que nosotros en todo (menos en el pecado Heb 4;15: Jn 1,16). Eso significa que también tiene un corazón humano que nos ama de la misma manera que nosotros amamos. Él nos ama como Dios y como hombre. Jesús ha pedido a algunas personas mostrar a cuanta gente sea posible que sepan de su amor. Una de las personas que trabajó especialmente para enseñar el amor de Jesús a todos, simbolizado por su sagrado corazón, fue Sta. Margarita María de Alacoque. Gracias a ella y a los que trabajaron con ella que la devoción al Sagrado corazón de Jesús se hizo popular.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O Lord Jesus Christ, Who in a wonderful manner revealed to the blessed virgin Margaret the unsearchable riches of Your heart; grant us, through her merits and example, that we may love You in all things and above all things, and become worthy to dwell within Your heart for evermore. Who lives and reigns, forever and ever. Amen.

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Señor Jesucristo, que revelaste de un modo admirable a la bienaventurada Virgen Margarita las insondables riquezas de tu Corazón: danos, por sus méritos e intercesión, que, amándote en todo y sobre todo, merezcamos tener una mansión permanente en Tu Corazón. Que vives y reinas, por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What was the badge of the Passionists found by St. Paul of the Cross? A heart with three nails  
St. John Baptist de la Salle is often called what? The Father of Modern Education  
What was the motto of St. Madeleine Sophie Burat? To suffer myself and not to make others suffer  
How many times was St. Andrew Dung Lac arrested for being a Christian? 3  
Whose hearts were on the other side of the Miraculous Medal? Jesus and Mary  
What did the Lady say her name was when Bernadette asked her? I am the Immaculate Conception

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What did the Blessed Mother cure Margaret of?  
How did Jesus appear to Margaret the first time?  
What do the flames symbolize around His heart?  
What does the crown of thorns symbolize?

**GEOGRAPHY:** France (Vademecum, p. 9, n. 2)

**MATH:**

**LESSON:** Incarnation/Christology (CIC qq. 15-19)  
Mysteries of the Rosary: Joyful (q. 22)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Gabriel of our Lady of Sorrows (p. 19)  
St. Maria Soledad Torres Acosta (p. 124)  
Bl. Junipero Serra (p. 128)  
St. Rose Philippine Duchesne (p. 136)  
St. Francis Cabrini (p. 12)  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (p. 117)  
St. John Nepomucene Neumann (p. 119)  
St. Anthony Mary Claret (p. 98)  
St. John Bosco (p. 17)  
St. Dominic Savio (p. 40)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *See note in introduction*



## 22. St. Dominic Savio (p. 40) (AD1842-1857)

FEAST: March 9

God created us to know, love and serve Him in this life and to be happy with Him in Heaven. Because of Adam's Sin, human beings die. Jesus has told us that after we die, we will be judged and we will go to Heaven or we will go to Hell (cf. Mt 25: 31 et seq.). We have to always be ready for death because we never know when God will be calling us home. (Mt 25: 13)

St. Dominic Savio was a holy young man who died when he was 15 years old. His four rules show us the most basic things that we should do to prepare for death:

1. I will go to Confession often, and as frequently to Holy Communion as my confessor allows.
2. I wish to sanctify the Sundays and festivals in a special manner.
3. My friends shall be Jesus and Mary.
4. Death rather than sin.

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Dios nos creó para conocerle, amarle y servirle en esta vida y ser felices con Él en el cielo. Por causa del pecado de Adán los seres humanos tenemos que morir. Jesús nos ha dicho que cuando muramos seremos juzgados y que iremos al cielo o al infierno (Mt 25; 31 et seq.). Siempre debemos estar listos para morir porque no sabemos cuándo el Señor nos llamará a casa. (Mt 25: 13)

Santo Domingo Savio era un joven muy santo que murió cuando tenía 15 años. Sus cuatro reglas nos enseñan las cosas más básicas para prepararnos para la muerte:

1. Confesarse seguido y comulgar tanto como mi confesor me lo permita.
2. Santificar los domingos y las fiestas de guardar de una manera especial.
3. Mis amigos serás Jesús y María.
4. La muerte antes que pecar.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Oh God, who brings us joy by the annual celebration of Saint Dominic Savio, your confessor, mercifully grant that we who celebrate his heavenly birthday, may also imitate his example. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Oh Dios, que nos alegra con la celebración anual de Santo Domingo Savio, Tu confesor, concédenos misericordiosamente que nosotros que celebramos su cumpleaños celestial, podamos imitar también su ejemplo. Por Cristo nuestro Señor, Amén.<sup>10</sup>

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What made St. Gabriel more generous in proving his love? Remembering Jesus and Mary in their suffering

St. Maria Soledad was the foundress of what order? Congregation of Sister Servants of Mary, Ministers of the Sick

Where did Bl. Junipero Serra take over the Jesuit Missions? California

What long-held desire did St. Rose Philippine Duchesne achieve when she was 71? Opening a school for Native Americans

Where did Pope (St.) Leo XIII tell St. Francis Cabrini to go? the United States

Archbishop Carroll invited St. Elizabeth Ann Seton to establish what? A girl's school

Where was St. John Neumann bishop? Philadelphia

What devotions did St. Anthony Mary Claret spread through his preaching and writings? To the Blessed Sacrament and the Immaculate Heart of Mary

What three things did St. John Bosco find boys a place to do? Meet, play, pray

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

Who wrote the biography of St. Dominic Savio?

How old was Dominic when he learned to serve Holy Mass?

Why did Dominic have to leave school?

Why was Dominic liked?

**LESSON:** Novissimi (the four Last Things) (CIC, q. 29)

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<sup>10</sup> Oh Dios, fuente de todo bien, que en santo Domingo Savio ofreces a los adolescentes un ejemplo admirable de caridad y de pureza: concédenos también a nosotros crecer como hijos en la alegría y en el amor hasta la plena estatura de Cristo. Él, que vive y reina contigo...O bien, para la comunidad religiosa: Señor, Dios de la vida y de la alegría, que has dado a la Iglesia en santo Domingo Savio un modelo de santidad juvenil; concede a los jóvenes la gracia de crecer como él en la pureza y en el amor, y a nosotros, sus educadores, de saberlos conducir a Cristo de forma que se comprometan en el servicio de tu reino. Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

**HOMEWORK:**

St. Gemma Galgani (p. 32)  
Bl. Marie Rose Durocher (p. 129)  
St. Andre Bessette (p. 125)  
St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

Act of Hope



### **23. St. Therese of the Child Jesus (AKA of Liseux) (p. 90) (AD1873-1897)**

**FEAST:**      October 1

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that we must be like little Children to enter the Kingdom of Heaven (Mt 18: 3). God is our Heavenly Father and we are His children. While we are alive on Earth, we have a spiritual life, a relationship with our Heavenly Father, which is our preparing for Heaven. We try to live as children of our Heavenly Father, trusting Him to take care of us, doing what is best for us, even when it hurts, and giving us our daily bread. (Mt 6: 25-34)

A very good example of living as a child of our Heavenly Father was St. Therese of the Child Jesus, also known as the Little Flower. She wanted to be a religious sister from a very early age and even asked the Pope for permission to enter the convent early. She became very holy very quickly because of her child-like love of God.

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Nuestro señor Jesucristo nos ha dicho que debemos ser como niños para entrar en el reino de los cielos (Mt 18; 3). Dios es nuestro padre celestial y nosotros somos sus hijos. Mientras vivemos en la tierra, tenemos una vida espiritual, una relación con nuestro padre del cielo, que nos prepara para el cielo. Tratamos de vivir como hijos de nuestro padre del cielo, confiados en que nos cuida, haciendo lo que es mejor para nosotros, incluso cuando nos lastiman, y cuando nos da el pan de cada día. (Mt 6; 25-34).

Un buen ejemplo de vida como hijos de nuestro padre del cielo fue Sta. Teresa del niño Jesus, también conocida como la pequeña flor. Ella quería ser una hermana religiosa desde muy temprana

edad tanto que hasta le pidió permiso al Papa para entrar al convento antes de la edad requerida. Fue muy santa por el gran amor que tenía a Dios.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O Lord, Who has said: Unless you become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven: grant us, we beg You, so to follow in humility and simplicity of heart the footsteps of the blessed virgin, St. Teresa, that we may obtain everlasting rewards. Who lives and reigns, forever and ever. Amen.

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Oh Señor, que dijiste: Si no os volvéis como niños, no entrareis al reino de los cielos: danos, Te pedimos, seguir de tal modo las huellas de la Virgen Santa Teresa por la humanidad y sencillez de corazón que consigamos los premios eternos. Tú que vives y reinas, por los siglos. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What did St. Gemma Galgani try to do to imitate St. Gabriel? Become a Passionist nun  
To which Saint did St. Andre develop a devotion to? St. Joseph  
What was the congregation founded by Bl. Marie Rose Durocher dedicated to? Christian education

### **SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

How old was Therese when she entered the convent?  
How did she plan on helping save souls?  
Why is she called “the Little Flower of Jesus”?  
How old was she when she died?  
What were her last words?

### **LESSON:** Spiritual Life

Our spiritual life means the life of our souls in relationship to God. There are three major ways that we live our relationship with God: prayer, the sacraments, and obeying the Will of God.

1) Prayer is the breathing of the soul. Our bodies need air to live, our souls need prayer to live. We can't be alive spiritually without prayer. Prayer is also communication with God and we cannot have a good relationship with someone if we do not communicate with them!

2) The Sacraments are how we meet God in a special way. In all of the Sacraments, God comes to us with some special help that we need to live our relationship. This is especially true of the Holy Eucharist, which is God coming to us personally and completely.

3) The Will of God is what He wants for us. His Will is taught to us in many ways, but especially in the Ten Commandments. If we want to know how God wants us to live, it is found in there: love God above all things and honor Him, to respect our parents and lawful authority, the bodies

and souls of our neighbors, the relationship between men and women, the property of others, and the truth. The goal of obeying the Will of God is to become more and more like Jesus.

**HOMEWORK:** St. Benedict Joseph Labre (p. 33)  
St. Josephine Bakhita (p. 126)  
Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro (p. 127)  
St. Maria Goretti (p. 58)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *see note in introduction*



**24. St. Maria Goretti (p. 58) (AD1890-1902)**

**FEAST:** July 6

God wants us to love everyone, but we have to love Him first. (Lk 10: 27) We look to love other people because other people are one of the ways that we can experience love. But we cannot love people only the way we feel like loving them, but loving them the way that God wants us to love each other. That is why Maria was a Saint. Alessandro wanted her to sin with him, which would have been bad for him. Because she loved God, she did not want to sin and because she loved Alessandro, she did not want him to sin.

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Dios no pide que amemos a todos, pero debemos amarle a el primero. (Lcs 10; 27) Amamos a otras personas porque a través de otras personas experimentamos el amor. No debemos amar a los demás de la forma en que nos guste, sino en la manera en que Dios quiere que nos amemos los unos a los otros. Por esa razón María fue santa. Alejandro quería que ella pecara con él lo que seria malo para el porque ella amaba a Dios. Ella no quería pecar y porque amaba a Alessandro tampoco quería que el pecara

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, author of innocence and lover of chastity, who bestowed the grace of martyrdom on your handmaid, the virgin Saint Maria Goretti, in her youth, grant, we pray, through her intercession, that as you gave her a crown for her steadfastness, so we, too, may be firm in obeying Your commandments. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Señor, fuente de inocencia y amante de la castidad, que concediste a Tu sierva María Goretti la gracia del martirio en plena adolescencia, concédenos a nosotros, por su intercesión, firmeza para cumplir Tus mandamientos, ya que le diste a ella la corona del premio por su fortaleza en el martirio. Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amen.

**HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

St. Benedict Labre loved and always carried a copy of what? The Bible  
What community of Sisters did St. Josephine join? The Canossian Sisters  
What caused the noviate to close that Bl. Miguel Pro was attending? Religious persecution

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

What did Alessandro do when Maria refused to in with him?  
What did Maria do for her murder before she died?

**LESSON:** Sixth & Ninth Commandments (CIC qq. 49, 50; appendix B)

**HOMEWORK:** St. Pius X (p. 84)  
St. Faustina Kowalska (p. 133)  
St. Katherine Drexel (p. 131)  
Bl. Teresa of Calcutta (now Saint) (p. 130)  
St. Maximilian Kolbe (p. 122)  
St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (p. 37 of Vademecum)

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Act of Love



**25. St. Maximilian Kolbe (1894-1941) & (p. 122)**                      **FEASTS:**     August 14  
**St. Teresa Benedicta a Croce (Edith Stein) (1891-1942)**                      August 9

*Found in their Vademecum:*

St. Teresa Benedicta was born Edith Stein in Breslau, Germany on 12 October 1891, the youngest of eleven children of a very devout Jewish family. Edith was a great student and received her doctoral degree in Philosophy. During World War I, she helped in the military hospitals. After the war, she taught at the University of Freiburg. She was baptized a Catholic on January 1, AD1922. She taught German at the Dominican Sister's school in Speyer and spoke publically about the role of women in God's plan.

On October 14, AD1933, Edith entered the Carmelite Convent in Cologne and took the religious name, Teresa, Benedicta a Cruce – Teresa, Blessed of the Cross. The Nazis arrested Teresa and her sister, Rose and were sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz, the same place that St. Maximilian Kolbe died.

St. Teresa Benedicta was killed, along with many others, on 9 August, AD1942.

*Context:* Two times during the 20th Century (the 1900s) most of the most powerful countries in the world went to war with each other. The second time was from 1939-1945. Many governments at that time were killing people that disagreed with them or who they did not like. This included people who were different nationalities or religions. In Germany, many Catholics, especially Catholic priests and nuns were being killed by the Government. The Saints of this lesson were two of the more famous.

God is a Trinity; that is, He is three divine persons Who are all one God. They know and love each other in perfect unity. God created us to share in that life and sent the Son so that we can be part of the life of God by being part of Jesus. Many people reject that offer of love and prefer to live in sin. When evil men wanted to kill people to teach some of them not to fight against them, Maximilian Kolbe offered to die in the place of one of those men. St. Teresa Benedicta was a Jewess who converted to Catholicism because she was seeking the truth. She became a Carmelite nun and refused to run when the Nazi's came looking to kill Jews in Europe.

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Contexto: En dos ocasiones en el siglo XX (1900) algunos de los países más poderosos se declararon la guerra. El segundo conflicto le conocemos como la Segunda Guerra mundial. 1939-1945. Muchos gobiernos mataban persona que no estaban de acuerdo con ellos o que no les querían. Incluidos los de diferentes nacionalidades o religiones. En Alemania muchos Católicos especialmente sacerdotes y monjas fueron asesinados por el gobierno los santos de esta lección fueron dos de los más famosos.

Dios es una Trinidad; Él es tres personas divinas que conforman un solo Dios. Se conocen y se aman en perfecta unidad. Dios nos creó para compartir esa vida y envió a su Hijo para que fuéramos parte de la vida de Dios siendo parte de Jesús. Muchas personas rechazan esa oferta de amor y prefieren vivir en pecado. Cuando hombres malvados para enseñarles que no debían luchar contra ellos, Maximiliano Colbe se ofreció a morir en el lugar de uno de esos hombres. Santa Teresa era una judía que se convirtió al catolicismo estaba buscando la verdad. Se convirtió en una monja Carmelita y se resistió a correr cuando los nazis estaban buscando a los judíos para matarlos en Europa.

**OPENING PRAYER:** O God, Who filled Your martyrs St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross with a burning love for the Immaculate Virgin Mary and with zeal for souls and love of neighbor, graciously grant, through their intercession, that, striving for Your glory by eagerly serving others, we may be conformed, even until death, to Your Son and imitate Him even until death. Who lives and reigns, forever and ever. Amen.

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Oh Dios que, llenaste de celo por las almas y de amor al prójimo a Tus mártires San Maximiliano Kolbe y Santa Teresa Benedicta inflamado en amor a la Virgen Inmaculada, concede, propicio, que, por su intercesión, trabajando esforzadamente por Tu gloria al servicio de los hombres, podamos asemejarnos a Tu Hijo hasta la muerte. Que vive y reina for pos siglos de los siglos. Amen.

### **HOMEWORK REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

What was St. Pius X's teaching? Love God, and lead good Christian lives  
What words did Jesus tell St. Faustina to print on His image? Jesus, I trust in You  
What community did Bl. Teresa of Calcuta start in Calcuta? Missionaries of Charity  
When St. Katherine Drexel died, how many schools were her Sisters teaching in? 63

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

When was St. Maximilian born?  
What movement did St. Maximilian start?  
What magazine did he use to spread this movement?  
What concentration camp was he sent to?  
Why did he die?

What did Teresa receive her doctoral degree in?  
Where did she teach German?  
When was she baptized a Catholic?

**GEOGRAPHY:** Germany, Poland (Vademecum, p. 9, nn. 3,4)

**MATH:** How long ago did WWII start? How long did it last?

**LESSON:** Most Holy Trinity (CIC qq. 7-9 )

The goal of Human Existence is life with the Holy Trinity: to know, love, and serve God in this life so as to be happy with Him in the next.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Act of Hope

**PLEASE ALSO READ:** St. Pio of Pietrelcina (p. 132)  
St. John XXIII (p. 139)  
St. John Paul II (p. 140)