

Saint Boniface Parish

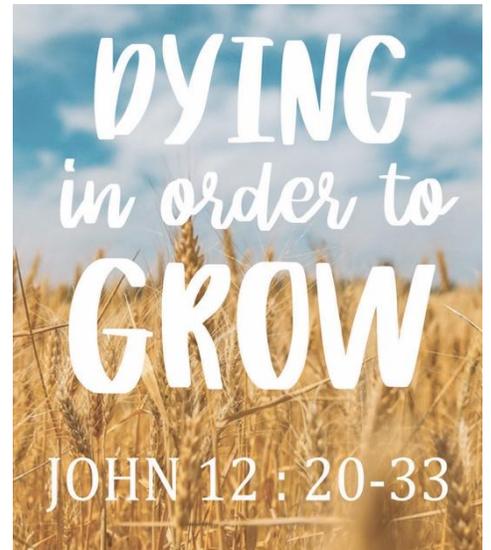
Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, March 21st

Fifth Sunday of Lent

John 12:20-33

Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me. "I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." The crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this indicating the kind of death he would die.

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How does God guide me in making decisions in life?

First Grade

God guides us by giving us good examples to follow. Who are the people that are good examples for you? What good examples do your parents and grandparents give you? What have you learned from them? What type of things do you think God wants you to do so that you are a good and holy person?

Second Grade

In today's Gospel we hear that God will honor whoever serves Jesus. What does it mean to serve Jesus? In what ways have you served Jesus this week? How does the Father honor people who serve Jesus? In what ways has God the Father helped you, especially as you prepare to receive the Eucharist?

Third and Fourth Grades

Each day we have the opportunity to make good or bad choices. What type of choices do you usually make? With each choice God is helping and guiding us with those decisions, but we need to listen. Are you good at listening to God? What could help you to listen better? When can you take five minutes to sit still and listen to God today?

Fifth and Sixth Grades

In today's Gospel we hear that if the grain of wheat dies it will bear much fruit. This means that if it goes into the ground and dies, more grain will grow from it. When was a time you had to give something up so that you could be a better person? How did sacrificing something make you better? What is something else that God is guiding you to give up?

Seventh and Eighth Grades

In today's Gospel we hear that unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a grain of wheat. What do you think Jesus meant when He said that? When we don't give something up, we stay the same and cannot grow. What things might God be asking you to give up so that you can grow and improve?

High School and Adults

With God being so powerful, it can be frustrating at times why He allows us to struggle. When was a time you were frustrated and wanted God to do more? But God doesn't simply solve our problems, but guides us in the right decisions to make. What are some problems you have or decisions you need to make now? How is God guiding you in what to do?

For this Week...

We are Catholic always and in everything we do. Throughout the week bring your faith into your school, your work, your play and your family. Here are some ideas for you.

Monday

God is always helping us. The question is not if He is or not, but rather how is He guiding us. Do you know and believe that God is actively involved in your life and working for your good? Today, talk with God about where you stand on that. Thank Him for His presence and ask Him to help you to better see and understand where He is in your life.

Tuesday

God guides us through other people. It may mean that you ask someone to help you to make a decision or solve a problem. Or it could be that you are thinking about a question and something someone says is the answer. Today, be open to listening for God in the voices of others. You will find truth and hope in what other people are saying.

Wednesday

He speaks to us in silence. How much silence do you have in your life? Are you giving yourself time to hear God, or is His voice going to be drowned out with all of the noise around you? Today, find times to have more silence in your day. This will include turning off the TV, computer and radio. Can you drive or walk home without music on?

Thursday

The Father speaks to us through the Word, His Son. We can hear the word of God in the Bible. How often do you read and pray with the Bible? It's ok read through a passage quickly, but much better to sit with it for a few minutes in silence, thinking about what happened and what it means. Today, read the Gospel and take time to listen for God's voice.

Friday

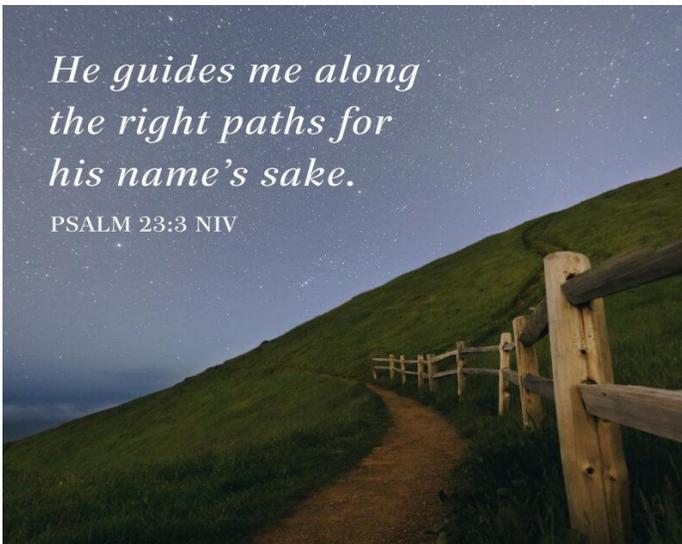
Since God is always guiding us, we need to ask ourselves if we are always listening to Him or not. When we have a problem or a decision to make, do you take time to talk with God and ask Him for help or do you turn to others or try to solve the problem yourself? Today, take at least ten minutes to sit with God and let Him know your struggles.

Saturday

Anytime someone helps us, it is good to thank them, even when it was difficult to accept their help. How often do you thank God for all of the help that He gives you, even when you do not ask for it? Today, thank God for as many things as you can think of. Thank Him for all the ways that He has helped you in the past, especially during this Lent.

*He guides me along
the right paths for
his name's sake.*

PSALM 23:3 NIV



FROM THE CATECHISM...

"Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." A virtue is an habitual and firm disposition to do the good. It allows the person not only to perform good acts, but to give the best of himself. The virtuous person tends toward the good with all his sensory and spiritual powers; he pursues the good and chooses it in concrete actions. The goal of a virtuous life is to become like God.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1803

Next Week's Readings

Here are the readings for next Sunday so that on Saturday you can read through them. If you take a few minutes to read them and prepare, you will get a lot more from Mass. They are available online at www.usccb.org.

Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 22:8-9,17-18,19-20,23-24 Philippians 2:6-11 Mark:14-15:47