

Supplies:

- Liturgical Calendar
- Bible
- Printed Timeline
- Prayer Cards: Our Father, Apostle's Creed

Lesson:

Create a prayerful/peaceful space: Set up a place where you always work on your Faith Formation Lessons together. Decorate the space with a bible and other sacramentals you may want to use throughout the year. We will be giving you items to help fill this space as the year goes on. Consider having a candle in this space so that we know that something special is happening when we work on our lessons. add acorns, pinecones (items from nature, God's creation)

Proclamation

God loves us and has a plan that one day each of us will be with Him in his heavenly home. The Mass we celebrate in Church is heaven on Earth.

The church has its own calendar. During the month of September, we are celebrating Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time is represented by the color green. This is the color of hope and life.

Compare the liturgical calendar with a regular annual calendar.

Discuss that through the liturgical calendar year we participate in the story of Salvation history.

Salvation History

Discuss your own family/family tree, relatives.

When we gather at Church, we are a Church family

We all belong to God's family, therefore like we listen to our family stories to learn about our relatives, we also need to listen to our family story within the Church.

Read: Creation: Genesis 1:1-1:28 (In recommended Bible Genesis 1,2 and 3).

Discuss how God loves us all so very much he created the world and everything in it, including people in his own image.

Discuss Adam and Eve and how God continued to love them so much even after sin that he promised to send someone to save them so they could live with God one day. God loved his family so much and wanted them to be back together- he made special sacred family bonds known as covenants.

Briefly list:

- 1) Adam and Eve in marriage is the first covenant.
- 2) Noah and his family- God saved them with an ark gave a rainbow as a sign of His everlasting love.

GRADE 3: LESSON 1 INTRODUCTION TO SALVATION HISTORY

- 3) Abraham was made the father of a large number of people.
- 4) Moses was entrusted with the 10 Commandments.
- 5) David was chosen by God to be king for the people.

They all helped pave the way for Jesus. They all lived before Jesus and their individual stories can be found in the Old Testament of your Bible and will be discussed further at a much greater length during this year of Faith Formation.

Jesus was then born many years later. He is the person God promised us to help forgive our sins and bring us closer to God. What did Jesus do that helped forgive our sins?

His stories are found in the New Testament of your Bible and again will be broken down throughout the year.

Jesus sacrificed his own life by dying on the cross.

He rose from the dead and now lives in Heaven.

He sent us the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentacost which is the beginning of the Church. (refer to your liturgical calendar)

You first receive the Holy Spirit when you are Baptized and will receive it again when you are Confirmed.

Baptism and Confirmation are 2 of the 7 Sacraments we receive to help us stay close to God and to truly know Him as we journey through this life together toward Heaven.

Whenever we attend Mass and receive the Sacraments, we become closer to Jesus and to the whole family of God.

Read page 7, note to parents in your Faith and Life series book.

End with the Our Father and read through the Apostles Creed which includes the story of our Salvation History and what we believe.

Saint Story:

Saint Therese and the Little Way

Saint Therese of Lisieux is a good example of someone who was very aware of the difficult journey to Heaven. Her spiritual path, called the “Little Way” has become popular in modern times. Therese wanted to be a saint, but she felt that she could not become a great one, so she comforted herself by making small daily sacrifices. This is what she called her “little way to Heaven”, short and direct. By remaining child-like she asked Jesus to carry her in His arms to the Father. She felt she was too little to attain heaven like the saints before her, so she found her own pathway.



As a very young girl, Saint Therese understood the beauty of Heaven and the joy of being with God forever. She loved her parents and God so much that she wanted her Mom and Dad to be happy with Him forever. She knew that they could only be happy with God if they died. Because of this she was not afraid for her parents to die.

Also known as The Little Flower, Saint Therese was born in France in 1873. She became a Carmelite nun at the age of 15 with special permission from the Pope. She died of Tuberculosis in 1897 and was canonized in 1925. She is the patron saint of missions. We celebrate her feast day on October 1st.

Concluding prayer: Lead your child in thanking God for the many gifts He gives them and for making them His children.

Prayer Plan: This week, make it a habit to say the Our Father with your child once a day so that they get accustomed to the words and saying it with you.

Act of Kindness Plan: Do something nice for your father or for someone who is like a father to you.

Activity for the week: Take a nature walk together as a family and notice the beginning signs of fall and God’s creation. Share your findings and thoughts. Say a simple prayer of gratitude.

Faith Journal plan: Create an opening introduction page for your scrapbook. Include a photo of yourself and things that are special to you. On the next page, include a drawing or photo of your prayer place and list the things in creation that you saw God in this week.