

Level 1 April – Final Assignment

Dear Parents,

This email is the last assignment of this school year. The readings briefly cover the Last Supper, the crucifixion, and the Resurrection, 3 difficult concepts for level 1 children. If their understanding is only that Jesus died for our sins because he loves us so much, and then he went to heaven, that's fine. Some children will be able to understand and accept more details, and others will not. You know your child and their level of maturity. I do want them to know that Easter is a happy time when we celebrate Jesus going to heaven. There are so many videos of this topic which you can preview. One which I liked is by Catholic Kids Media - Easter Sunday (Cycle B) It's 2 minutes, 16 seconds. There are other videos by the same group which are more detailed and delve into the days preceding the crucifixion, including the Last Supper. You make the decision. The assignment is to read pages 57 to 61 and pages 245 to 252.

This whole school year just flew by for me. Please remember to continue to practice the 3 prayers we learned and to complete the 8 Mass Reflection Requirement from Mrs. Arcelay and Unit 6 Review in the book on page 223. These should all be completed by the first week of April.

Mrs. Arcelay is now opening re-registration for Level 2 starting in September. The forms will soon be on our website. I understand it will follow the same procedure as this year. However, if things improve, there may be an opportunity for us to have in person classes. Although the Zoom classes were a little difficult for me, your children were wonderful and actually made them enjoyable. I do wish they could have been in person though. If you have any questions, please email me. Stay safe, everyone, and Happy Easter!

Rose Lund 

Level 1 March 6-March 20th Assignment

Dear Parents,

This Saturday is our last Zoom. I will be talking a little about Lent, sin, and forgiveness. I'm going to read a short story about the Last Supper and relate it to the Consecration of the Host at Mass. If time I'll review some terms on church and the Mass.

I will also be finishing up any testing of the 3 prayers we have learned this school year, the Hail Mary, the Our Father, and the Glory Be. Pray these 3 prayers often with your child or they will soon forget them and will have to relearn them next year when they will have even more material to learn in their preparation for First Holy Communion.

Within the next 2 weeks, please read pages 193 to 205. There is no written assignment, but please remember all previously assigned work must be submitted by April 3. If you have any questions, please email me or Mrs. Arcelay. There is a wonderful video on a website called dynamiccatholic.com

<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/first-reconciliation/blessed-program-view-first-reconciliation-session-3-1.html>

Click on this link and you should be able to get right there. If not, on the Home page, click on "84 animated short Films", then under "Blessed" Watch Videos, then "First Reconciliation, Session 3 called God Sent Jesus to Save Us, then #1 called "The Mess". It's kind of complicated. You don't need to do this by Saturday. It's just part of our next assignment.

See you Saturday, March 6 at 9:30 am. Stay safe.

Rose Lund 

Level 1 Feb 20th to March 6th Assignment

Dear Parents,

In this time period, I would like you to have a conversation with your child about Ash Wednesday and Lent, the period of time 6 weeks before Easter when we acknowledge that we do sometimes sin when we use words or actions which may hurt others. No one is perfect. During Lent we tell God that we are sorry. Sometimes we do things of sacrifice to show God how truly sorry we are. We ask the Holy Spirit for help. We also work on forgiving others and trying to be kind. These are all ways to stay close to God.

Part of our reading this next two weeks is about going to Mass. Whether you are physically going to Mass or viewing Mass online, talk to your child about how we celebrate the Eucharist during Mass, and how the priest is doing what Jesus himself did at the Last Supper just before he died. This realization or understanding may be difficult for children. It takes time and repeated explanations. After all, it is a great mystery.... a miracle which happens at every Mass.

There is no written homework. I know you are working on completing Mass Reflections as well as the crossword puzzle, doing the Review on page 223 in the book, and learning the Our Father, which I will be testing at our next and last Zoom on March 6. I will have a final assignment for the last two weeks of March. Mrs. Arcelay is asking for all written work to be completed by the first week of April.

The reading assignment is to read pages 127 to 141 and also p. 241 about Ash Wednesday. See you all on March 6. Be safe.

Rose Lund 

Level 1 Feb 6th to 20th Assignment

Dear Parents,

In our zoom this Saturday, February 6, at 9:30 am, we are going to talk about the story you read in the last assignment about Jesus feeding a crowd of people. We are going to review what a miracle is and who the disciples were? Finally, we will ask what 2 things the people were hungry for in the story.

This week's lesson is another story from the Bible, called the Good Samaritan. In the days of Jesus, Samaritans were thought to be unclean and unholy people. Other people, even those who thought of themselves as close to God, didn't want to be around Samaritans or even talk to them or treat them well.

I will read the story and then we will talk about it. If you want to watch a YouTube video of this story, there are 2 that are ok. "The Good Samaritan" by LifeKids (almost 2 minutes) and "Parable of the Good Samaritan" by Quodvultdeus (2 minutes, 14 seconds)

I'm going to ask if any children want to recite the Our Father. I know some children know it already. Homework for this next 2 week period is to learn the third part of this prayer. On the March 6 Zoom, our last one, everyone will be asked to recite any prayers they have not yet been tested on.

Please also read pp. 207 to 223. Do the questions on p. 223. Your child can just down his answers on a piece of paper, take a picture and send it to me. Don't forget to sent me your crossword puzzles on the Jesus Feeds a Crowd story plus any Mass Reflections that are due. There are only 8 more weeks of this session, believe it or not. Take care and I'll see everyone on Saturday at 9:30 am.

Rose Lund 

Level 1 Jan. 22nd- Feb 6th Assignment

Dear Parents,

At this time, I want to introduce a parable to the children, a story from the Bible of Jesus feeding the crowd. Write the word “miracle” on a piece of paper and talk about what it means. How is it different from magic or a fictional story about superheroes? We have discussed this before, but the children need to be reminded. Tell them to get ready to hear a story from the Bible about a miracle. Please read the story attached in this email.

Review and explain the new vocabulary, miracle, disciples, tabernacle (from last week), Eucharist, and host. There are two YouTube videos I would recommend watching. They are not cartoons, although there are plenty of cartoons on this parable you could preview and watch with your child. But I think the story acted by real people in “Jesus Feeds 5000 People” by Angelica Tapia is such a moving and simple story, and I think the children will enjoy it. It’s 4 minutes, 36 seconds long. Also, the second video, “Jesus Feeds the 5000 Message” is very well done. It may be a bit wordy for this age group but it’s worth watching for adults alone or with your child to launch a conversation. It’s also just over 4 minutes.

Our reading assignment is pp. 143 to 149 and pp. 157 to 161. Please have your child learn the second part of the Our Father, and do the crossword puzzle that is attached, with a question which the children need to answer, They can write their answer on any paper and you can email it or take a picture of it and send it back to me. I know this is a lot so if you don’t get to the crossword puzzle by our next zoom on Feb. 6, it’s fine. It’s just that it’s difficult to get through all this material with only 1 short zoom per month. So, I do realize you are doing so much. You are to be commended and I appreciate it. Good going, Parents! Well done!!

Rose Lund 🌹

Level 1 Dec. 21st to Jan 2nd Assignment

Dear Parents.

I know this is a busy and special time, the celebration of Christmas. There will be some reading, an optional booklet which the children can probably do with little direction, and the learning of the Glory Be, a short prayer. I'm not assigning any video to watch, although there are dozens of videos about the Nativity. And I'm just reminding you of the crossword puzzle assignment and Mrs. Arcelay's assignment of the gift to the baby Jesus.

The only new vocabulary is the word "Gospel", meaning "Good News". It refers to the stories about Jesus in the New Testament of the Bible. Our priest or deacon reads a selection of the Gospel at each Mass. The next time you are at Mass, point it out to your child. Ask him what we do to be respectful of the reading of the Gospel. Have them notice what everyone does before the reading. It is in their reading assignment.

And that reading is pages 35 to 37, pages 101 to 105 and page 235 alone. Please practice the Glory Be with your child. I'm attaching a practice worksheet which does not have to be returned, I must say I was very impressed with the reciting of the Hail Mary at the last Zoom. Well Done!!

Because our next Zoom is scheduled for January 2, it was suggested to change it to 6 pm either that Monday evening, Jan. 4 or Thursday, Jan. 7, or we could keep it on the Saturday. The first parents to get back to me with their suggestion will decide it. So when it's decided, I'll get back to everyone.

Have a blessed and safe Christmas and New Year's. It may be different this year but let's try to keep the holiness and joyfulness in Christmas nonetheless. Be well.

Rose Lund 

Level 1 Dec. 5th to Dec. 19th Assignment

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well and have had a enjoyable holiday.

It's my intention to test the children on the Hail Mary at our zoom class on Dec. 5, as we say a decade of the rosary. We are also going to introduce the children to Advent, the 4 weeks before Christmas in which we prepare for the coming of the baby Jesus. We will describe the Advent wreath and tell what the colors of the candles stand for. We will briefly review the story of Mary's visit from the angel Gabriel.

Please continue to review the vocabulary: crucifix, Baptism, and sign of the cross, and please have a piece of drawing paper, a purple, pink and green crayons or markers available as well as a rosary.

If time, I'd like to introduce the prayer, Glory Be. Please practice it this month of December. I'll be testing the children at the zoom class in January.

We'll end the class with the song you probably have heard in church, "Soon and Very Soon". I love it and the children will too when they hear it this Christmas season, hopefully. It would help if you sing along, this song and all the ones we have learned.

Also, for homework, please read pages 83-86, and pages 229-234. Also please watch The YouTube video from Brother Francis Online. It's called "Intro to Advent". It runs 4 minutes, 15 seconds. There is a cute booklet on Mary that you can download and print from the flourish website where you access our book. It's under "Chapter Activities", Chapter 5 - Mary Booklet (Optional - just one page that can be colored in).

I've been asked when the due date is for the quiz on page 43 in the book. First let me apologize because I led you to believe that you could do the quiz online and email it to me. I was mistaken. The easiest thing to do is have your child either tell you the answers so you can email them to me or have them try to type them. Answers only are sufficient. I think I would like assignments to be done with the usual 2 week period of time but if you're rushed, anytime would be fine. Please don't stress.

My next assignment email will be sent on or about Dec. 18 and our next zoom after this Saturday won't be until Jan. See you this Saturday at 9:30 am.

Rose Lund 

Level 1 Nov. 21st to Dec. 5th Assignment

Dear Parents,

Have your child make the Sign of the Cross and say a decade (10 prayers) of their rosary saying the first half of the Hail Mary or the whole prayer if they know it. Review the new term "crucifix" and have them get used to saying it when they talk about the cross. The more often they use that word, the more they will remember it.

The objective of this lesson is to Introduce the Holy Spirit. Compare the Holy Spirit to a fan. You can't see the moving air, but you can feel its movement and power. Well, you can't see the Holy Spirit but you can feel its power too. You can sense his being there, right in your heart. But you have to want to follow Jesus in order for the Holy Spirit to be in your heart, and that means making good decisions in your life. Your body is a holy place, a gift from God. When we know and love God, he makes our body a holy and a sacred place. When do we receive the Holy Spirit? It's when we are baptized. Usually, children are familiar with this term and can recall what happens when a baby is baptized in church. Explain what Baptism is now and what it was like when Jesus was alive, (total immersion in a nearby lake or pond.) Have your child watch the YouTube video of Jesus being baptized by his cousin John in "Crossroads Kids' Club" (1 minutes:56 seconds). The video is of children telling the story of John the Baptist and it's really very good. Also well done is "Kids on the Move" (4 minutes:19 seconds), and "Teaching Kids about Jesus" (3 min.2 sec.).

John had people go into the water as a symbol of washing away our sins to make us clean again. But he told them that a man, Jesus, would come soon who could truly wash away our sins if we were sorry for sinning.

Explain that even though we can't see the Holy Spirit, artists usually draw it as a white bird, called a dove (rhymes with love), coming down from heaven. I usually do a project making the dove from a white paper plate. I'll attach a picture to this email if you want to try it at home. I also have a simple booklet that we cut and put together. I'll try to scan that and a song that we will learn at our next zoom on Dec. 5. On that Zoom, I will be asking each child to say the whole Hail Mary prayer by himself (herself) when we say the Rosary. This is the only way we can evaluate your child's progress.

Review our new vocabulary: crucifix, Holy Family, Holy Spirit, saint, and Baptism, and have your child learn the whole Hail Mary prayer.

Please read the following pages in our book: pp. 71 to 73, 63 to 69, and 91 and 94. Happy Thanksgiving and God bless you all.

Rose Lund 

Level 1 Nov. 7 to Nov. 21st Assignment

Dear Parents,

We have learned the beginning of the prayer, Hail Mary, and for the next class on Nov. 21, please learn the next part, "Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus". In our Zoom class on Nov. 7 we will be practicing this beginning on each bead of the Rosary, so please make sure you have a set.

Because Nov. 1 was All Saints' Day, we will be talking about special people who were so holy and did such great things in life, they became Saints. Our song will be "When the Saints go Marching in", which is on YouTube with the Nursery Rhyme Express, 2:16, and we will also sing, "He's got the Whole World in his Hands,"

For homework for the Nov. 21 class, please practice the next part of the Hail Mary. Learn this new vocabulary: Rosary Beads, crucifix, Saint, Pope Francis, and holy family. Read pp. 38 to 41 in our textbook. Please take the quiz on page 43 and submit it to my email, rlund3@verizon.net. Also read pp. 47 to 51 and finally page 100 about St. Francis. I'm sorry about jumping around so much in the textbook but what I'd like to do is save time. I realize how much your children have to do on a daily basis. That being said, Mrs. Arcelay has noticed that some parents have yet to access the book online. That would mean those children have a lot of material to catch up on. Please don't delay. If you are still having trouble getting to the book, please call Maria at 732-826-4859. It could be an easy fix.

Please don't forget the requirement of doing a Mass Reflection each month which is on our website (goodshepherdpanj.org) Go to about, Religious Ed., Rel. Ed. Assignments, then at the bottom-Mass Reflections for levels 1, 2, 3. You can email them, send them, or put them in our lockbox or the slot in our front door. We simplified them for you. Stay safe! Be well!

Rose Lund 

Level 1 October 17th-Nov. 7th Assignment

Dear Parents,

I hope you were all successful in accessing our *Be My Disciples* Text through <http://www.flourishkh.com>. It's Level one, and you were supposed to have read pp. 9 through 17. By now everyone should be able to read the book online, but we are not able to write in it online. Once you log in, on the left side you can select the student's e book that we are using. The homework for the next class is a little more than usual, because of two reasons. One is that this time period is 3 weeks, not 2. Also, since we started our program late, we have a little more material to make up. Please read pp. 19 to 33. **Please remember that our next zoom session is Nov. 7, and the time has been changed to 9:30 am.**

The objective of this lesson is to review the concepts, Bible, create, and creator. Introduce Rosary Beads, and please have a set available at our next zoom session on Nov. 7. Also introduce Mary, our Blessed Mother, as the mother of Jesus. I have listened to numerous stories on YouTube of the Annunciation when the Angel Gabriel appears to Mary. In truth, I'm not crazy about any of them. I'll give you the two I like best, but I am asking you to preview them and only show them if you want to. If you have a children's Bible story you like better, please use that, or even your own words. I just want the children to know the story. The two videos from YouTube are by Todd Xu (1 minute, 29 seconds) and the Care Bears' Bible Stories for Kids (50 seconds). Use your discretion as always. In my opinion, the important part is that Mary said, "May it be done to me according to your word." She believed in God and trusted Him to know what was best for her.

Talk about the prayer, Hail Mary. I usually tell children that the beginning of this prayer comes directly from the words of Gabriel from the Bible. Hail, Mary is like saying Hello, Mary. It's a kind of greeting. Full of grace is like saying Mary, you are full of goodness. The Lord is with thee is The Lord is with you. That's how they talked in those days.

Explain how we pray on the Rosary, making the sign of the Cross on the crucifix, and saying a Hail Mary on each bead in a group of 10 (Don't get more specific than that. Too much info will only confuse them.) Learn the first part of the prayer: **Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee.** Say it on every bead in the first decade of the Rosary (10 times). Practice it and the sign of the Cross with your nighttime prayers too.

Finally, Mrs. Arcelay has made it a requirement of our program to have the children do a Mass reflection each month. One of you has already sent it in. When I was recently looking at the Flourish website, I found a simpler one which Mrs. Arcelay said we can use for Level one. If you've already done one, don't redo it! But from now on, you can use the simpler one if you like. Mrs. Arcelay will put it on our website in a few days, so it is easy for us to access and print. If you still are not comfortable going to church, our 11 am Sunday Mass is livestreamed and available on our website, www.goodshepherdpanj.org.

If you have any questions or comments, please let me know. And give me a heads up when you receive this email. Thank you and stay safe!

Rose Lund 

Level 1 September 10, 2020 Assignment

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 Good Shepherd Religious Ed. Program. Since this is now a remote learning plan, it's going to be a brand-new learning process for me too. I'm not quite sure how this is going to work, so it might be trial and error. I'm emailing you directly and I'm asking you not to give my email address to anyone else. Maria Arcelay, the director, will be getting a copy of everything I send to you. I realize that your children probably are just learning to read so my lessons and the homework will require you to read material to them and yes, "teach" the lesson to them. I wish I could be there sitting next to your child, but I can't. So, a lot of it will be up to you. I will try to make it as easy on you as I can. If you have any problems or suggestions for me, please let me know.

I'm hoping that your child will be able to access our book, *Be My Disciples*, online very soon. When you're able, please read pages 9, and 11 through 17 with your child. If your child doesn't really know any Bible stories, you don't have to do page 13. I usually bring in several Bibles to show the children. If you have one, have your child look it over. Show how it has many parts, written by different people, telling stories of Jesus' life, as well as other people too.

A big part of my program is teaching a song at each lesson, and I don't know how I'm going to do that. (No, I'm not recording myself singing a song.). I could send a link to the song if it's on YouTube. Sometimes I change the lyrics. One of the songs they like and is very catchy is "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands". On YouTube I like the version by Lifetree kids. It has actions that are easy and has a great beat. Play it if you can. Soon your child will be singing along, and you'll be hearing again and again. Ask them who the song is about and why they think the song was written. Another verse I've heard is "He's got the wind and the rain in His hands. ". Homework is to learn the song and use your own actions to use with the last verse. Happy singing each day! It gives praise to God! See you next week.

Rose Lund 