

Grade 6 - Lesson 9

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Proclamation:

Jesus calls us to love our neighbors, even our enemies.



Catechetical Points

- Advent
- The law of love: "Love your neighbor as yourself"
- Examination of Conscience

Materials

- Blank Paper
- Examination of Conscience
- YouTube (Please bring your own laptop or tablet)
 - Wi-Fi: StMichaelGuest
 - Password: 6084375348
 - Christmas Peace by Catholic Minute
 - <https://youtu.be/8VMVkJdKHo1Q>
 - Is It OK to Hate Someone? By Fr. Mike Schmitz
 - <https://youtu.be/OZVvPZCVbM4>

[5 min] **Opening Prayer**

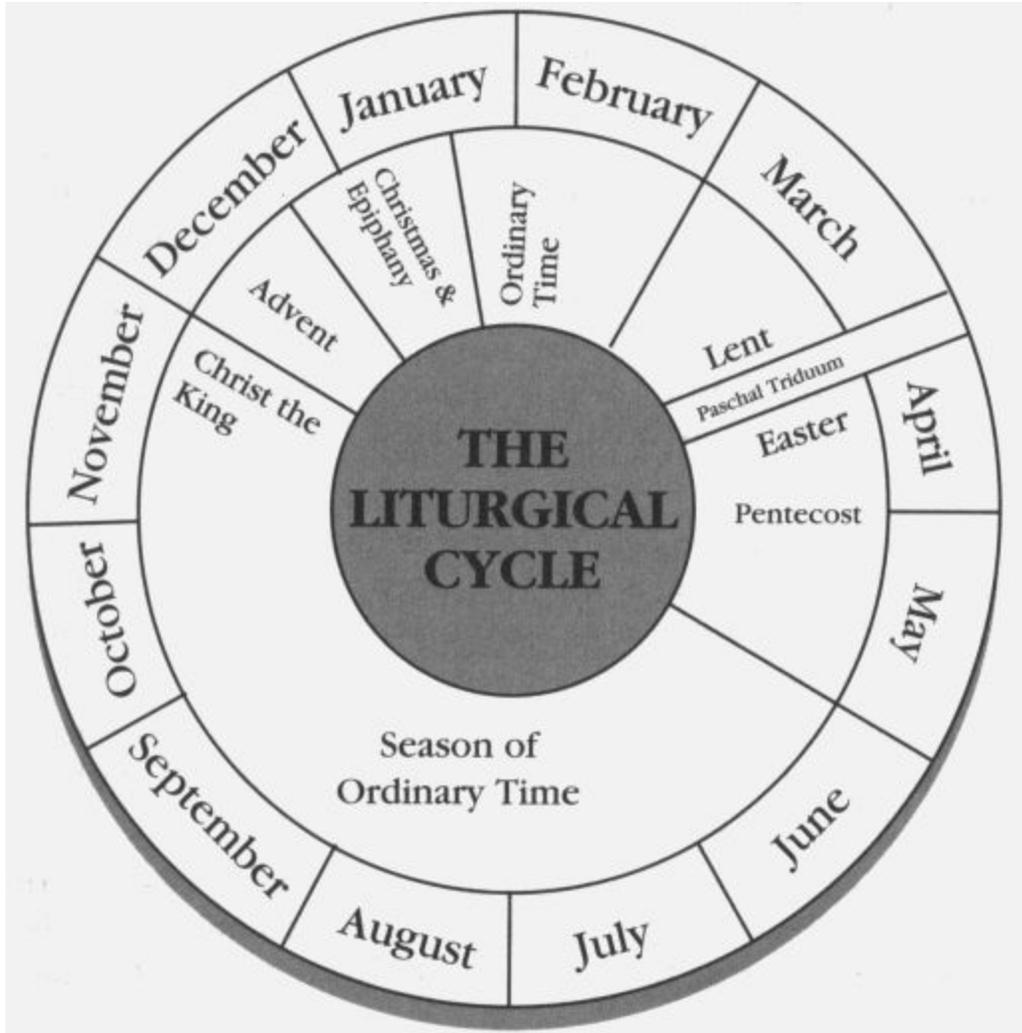
- Ask the students if there is anything they would like to pray for.
- Pray the **Memorare** (p. 151 in the student text / p. 262 in the teacher's manual.)

[10 min] **Examination of Conscience**

- During class today, Fr. Chahm will be hearing confession in the Sacristy for the 6th grade class.
- To prepare to make a good Confession, take some time reflecting on the Examination of Conscience handout (Copies will be provided in the classroom).
- Go through the steps of how to make a Confession, then send 1-2 students at a time to wait in line by the Sacristy throughout class today.

[15 min] **Liturgical Seasons**

- The Church year starts in Advent each year. Just like we have seasons in the weather, the Church has its own seasons.
- The Church uses different colors during these seasons.
- Read Liturgical Colors on page 142 of the student text (page 253 in the teacher's manual).
- Hand out blank paper for the students to draw a Liturgical Calendar, following your example on the whiteboard.



[15 min] **Advent**

- Watch **Christmas Peace** by Catholic Minute
 - <https://youtu.be/8VMVkdKHo1Q>
 - **What did the newspaper article say about the Wright Brothers in 1903?**
 - **What is the moral of this story?** The editor missed the major headline of the year of the world's first flight. In a similar way we can miss the point of Christmas is we don't have the right focus this season.
 - **What is Advent about?** Preparing ourselves for Christ.
- Advent Wreath Meaning:
 - The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Hope** with the "Prophet's Candle" reminding us that Jesus is coming.

- The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Faith** with the “Bethlehem Candle” reminding us of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem.
- The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Joy** with the “Shepherd’s Candle” reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus. We light the pink candle on the third Sunday, which is usually the halfway point through Advent. This is known as Gaudete Sunday, which means “Rejoice”.
- The 4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Peace** with the “Angel’s Candle” reminding us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.”
- **Note:** *Some Catholic websites I found give a different order to the candles: **hope, peace, joy, and love.***
- **What are some things you can do during Advent to prepare better for Christmas?**

[15 min] **Charity Toward All**

- Read Luke 6:27-35
- **What does it mean to love our enemies?**
- **Who are enemies that you face in your life?** E.g. People we don’t like, or people who don’t like us at school, home, etc.
- **Is Jesus talking about an emotional love?** No, we can love our friends and families with an emotional love, but loving our enemies means wanting what is good for that person, even if we don’t feel any warm feelings towards them.
- **What is charity?** Loving God and our neighbors for the sake of our love for God.
- **How can we treat our neighbors with charity?** Pray for them, don’t wish them harm, be obedient if they are in authority over us (parents, teachers).
- Read pages 57-59 in the student text (page 102 in the teacher’s manual).
- **Do you agree with the saying “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me”.** How can words cause us harm?
- **Have you ever been told to “offer it up” when you experience hurt or suffering?** **What does that mean?** We give the pain to God as a prayer for the salvation of those who hurt us.

[15 min] **Is It OK to Hate Someone**

- Watch **Is It OK to Hate Someone?** By Fr. Mike Schmitz
 - <https://youtu.be/OZVvPZCVbM4>
- **Is it ok to judge a person?** No, only God can judge a person's soul.
- **Is it ok to judge a person's actions?** Yes, one of the Spiritual Works of Mercy is to "Correct the Sinner", so we should help others understand why their actions are leading them away from God.
- **What does it mean to hate the sin but love the sinner?**

[1 min] **Closing Prayer**

Steps for Making a Confession

Kneel behind the screen or sit in the chair across from Father.

Make the **Sign of the Cross** and say:

Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been _____ since my last confession. These are my sins.... *(Be specific and say the number of times you committed each sin, or give an estimate if you can't remember)*

After you finish, say, **"I am sorry for these and all my sins."**

Father will give you some words of encouragement and will ask you to say an Act of Contrition.

Act of Contrition:

O my God,
I am heartily sorry
for having offended Thee,
and I detest all my sins
because I dread the loss of Heaven
and the pains of Hell;
but most of all because they offend Thee, my God,
who art all-good
and deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve,
with the help of Thy grace,
to confess my sins,
to do penance,
and to amend my life. Amen.

Make the **Sign of the Cross** while Father prays: *"I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*

Priest: *"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good."*

Respond: **"His mercy endures forever."**

Priest: *"The Lord has freed you from your sins; Go in peace."*

Respond: **"Thanks be to God."**