



faith FORMATION

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH // VOLUME 1 // ISSUE 22 // FEB. 9, 2023

6th
Sunday in
Ordinary Time

In the Beginning...

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A couple of weeks ago in RCIA, we were talking about the Ten Commandments. As we discussed the Second Commandment, we reminded participants that saying things like "OMG!" or other forms of divine exclamation are a violation of this Commandment. We didn't go too deeply into it. We had more Commandments to cover.

Last week, it was brought up by one of our volunteers who was not there the previous week. I took that as a "Truly, truly" moment. The Holy Spirit wanted to make a point. And I think I get it now.

At every Mass and every time we pray the Lord's Prayer, we pray "hallowed be thy name." What does that mean when we go out after Mass and casually use God's name as some sort of exclamation? Using the Lord's name in vain is all too common. You'll hear it from Christians and non-Christians alike. The problem is it's not a trivial thing. It's serious. As mentioned in the "Did You Know?" section, being a Christian and knowing this Commandment makes violation of it a sin of blasphemy, which is a mortal sin. What? Saying "OMG" is a mortal sin? Well now you know and so do I.

So let's endeavor to focus on this Commandment for the coming week. Try to avoid the common phrases and pretty much any phrase that involves God's name, the name of Jesus or any variation of it. Don't swear to God when you're trying to convince someone that you're telling the truth.

If you're feeling really ambitious, take it a step further. Avoid saying the censored versions of those phrases as well, phrases like "Oh my gosh," "Jeez," "Gosh darn it." They may seem innocent enough. But behind them, there's a meaning.

Let's make this week a Holy one!

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Confession

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45PM
Also, by appointment

Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM
Thursday: 8:30AM
Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION PREP

This week we have a special video for children from the Signs of Grace series. It can feel scary to go to Confession, but really, we go to the Sacrament of Confession because God loves us so much that he wants us to remove all the sins that keep us from Him. When we go to Confession, we say "I love you, Jesus, will you forgive me of my sins?" In this session, kids will learn how to make a good Confession, and that God always forgives us and gives us grace to be better in this sacrament. Check it out!
[How to Make a Great Confession.](#)



SAINT JUDE

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION / RECONCILIATION DATES TO REMEMBER

PARENT MEETINGS

Sunday, January 15, 2023 5:30- 7 PM

Sunday, February 19, 2023 5:30 - 7PM

Sunday, March 19, 2023 5:30 - 7 PM

FAMILY MASS & BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 16, 10:30AM Mass

Breakfast after Mass

Student decorate Communion Plates

RECONCILIATION REVIEW & CHURCH TOUR

Students only

Sunday April 23, 2023 5:30 - 6:30 PM

RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Thursday April 27, 2023 6:30 PM

FIRST COMMUNION PRACTICE

Thursday May 4, 2023 6:30PM

First Holy Communion Mass

Sunday May 7, 2023 10:30AM

Previous Signs of Grace

Episodes of

"You Are Loved"

(about the Eucharist)

[Episode 1](#)

[Episode 2](#)

[Episode 3](#)

[Episode 4](#)

[Episode 5](#)

[Episode 6](#)

[Episode 7](#)

Previous Signs of Grace

Episodes of

"You Are Forgiven"

(about Reconciliation)

[Episode 1](#)

[Episode 2](#)

[Episode 3](#)

[Episode 4](#)

[Episode 5](#)

[Episode 6](#)

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute" (CCC 2221).

Although the parish helps to form our children in the faith, no one can take the place of the parents' role in forming holy individuals. As parents, we should be well equipped to answer questions and to act, not only as the first teachers, but as the first witnesses of faith. This page is intended to help you in the journey as we work together to prepare your children for this special moment in their lives!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

By Scott Hahn

Readings:

[Sirach 15:15-20](#)

[Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34](#)

[1 Corinthians 2:6-10](#)

[Matthew 5:17-37](#)

[LISTEN HERE](#)



Jesus tells us in the Gospel this week that He has come not to abolish but to “fulfill” the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets.

His Gospel reveals the deeper meaning and purpose of the Ten Commandments and the moral Law of the Old Testament. But His Gospel also transcends the Law. He demands a morality far greater than that accomplished by the most pious of Jews, the scribes and Pharisees.

Outward observance of the Law is not enough. It is not enough that we do not murder, commit adultery, divorce, or lie.

The law of the New Covenant is a law that God writes on the heart (see Jeremiah 31:31-34). The heart is the seat of our motivations, the place from which our words and actions proceed (see Matthew 6:21; 15:18-20).

Jesus this week calls us to train our hearts, to master our passions and emotions. And Jesus demands the full obedience of our hearts (see Romans 6:17). He calls us to love God with all our hearts and to do His will from the heart (see Matthew 22:37; Ephesians 6:6).

God never demands more than what we are capable of doing. That is the message of this week’s First Reading. It is up to us to choose life over death, to choose the waters of eternal life over the fires of ungodliness and sin.

By His life, death, and Resurrection, Jesus has shown us that it is possible to keep His commandments. In Baptism, He has given us His Spirit, that His Law might be fulfilled in us (Romans 8:4).

The wisdom of the Gospel surpasses all the wisdom of this age that is passing away. St. Paul tells us in the Epistle. The revelation of this wisdom fulfills God’s plan from before all ages. Let us trust in this wisdom and live by His kingdom law.

As we do in this week’s Psalm, let us pray that we grow in being better able to live His Gospel and to seek the Father with all our heart.

Source: [St. Paul Center](#)

“Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

MATTHEW 5:17-20

The Gospel at Home

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 5:17-37

I have not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfill them.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Matthew continues the Sermon on the Mount with a three part instruction by Jesus on the Way of Life in the kingdom of heaven. Today's reading is part one and deals with the Law. Part two deals with worship and religious practice and contains the Lord's Prayer. Part three deals with trusting God and deeds of loving service to our neighbor.

When Matthew speaks of "the Law and the prophets" he means the whole Scripture. When the Messiah brings the fullness of the kingdom none of scripture will be done away with. Instead it will be fulfilled. Matthew's Jesus does not overturn the Law of Moses, nor does he set his followers free from the Law. He requires his followers to go beyond the Law by doing more than the Law requires.

The Law condemned murder. Jesus condemns anger. The Law condemned adultery. Jesus condemns even lustful looks. As Jewish Christians who had always been faithful to the Law Matthew's community need a way to understand the difference Jesus and the kingdom he brings have made. They affirmed that God had always been at work in history through "the Law and the prophets." But God's work goes beyond that to be embodied by the Messiah who reveals the definitive will of God. The written scriptures and their interpretation in tradition are surpassed by Jesus whose life and teaching are the definitive revelation of the will of God.

Family Connection

Families have rules. Without rules, family life would be chaos. As a family, brainstorm a list of rules that you are all called to follow in your home in order for you all to get along together. Think about rules for play time, rules for eating, rules for how to speak to one another, rules for going out with friends, and so on. Emphasize that families follow rules as a way of showing love and respect for one another. Explain that in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus talks about following the Law. Say: God's Law of love can be thought of as rules that we are to follow in order to show our love and respect for one another. Read aloud this Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 5:17-37. Talk specifically with one another about how anger is to be dealt with in your family. Conclude by praying for the grace to overcome anger and to show respect for one another as a family by following God's Law of love.

"You have heard that it was said to the men of old, 'You shall not kill; and whoever kills shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that every one who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother shall be liable to the council, and whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

MATTHEW 5:21-24

Did You Know?

God's Name is Holy

The Holy Name of God (By Brian Kranick)

"According to Fr. Gabriele Amorth, the recently-passed Chief Exorcist of Rome, who has performed tens of thousands of exorcisms, demons generally do not and cannot say holy names. Instead, they call Jesus "he" or "your Boss." If our most abhorrent spiritual enemies shudder at the idea of speaking the holy name of God, why then do we say it with such carelessness and recklessness?

It seems everywhere these days people take the name of God in vain. It should stop us in our tracks whenever we hear it. It is after all the Second Commandment, "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain," (Ex. 20:7) included among the other Ten Commandments like "you shall not kill," "you shall not commit adultery," and "you shall not steal." Taking the Lord's name in vain, if done with full knowledge and consent, is blasphemy. That makes it a mortal sin, which could send a soul to hell. This echoes the warning from Jesus, "I tell you, on the day of judgment men will render account for every careless word they utter; for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned." (Mt. 12:36-37) We should be very careful to heed the Second Commandment and treat the holy name of God with the utmost reverence and respect.

In Hebrew tradition, names are not merely labels but are linked inseparably to the identity of the person. When Jesus chose Simon to be the foundation of His church, He gave him a new name, Peter, from the word for "rock." In this Jewish understanding, names reveal the identity and essence of a person. The catechism builds upon this saying, "Everyone's name is sacred. The name is the icon of the person." (CCC 2157) Yet, God had not revealed His name, even to the Patriarchs of Israel: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It was not until Moses comes to the burning bush on Mount Horeb that God reveals His name to His people. After God gives His mission to Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, Moses says if they ask me, "What is His name?" what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I Am Who I Am." (Ex. 3:13-14) God reveals the divine name, Yahweh, to Moses and Israel, and establishes a personal relationship with them as their God. God's name "I Am" reveals that He is existence and being itself."

"You shall not invoke the name of the LORD, your God, in vain. For the LORD will not leave unpunished anyone who invokes his name in vain."

Exodus 20:7

[Continue Reading...](#)

Source: [Catholic Exchange](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Opportunities to Grow in Faith

Sunday, February 12:

10:30am - Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10:30am Mass.

11:30am - RCIA after the 10:30am Mass.

NO Sunday Evening Religious Ed Classes.

Monday, February 13:

7:00pm - Women's Bible Study in the Thaddeus Center. The Monday Night Ladies Bible Study will be starting up again on January 16 at 7:00pm in the Thaddeus Center. The topic for our winter session is a 10-part DVD series on Divine Mercy called "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told" by Fr. Michael Gaitley. It is an excellent series and will be finished right before we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on April 16th. We would love to have you join us. If interested, please call Peg Manuszak at 616-361-5836.

Tuesday, February 14:

7:00pm - Men of Emmaus in the Millennium Conference Room.

7:30pm - Book Club. This week it's BYOB: Bring Your Own Book! Let us know what you've been reading and any recommendations you might have. Next week we continue our weekly discussions on some of C.S. Lewis's greatest works. We begin with "The Great Divorce", which examines the choice for Heaven over Hell in a narrative of one man's bus ride from Purgatory into Heaven. After this, we will read the short book "Abolition of Man", full of fascinating philosophical arguments for the importance of objective values, the necessity of natural law, and an objection against scientism in education. [More info here!](#)

Wednesday, February 15:

8:30am - Senior Men's Group in the Thaddeus Center. Do you like to play cards? We are a group of senior men who play cards at St. Jude in the Thaddeus Center. We meet every Wednesday at 8:30am. If you are interested or have any questions, call Denny Biggins at 616-365-1371.

Thursday, February 16:

7:00pm - The Sacraments with Marie Cirenza. Have you ever wondered what the sacraments are all about and why we have them? Do you know the basics about the sacraments and would like to know more? Come join us in the Kelly Conference Room to discover why the sacraments are an essential part of the Catholic faith!

"Jesus replied,
'The first is
this: 'Hear, O
Israel! The Lord
our God is Lord
alone! You shall
love the Lord
your God with
all your heart,
with all your
soul, with all
your mind, and
with all your
strength.'"

MARK 12:29-30

Confession

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45PM
Also, by appointment

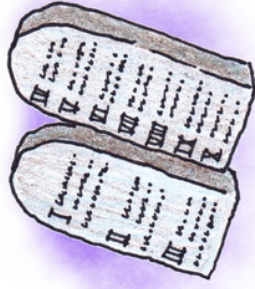
Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM
Thursday: 8:30AM
Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

What does Jesus say about the Commandments?



In today's Gospel reading Jesus was talking about the laws of God. Some people thought that He would take away the old law that God had given the Jews. But Jesus said that He didn't come to take away the law. He came to fulfill the law.

The old laws tell us the things that we shouldn't do, like worship false gods or kill people or steal. Jesus is telling us that just obeying the commandments isn't enough. He wants us to do everything out of love. If you really love a person then of course you won't kill them! But He says you shouldn't get angry at them either. You wouldn't steal from someone you love- but wouldn't you want to be generous to them too?

Jesus says that the Ten Commandments are very important, but we have to do more than just obey them. We need to love!



Answer to Word-Find: "you will be blessed."

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 12th, 2023



tadht kniht ton oD
dziloda ot smoo I
sht to wal sht
...ztshdorg
bna zyedo rsvodW
ztasmbnammoo sht zshost
sht ni tztasrp bellao sd lliw
.nsvastH fo mobpnix

Some people in Jesus' time thought that He was going to get rid of the old law. What does He have to say about the commandments in today's Gospel reading?

Look at this picture in the mirror to find out!

The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

February 17



THE SEVEN SAINTS WHO STARTED THE SERVITE ORDER MADE GREAT SACRIFICES BY GIVING UP THEIR LIFE OF WEALTH AND THEIR FAMILIES. THEY HAD GOD'S HELP AND ALSO EACH OTHER'S HELP. DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS WHO CAN HELP YOU TO BE HOLY AND EVEN HEROIC? ARE YOU THAT KIND OF FRIEND?

Psalm 119 Word-Find



Y D S C O F G O O D U
W I T O L O R D B I L
B L A M E L E S S L B
L I T M E L A W E B C
E G U A P O F I R M O
S E T N R W L I V E N
S N E D E C R E E S S
E T S E C M A Y L S I
D L E D E O P E N E D
S Y K E P T S E D E E
M I G H T H W A L K R
W O R D S E R V A N T

See if you can
find all the
words in
CAPITALS.
Use the
leftover letters
to fill in the
blanks at the
end.

Blessed are they who FOLLOW the law of the LORD.

Blessed are they whose way is BLAMELESS,
who WALK in the LAW of the Lord.
BLESSED are they who OBSERVE his DECREES,
who SEEK him with all their heart.

You have COMMANDED that your PRECEPTS
be DILIGENTLY KEPT.

Oh, that I MIGHT be FIRM in the ways
of keeping your STATUTES!

Be GOOD to your SERVANT, that I MAY LIVE
and keep your WORDS.

OPEN my EYES, that I may CONSIDER
THE wonders of your law.

If you obey God's law,