

Sacred Heart Yokosuka

Religious Education



Rosary: The Third Luminous Mystery:

The Preaching of the Kingdom

Jesus said, "Repent and Believe in the Kingdom of God"

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Main Topic: Grace

#1: 124-135 **#2:** 46-51, 125-133 **#3:** 124-128 **#4:** 105-106

1. Grace is anything the God does for us
2. Grace is a participation in the life of God
3. First, God loved us
4. We cannot fully respond to divine love by our own powers
5. We must hope and pray that God will give us the grace to love Him and our neighbors
6. Grace escapes our experience and can only be known by faith. We cannot rely on our feelings or our works to know if we have been saved.
7. God's blessings in our life and in the lives of the saints show that grace is at work in us and spurs us on
8. "Habitual grace" or a "State of Grace" is the permanent disposition to live and act in keeping with God's call
9. "Actual graces" are God's interventions in the world
10. Finding ourselves in the midst of life's battlefield, we must struggle to do right, and only at great cost to ourselves and aided by God's grace will we succeed
11. Mary, according to the Archangel Gabriel, is "Full of Grace" and perfect because God made her so

Faith Focus: The 5Ws of Evangelization

Who should evangelize?

All Christians by the example of their lives and the witness of their word have an obligation to evangelize

What is evangelization?

The proclamation of Christ by word and how we live

Where should we evangelize?

Everywhere: at home and school and work

When should we evangelize?

Whenever it will be effective

Why should we evangelize?

To respect and awaken in each the love of the true and the good

Saint: St. Paul Miki and Companions *February 6*

In 1597, 3 Jesuits and 6 Franciscans and 17 Japanese lay people were crucified on a hill near Nagasaki. The Franciscans were Spaniards and Indians, and were led by Peter Baptist. As to the Jesuits, one was Paul Miki, a noble Japanese and an eminent preacher, at that time 33 years old. The martyrs were twenty-six in number, and among them were three altar boys, who were 12, 15, and 15, yet each showed great joy and constancy in their sufferings. First, part of their left ears was cut off, and they were conducted through many towns, their cheeks stained with blood, for a terror to others. When the twenty-six soldiers of Christ arrived at the place of execution near Nagasaki, they were allowed to go to Confession, and being fastened to crosses by cords and chains about their arms and legs, and an iron collar about their necks, were raised into the air, each cross falling into a hole prepared for it in the ground. The crosses were planted in a row, about four feet apart, and each martyr had an executioner near him with a spear ready to pierce his side; for such is the Japanese manner of crucifixion. As soon as all the crosses were planted, the executioners lifted up their lances, and at a signal given, all pierced the martyrs; upon which they expired, and went to receive the reward of their sufferings. Their blood and garments were relics and miracles were done by them. Pope Urban VIII declared them martyrs, and they are honored to this day.

Keyword: Kenosis – emptying, letting go

Jesus knew that no matter what anyone did, he would always be the Only Begotten Son of God, equal to the Father. Therefore, he did not need to grasp onto his status. Rather, he emptied himself, first as a weak human baby and last by dying on the Cross. We should imitate him because even if someone stole everything we had – all our money, all our possessions, even our life – we would still be adopted children of God

Prayer: Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit

Hail Mary... / **Holy Mary...**

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word

Hail Mary... / **Holy Mary...**

V. And the Word was made flesh

R. And dwelt among us

Hail Mary... / **Holy Mary...**

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

V. Let us pray.

R. Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Next time...Rosary: The Fourth Luminous Mystery: The Transfiguration

Matthew 17:1-8

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.