

Sacred Heart Yokosuka

Religious Education



Rosary: The Fourth Glorious Mystery: The Assumption

At the end of her earthly life, Mary was taken up into heaven.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Main Topic: Two Greatest Commandments

#1: 103-113 #2: 134-140 #3: 11-17 #4: 131-139

1. The First Commandment is: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."
2. The Second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
3. Jesus says that "the second is like it" because they are really the same commandment: Love
4. "In this is Love, not that we have loved God but that He has Loved us." God loves us first and our love is our response
5. Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.
6. God commands us to love because God is Love and He made us to be like Him
7. The opposite of love is selfishness and using people
8. To love someone means to want them to love God and their neighbor, just like God wants us to love
9. True freedom means being able to love
10. The purpose of life is to learn how to love
11. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

Faith Focus: The 5Ws of Original Sin

Who committed the Original Sin?

Adam, the first Man

What was the Original Sin?

Adam disobeyed God and ate the fruit God had commanded him not to eat

Where was the Original Sin committed?

In the Garden of Eden where Adam and Eve lived until they were expelled because of the sin

When was the Original Sin?

It took place at the beginning of the history of man

Why did Adam commit the Original Sin?

Adam preferred himself to God and chose himself because he failed to trust God

Saint: St. Thérèse of Lisieux

October 1

St. Thérèse was born on January 2, 1873 in France. Her parents are also saints: St. Louis and St. Zelie, and she had 8 siblings. When she was only 14, she wanted to become a nun even though she was too young. She asked the nuns; she asked the priest; she asked the bishop; she even asked the pope! At age 15 she was allowed to join. Thérèse was someone who always got her way. She also wanted to become a saint, but she wanted to find a way that was easy, like an elevator to heaven. *I wanted to find an elevator which would raise me to Jesus, for I am too small to climb the rough stairway of perfection. I searched, then, in the Scriptures for some sign of this elevator, the object of my desires, and I read these words coming from the mouth of Eternal Wisdom: "Whoever is a LITTLE ONE, let him come to me". And so I succeeded. I felt I had found what I was looking for. The elevator which must raise me to heaven is Your arms, O Jesus! And for this, I had no need to grow up, but rather I had to remain little and become this more and more.*

So she came up with the idea of the "Little way" which is an easy way to heaven based on loving:

Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, nor even at their difficulty, but at the love with which we do them.

St. Thérèse died on September 30, 1897, at the age of 24. Her last words were, "Oh, I love Him! My God, I love You!"

Keyword: Analogy of Faith – Christianity all fits together

The analogy of faith is the coherence of the truths of the faith among themselves and within God's plan. Everything in the Bible and in our faith points to the same thing: Love. God is love, and He commands us to love, above all to love Love which He is and also to love our neighbor by helping them love Love.

Prayer: Act of Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins, because of Your just punishments, but most of all because they offend You, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin.

Next time...

Rosary: The Fifth Glorious Mystery: The Crowning of Mary

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever."