Sacred Heart Yokosuka Religious Education



Rosary: The First Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation

The Angel Gabriel was sent to a virgin in Nazareth named Mary *Luke 1:26-27*

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Main Topic: Saints

#1: 150-151 #2: 33-36, 157-158 #3: 156-157 #4: 172-173

1. The word Saint means holy. *CCC D-Saint*
2. The saints are humans who died and went to heaven *CCC #1023*
3. A canonized Saint is a saint in heaven who is on the Church's official list of Saints *CCC D-Canonization*
4. Every canonized Saint has a feast day, the day that the Church celebrates them *CCC #1173*
5. Even though we call the angels by the title "Saint", they were never humans but always lived in heaven *CCC #328*
6. The greatest Saint is Mary. She is greater even than all the angels *cf. CCC #966; Lumen Gentium 53*
7. The saints pray for us to God so that we will learn to love like they did and someday join them in heaven *CCC #956*
8. A patron saint is a Saint whom the Church has assigned to a particular cause *cf. CCC #828*
9. Every baptized person should be trying to become a saint. *CCC #2013*
10. The Saints are examples for us to follow. They help us have faith when we learn about their faith *cf. CCC #828*
11. The "Communion of Saints" means the friendship of all the saints in heaven and all the baptized on earth. *cf. CCC #962, D-Communion of Saints*

Faith Focus: The 5Ws of Angels

Who are angels?

Each angel's name tells us what God's mission for them is. For instance, Michael means "Who is like God?" because he challenges Satan who thinks that he can be equal to God. Gabriel means "Man/God" because his mission is to announce the incarnation of Jesus. Raphael means "God's healing" because his mission is to fix situations where people are in trouble. *cf. CCC #329*

What are angels?
Angels are spirits who do not have bodies. *CCC #330, D-Angel*

Where are angels?
They stand before the face of God and go wherever God sends them. *CCC #331*

When are angels?
They are above time but not eternal. *CCC #332*

Why did some of the angels sin and become demons?
Because of pride, envy, and disobedience. *CCC #391-393*

Saint: St. Joan of Arc *May 30*

St. Joan of Arc was born on January 6th, 1412. She never learned to read or write, but was full of faith. At the age of 13, she began hearing voices telling her she had a mission to save France. She began to recognize these voices as those of St. Michael the Archangel, St. Catherine of Alexandria, and St. Margaret of Antioch.

There was a war in France. The English had invaded and displaced the king and threatened to conquer all of France. The voices insisted that Joan help France. She went to the prince, and he sent her to the head of the army with a banner with the names of Jesus and Mary. She won many victories and helped the prince be crowned as king. Then she was wounded and captured and she was tried as a witch and was burned at the stake by the English who were mad that she had made them lose the war. Twenty years later, her mother asked the pope for justice and he looked at the case and overturned the verdict. In 1920, she was canonized as a Saint and Patroness of France.

A famous quote of hers, when the judges asked whether she was in a state of grace: "If I am not, may it please God to put me in it; if I am, may it please God to keep me there."

Keyword: Seraphim & Cherubim – the angels closest to God

Seraphim have six wings: two to bear them up, two veiling their faces, and two covering their feet and they sing "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory." The Cherubim have four faces: like a man, a lion, an eagle, and an ox, and four wings. Together, four Cherubim form a kind of chariot that God appears seated upon several times in the Old Testament. *cf. Isaiah 6:1-7; Ezekiel 1:4-28*

Prayer: Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen. *CCC #334-336*

Next time...

Rosary: The First Luminous Mystery: The Baptism of Jesus

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." *Matthew 3:13-17*