Religious Education Resources

Theme: Praying with the Saints

This self directed guide for students will inspire and engage students in an exploration about Cahtolic Saints. Using student texts and resources from the “Growing in Faith Growing in Christ Resource '' students will have the opportunity to learn about the lives of Saints and be inspired by their lives and dedication to service and God.

Please find below the following resources:

Overview of the Growing in Faith Growing in Christ Program
Growing in Christ Growing in Faith online parent resource “This Week at Home” & “Parent Corner”
Grade specific activities that students can work on using school texts and resources.

Parents are encouraged to explore the learning opportunities and activities in the following resources.

Little Saints
https://www.catholicpreschool.com/

Little Saints is a comprehensive preschool curriculum employing some of the best in age-

Create a chart on a piece of paper with four columns. At the top of the columns, print the following headings:

Name
Where they lived
How they lived like Jesus
Feast day

Select one of the saints above and draw a picture of the saint doing good work in your notebooks and add a sentence to explain your picture.

Furthering your Learning:

Read: Who are the Saints? Page 25, The Work of the Saints? Page 26, Prayer of the Saints Page 27, What We Believe Page 28, Celebrating the Saints Page 32-33

Select 5 of the following saints and read about their lives.

- St. Teresa of Calcutta Page 12
- St. Domenic Guzman Page 22
- St. Andrea Bessette Page 29
- St. Kateri Tekakwitha Page 30
- St. John Paul II Page 31
- St. Paul Page 88-89
- St. Elizabeth Seaton Page 118
- St. Anthony of Padua Page 119
- St. Basil the Great Page 141
- St. Vincent Pallotti Page 142
- Blessed Joan of Toulouse Page 143
- St. Faustine Kowalska Page 169
- St. John Vianney Page 179
- St. Thomas the Apostle Page 214
- St. Maximilian Kolbe Page 235

After reading about the above saints, write a few sentences about the one you chose that you feel is most like you.

3. Think about people you know or have read about who try to live their lives like saints. Write a sentence or two in your journals explaining why these people are good role models.

Grade 5
Theme: Leaders in Faith

Prayer

The Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;

Where there is hatred,

let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

	Prayer." Remember that Saints, like St. Francis, are models of holiness.

Focus Question: How do the saints inspire our faith?

Learning Goal: We are learning how the saints inspire our faith lives, We are learning how the Communion of Saints supports the Church and its members, We are learning how leaders and role models in faith show us how to pray and live lives of faith.

Learning Task 1

Read:

Witnesses of the Gospel Page 71
Models of Our lives Today Page 75

Read the two paragraphs on student book page 75 and look at the illustration and caption.

Reflect on the following questions in your notebook:

1. What do we have in common with saints from the past?
2. Why might saints be excellent role models?
3. How does asking for the intercession of the saints help us to live a holy life?

Learning Task 2

Read Praying with the Saints Page 76

Read the prayers on page 76. Choose the prayer of St. Catherine of Siena and the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi.

Reflect on the following:

Mood (the way the prayer makes you feel);
Message (what the saint is trying to say);
Symbols (what word images the saint uses to help convey his or her message) in the prayer you chose.

Transcribe the words from your chosen prayer on a blank sheet of paper and draw three images around the words to represent the prayer.

Below is an example of St. Ignatius of Loyola
(For example the prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola, you might note the following: mood—comfort and hope; message—don't despair, Christ will carry us through difficulties if we are

close to Him; symbols— darkness, hand. When complete compose one statement to explain how the prayer inspires you to live a holy life, and write it below the prayer and symbols.

Furthering your Learning

Read:

St. John the Evangelist Page 70
St. Francis de Sales Page 74
St. John of the cross page 101
St. Augustine of Hippo Page 138
St. Blaise Page 155
St. marianne Cope page 161
St. Katharine Drexel Page 194

Select one of the saints above and create a character sketch using the first-person perspective. For example St. Francis de Sales, St. Francis' father, and someone who received spiritual guidance from St. Francis. Use the following guiding questions to assist you with your writing.

Below is an example of what this would look like for St. Francis.

St. Francis

What is my name?
Who am I? (Create a brief description of St. Francis, referring to the information on Student Book page 74)
Why did I want to become a priest?
How did I feel rejecting my father's wishes for me?
How do I think I can help others?

Father of St. Francis

What is my name?
Who am I? (Create a brief description of St. Francis' father using fictional details or basing it on facts you research, such as his place of residence or something about his life or character.)
How would I describe my son Francis? Why?
What do I think about my son becoming a priest?
What did I learn from my son?

Someone Counselled by St. Francis

What is my name?
Who am I? (Provide some fictional information about the character, but try to tailor it to what you know about the people who St. Francis interacted with. Aim to reflect what you know or can find out about the time period and place in which St. Francis lived and worked.)
How would I describe St. Francis? Why?

What do I think about St. Francis becoming a priest?
What did I learn from St. Francis?

Grade 6
Theme: Discovering the Saints

Prayer

At times, we might feel tempted or pressured to be

St. Thomas Aquinas Page 20

Questions

1. What did St. Thomas Aquinas teach about the relationship between faith and reason?
2. What does St. Thomas Aquinas mean when he says, “Love takes up where knowledge leaves off”?
3. How do the teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas continue to guide the Church in faith?

Learning Task 2

St. Lucy Yi ZhenMei

Read

St. Lucy Yi ZhenMei Page 45

Questions

On a piece of paper create a Venn diagram on a piece of paper. In the first circle, write “ St. Lucy Yi ZhenMei,” and in the second circle, “Faith in the Early Church.” Work on identifying similarities and differences.

Similarities	Differences

1. What do the differences you recorded tell us?
2. What do the similarities tell us?
3. How does St. Lucy Yi ZhenMei show what it means to live a moral and holy life?

Learning Task 3

St. Anne and St. Joachim

Read

St. Anne Page 82

Looking at the illustration and caption on page 82 in your text reflect on the following questions

1. What do you already know about St. Anne?
2. How was St. Anne related to Jesus?
3. What might we learn about St. Annee from the illustration and the caption?

Read over the first paragraph of the

Read over the profile on page 162 in your textbook and respond to the following questions.

1. What does St. Benedict's story teach us about religious life?
2. How would these rules help a person stay faithful to their vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience?

St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac

Read

St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac Page 221

Read over the profile on page 221 in your textbook and respond to the following questions.

Read over Building just Communities on page 220

This quote tells us to…

Read

Know, Think, Infer Page 247
Further Question:

1. How can our prayers and our prayer life help us grow in holiness?
2. How do St. peter and St. Padre Pio model what it means to live a moral and holy life?

All of the above resources have been adapted from the Growing in Faith and Growing in Christ resources, Student textbook and Teacher Resource Grades 1-6.

Grade 7
Theme: The Witness of the Saint

Holy Mary, pray for us .

Saint Joseph, pray for us.

Illustrious son of David, etc.

Light of the patriarchs,

Spouse of the Mother of God,

Chaste guardian of the Virgin,

Foster-father of the Son of God,

Watchful defender of Christ,

Head of the Holy Family,

Joseph most just,

Joseph most chaste,

Joseph most prudent,

Joseph most valiant,

Joseph most obedient,

Joseph most faithful,

Mirror of patience,

Lover of poverty,

Model of workmen ,

Glory of domestic life,

Guardian of virgins,

Pillar of families,

Solace of the afflicted,

Hope of the sick,

Patron of the dying,

Terror of demons,

Protector of Holy Church,

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,

Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,

Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Learning Task 1

1. Review the 4 spiritualities listed above:
   - Augustinian
   - Franciscan
   - Ignatian
   - Thomastic

2. In point-form provide your own definition for each spirituality.
3. Which is your favourite form of spirituality? Why?

Learning Task 2

Research a saint of your choosing and draw a picture to express what gift the

Using particular saints as examples, outline the process of how a person becomes recognized as a saint (i.e. holy man or woman) by the Church. [CCC nos. 946-975]

Identify living examples of the virtuous life (prophets: Mother Teresa, Canadian Martyrs, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Peter Aleut) and explain how they witness to the resurrected Christ through healings and miracles. [CCC nos. 946-975]

Read

Generically, a person becomes recognized as a saint by how they live, work, and serve people. They live a prayerful and holy life of virtue. Once someone recognizes his/her goodness, that person gets other people to notice. The potential saint has to die. Step 1 - If the people continue to be inspired by the life of the holy person, then they ask the local bishop to investigate the holy person's life. If the bishop finds sufficient evidence to support the claim, then he presents the information to the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Step 2 – The Congregation reads the information and can reject or support the bishop's information. If accepted, the Congregation begins its own investigation into the life of the person. The person is referred to as a Servant of God at this stage. Step 3 – The Congregation declares that the person lived a good and holy life while on earth; this is not a declaration that the person is in heaven. The Congregation approves of the person as a potential candidate for sainthood. Step 4 – A miracle performed through the intercession of the person is proof that the person is in fact in heaven. Most of the time the miracle is a healing. The healing must be verified by independent doctors and proved real by scientists. Once that verification is over, it is up to the pope to approve the canonization. The person is now referred to as Blessed. Step 5 – A second miracle is required and it needs to go through the verification process like the first. If approved by the pope is then canoathe pnoan0w ricate ft0 (T)-5h (ui)6 (r)7 (ed and)hd0 (pot)t(n c)4 (EMC /Link

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