



ANNE MARIE'S PRAYER JOURNAL

First Sunday of Lent

3/5/17

"The Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground, and blew into his nostrils the breath of life..." - Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

"For just as through the disobedience of the one man that many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous." - Romans 5:12-19

Gospel

"The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."

- Matthew 4:1-11

For this Lenten season, I gave up sweets. As the days progress towards Easter, I will also read a chapter of the Bible each day, in hope to grow closer with God.

"We cannot become great without struggle."
- Temptation is an opportunity for greatness"
: fr. Vocante, Sunday mass Homily

Second Sunday of Lent

3/12/17

P.S. Technically it is Monday, but I didn't write yesterday. I have struggled with a horrible cold this past week, but I have offered my sickness and sacrifices for the poor souls in purgatory. I have not quite yet been faithful to my promise of reading Scripture daily, and with my negligence I realize I have been weak with my faith this past week. Perhaps it was my sickness or laziness that excused this behavior, but I will not tolerate it any longer. Thankfully, I am mostly recovered and can get back on track to my prayers and Lenten sacrifices during this coming week.

Goals:

(preferably scriptural rosary)

- pray rosary at least twice in this week
- read Bible or religious writing daily
- continue my Lenten sacrifice of sweets

I set these goals for myself in hope to grow stronger in relationship with Christ and to continue on my journey through Lent, preparing for Easter to come.

Third Sunday of Lent

3/19/17

"And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." - Romans 5:1-2, 5-9

"While we were sinners, Christ still died for us"

"God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and Truth."
- John 4:5-42

Israelites were thirsty for the rock of salvation and faith in God. Jesus was talking to the Samaritan woman about drinking and never thirst again. - faith in God, wanted more from life. Jesus is the water, he gives life and meaning which he promises us. Jesus promises Eternal Life through his salvation. Thirst can only be satisfied by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

3/26/17

~~First Reading: Jesus is telling Samuel to anoint David, who is young. 1 Samuel 16:1-17~~

Second Reading:

"Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try and learn what is pleasing to the Lord."
Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel:

"I came into this world for judgement, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind." - John 9:1-41

Jesus sent the blind man to the pool of Siloam which means the one who is sent. After he washes in the pool with the clay, he is able to see because Jesus is the one who was sent and he is the light of the world.

- Today is the anniversary of Aunt Melanie's death, 3 years ago. ~pray rosary today dedicated to Melanie -

Fifth Sunday of Lent

4-2-17

"I will put my spirit in you that you may live."

- Ezekiel 37:12-14

Gospel:

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

- John 11:1-45

Martha believes in Jesus before he raises Lazarus

~ it is our job to focus on Christ so His spirit will dwell in us

= trust in God and listen to Him

My brother said when Lazarus died, Jesus cried, and that it is okay to cry for the dead - at Mary's funeral he said it was okay to cry

Sixth Sunday of Lent, Palm Sunday

4-9-17

~ the second reading said that whenever Jesus' name is called, every knee should be bent. I remember in a book of little acts of grace that when Jesus' name is said, you should bow your head in reverence. I also formed a habit of bowing my head whenever I pass the Church.

This past week was my spring break. It was fun while it lasted, but I wish I would've prayed more during it. Now that school is starting up again, it will be harder to pray but I'd like to push through this last week of Lent and try harder to prepare myself for Easter.

Sunday of Divine Mercy

4-23

A week has passed since Easter Sunday. Jesus is now risen from the dead and spreading the Holy Church and joy. The first reading talks about the devoted people in the Church with a steadfast faith.

The second reading is telling us about new birth and hope with salvation and the resurrection. Without temptation there can be no triumph

The Gospel this week stated that blessed are those who have not seen but believed me.... I need to strengthen my faith in God and fully put my trust and love in Him. It is important to feel forgiveness for our sins, and it makes us humble when we go to confession.

- To be an authentic witness means to have full trust in God

- let us be merciful to others

5-7-17

The main message of the Gospel and first/second reading is that Jesus is our shepherd and we are the sheep. We follow Jesus because we know the sound of his voice - Jesus keeps us safe - He carried our sins on the cross for us so we could go to heaven. Jesus did not respond to insults and did not threaten those who caused him pain. I can be like that by responding to rude comments with love and compliments, but sometimes I stray from the right mood of mind and am a lost sheep. But that is

When I should turn to Jesus to help me and guide me to the gates of heaven. I pray that I do not stray off the path and forget the way, but when I do, I turn to Jesus as a leader will reflect my actions and act on God's likeness. Jesus is the way the Truth and the life and the good shepherd and we are his sheep.

- Do I recognize Jesus as my shepherd?

- Do I let Jesus lead me and do I accept him as my savior?

Fifth Sunday of Easter

5-14

Mother's Day

"A stone that will make people stumble,
and a rock that will make them fall
They stumble by disobeying the word, as is
their destiny." 1 Peter 2:4-9

Every stone can resemble a sin, and every
time we commit sin, we stumble and fall
away from God.

But Jesus will always pick us up and help us
be closer to God. The Gospel states that I
can know the Father through Jesus. Having faith
in God is having faith in Jesus because he is
the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Trust in God.

↳ when stressed, we go to mothers - go to Jesus

- tend to focus on negativity → don't worry about it

- ask the Lord to help me to follow him each

Step of the way

This upcoming week is going to be stressful with it being Exam week and the last one of school. But it is my goal this week to set time aside from studying (which I pray God to help me with) and pray more during stressful time and even non-stressful times.

I need to be thankful for more in my life:

- my family
- my house
- talents
- clothes
- friends
- good school
- my intelligence
- good role models

Some things I can ask God to help me with:

- my faith
- my school work
- praying more
- my attitude
- listening in church
- my work ethic

It is important that I trust in God and also trust in myself because He is in me.

I can look to Mary and all the saints for guidance in my life and help me through this upcoming week and summer.

It's SUMMER! My exams went by quickly and thankfully I passed all of them! I'm proud to say I'm officially a freshman. But I wouldn't have gotten where I am if it weren't for the Lord. Joseph and Elizabeth are home and we just went to church with Jessica all together. I'm so thankful and fortunate to have such great older siblings as role models to set a good example for me. Joseph is getting married this summer and I'm so excited to have Grace be in my family. Joseph said yesterday it is important to save your virginity for marriage to be pure and it is special because that proves your love for them. I'm also juggling basketball and Elizabeth has helped me practice too. It's going to be sad when Jessica leaves for college and I'll miss her. But I'll always have God to guide me through the obstacles and be by my side. I pray to Him and all the saints to help me through this summer and upcoming school year. I'm blessed to have the people I do in life to help me too.

July 2, 2017

Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

...As to his death, he died to sin once and for all, as to his life, he lives for God. Consequently, you must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

The first reading was about Elisha and how a woman in Shunem gave food and shelter to him as he was travelling by and in return, Elisha told her she would birth a son the next year. Because the woman showed selflessness toward a man of God, she was rewarded. If I also make sacrifices and give to others in the name of God, I shall also be rewarded.

Matthew 10:37-42

'Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.'

Answers lie in my faith. I will not find a happy life without God.

July 16, 2017

Romans 8:18-23

Brothers and sisters: I consider that the suffering of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.

Gospel ~ Matthew 13:1-23

└ Figurative speech demands reflection

This reading describes parables of a seed sown on a path, rocky ground, thorns, and fertile soil. The path represents seeds or people who hear the word and do not understand it. The rocky ground is the one who receives the word and is joyful for a short time. The thorns are worldly distractions that strangle us from the word of God. The seed in fertile soil hears the word, understands it, and produces fruit from it.

- get rid of distractions = thorns
- prioritize my beliefs and morals
- listen to God and his word so that we can do God's will. Accepting God's word can transform my whole existence

August 6, 2017

First Reading

"His Dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not be taken away,
his kingship shall not be destroyed"

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Second Reading

"You will do well to be attentive to it, as to a lamp
shining in a dark place, until day dawns and the
morning star rises in your hearts."

2 Peter 1:16-19

Gospel

"This is my beloved son, with whom I am
well pleased; listen to him"

Matthew 17:1-9

* we are called to glimpse the glory of God and
feel His love and to reveal that love to others

September 3rd

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you. 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. Amen.

Second reading:

Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2

God wants me to do His will and follow His plan because it is perfect and He is perfect

'Take up your cross and follow Christ'

September 24

Today's message is about God's mercy and generosity

- Parable: the landowner send people to work in his vineyard and he pays them all usual wage even if they all didn't work the same amount of time

↳ Wage is a reward that is given from God
↓
life + abundance ←

• Do not be envious of God's generosity

↳ Competition of who deserves more

First heading: So high are my ways above your ways and my thought above your thoughts

- Isaiah 55:6-9

If you truly love God, you do not compare yourself to others or have jealousy towards them

God is calling me to serve, love, give back to others out of His love

October 15

God presents himself through Jesus Christ and shows his mercy and love through him. Youth 2000 was yesterday, and I'm so blessed that God gave me this opportunity to rekindle my faith and make it stronger. They talked about the Lord's mercy and how you are enough for him to love you, flaws and all.

Philippians 4:12-14

"I can do all things in him who strengthens me"
- all to do is for me to open my heart to Jesus and let him in me and let God's love show through my words and actions

God is good, all the time.
All the time, God is good.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10-22

"For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction." 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

- We are made in image and likeness of God and bear that image of God in baptism and enhance it in confirmation

give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar

↳ give to God what belongs to God

- we belong to God and we have to give back because we bear the image

Sign of the Cross

- make a large, unhurried sign consciously feeling God in us consecrating and sanctifying our whole body and soul

- to collect and compose ourselves before prayer

Take Lord, and receive all of my liberty.

Everything is yours, do with it what you will
Give me only your love and grace.

That is enough for me.

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

11/19

Stewardship is the proverb to charge and live out our lives as Apostles, Christians who are stewards cherish the gift which God has given us and return them with gracious giving.

A wife gives many gifts to her husband and household. The true charm of the woman is her religious spirit and contribution to the Church.

↳ Use the gifts of God wisely and not selfishly

- faithful use of one's gift will be rewarded

Final Condemnation:

'there will be wailing and grinding of teeth'

God honors those who use their talents to help others

- those who do with what they have to their best ability will be entrusted more.

We should humbly use gifts and be grateful for them that He has given

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time

11/26

"What you did not do for the least of my people, you did not do for me"

Christ is king - not Caesar

↳ came to establish Kingdom of God

↳ Jesus rejected political power ↳ power & dominion

Who rules our dominion?

↳ God challenges us to be motivated by Him

- help others: clothing, ill, thirsty, etc. ↗

Kingdom of truth and life is what to seek

holiness and grace

justice

seek to help others = shepherding justly

'Thy kingdom come'

What will I do to help?

"Where there is no vision, the people will perish" (Proverbs 29:18)

First Sunday of Advent

- today begins a new year in church

Jesus is with us at all times

- live as he lived

* be prepared to enter the Kingdom of God



- thank God for his gifts and ask for help



"WATCH"

Jesus will

help as a friend

purple = sign of penance → to prepare

do penance during Advent

Second Sunday of Advent

12-10

Gospel - John baptizes us with water, Jesus baptizes us with the Holy Spirit

Homily -

we are preoccupied with our lives

↳ no time to think, pray, be grateful, ponder

"I want to pray, but I don't want to miss out"

John the Baptist calls out in the wilderness
to go away from distractions - God ~~works~~ appears here.
↳ desert, mountainside

We are at a loss of silence

↳ no listening to God

* Advent reminds us of our need to be quiet and reflect "desert time"

Spend more time
listening & reflecting

↓
"Desert Time"

Third Sunday of Advent

12-17

John the Baptist prepares the way for
(martyr)

the Lord Jesus to come; fulfills the

promises of the Messiah by preaching

↳ I need to prepare for the coming of Jesus during this last week of Advent before Christmas → go to confession, read bible study - convey a message: repent of our own sins, we do not have to be imprisoned by sin - there is grace and salvation → perceive God at work in our lives; be gracious and generous and be moved to step beyond our limitations by God's love and mercy.

* live out what we practice as Catholics; have others see Jesus in me

↳ We are His success, he gave us talents and he accepts our flaws no matter what

↳ we should live the same merciful way

December 31st 2017

The main message I took from the first and second readings was of covenants, or promises, to God. As the new year is soon, resolutions are made and promises. I can make a promise to God to better myself and my habits and relationship with Him for the New Year.

Mary makes the family holy - she has obedience

Abraham & Sarah / Mary & Joseph

↳ faithful always and trust God's plan

path to holiness: faithful to God's law,
service to one another → dedication constantly

The Epiphany of the Lord

1/7

the magi comes from the East to pay homage to Jesus

↳ wise people led by the star of Bethlehem
↳ resembles light of God

anyone can be a follower of Christ

Am I willing to accept others in my faith?

gold - gift given to a king

frankincense - worship of God

myrrh - anointing the dead, salvation

we are called to be wise

and recognize Jesus as King and
he dies for us to bring peace

↳ How do we live because of that?

January 28th

Jesus frees us from the fear of sin
and weakness, evil, and anxiety of heart
- everyone is anxious and worried
↳ only God can have power over fear

focused on worldly things for happiness
↳ they can't give us peace - only Lord can

nothing else can give us eternal life
↳ that is why we love Jesus because
he saves us from suffering

Thank the Lord for the hope he gives
us; life is a struggle, but Jesus invites
us to give His peace to others
↳ renew our hope in the Lord at communion
because that gives us peace in our hearts

↳ "let go and let God"

↳ let go of concerns and anxiety
let God in on your life and trust Him
to handle everything

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 11th

"Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God
'avoid giving offense' just as I try to please
everyone in every way, not seeking my own benefit
but that of the many.

'Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ'

leprosy was seen as a punishment of sin
↳ Jesus makes himself unclean, but cures the leper
↓

we are lepers - Jesus comes to cure us of our sins
↳ called to take the place of afflicted - imitate Christ
'take their suffering upon ourselves; not with Christ

God's love embraces us

↓

embrace others to show His love

First Sunday of Lent

Lent:

Lenten sacrifices

prayer - relationship w/ God

- no social media

fasting - sacrifices

- no sweets

alms giving - service to others

- no complaining

- pray daily rosary

We are to go in the desert during Lent

and be tempted into evil just like Jesus

Noah's Ark - symbolize baptism and path into church

reminder that through baptism we are w/ Jesus
and the Holy Spirit

Temptation is an opportunity to

be closer with God

to fulfill God's kingdom, we must show repentance

hunger of fasting is spiritual hunger

to be closer to God

Third Sunday of Lent

10 commandments

- 1 You shall not have other gods besides me.
- 2 You shall not take the Lord's name in vain
- 3 Remember to keep holy the Lord's day
- 4 Honor your father and mother
- 5 You shall not kill
- 6 You shall not commit adultery
- 7 You shall not steal
- 8 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
- 9 You shall not covet your neighbor's house
- 10 You shall not covet your neighbor's wife

~ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom
and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength ~

I can do anything through Christ, who gives me strength
But God proves his love for us in that while we were still
sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

^ God sent down Jesus to not only die for my sins,
but to show us how to live. Jesus is man, so
he understands human nature. I can pray to
Jesus because he was one of us, and I need to
follow how he has lived by loving everyone.

I want people to see the love of God through me.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Thou wilt keep a perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee.

Jesus is about to go through with the Passion
'the hour has ~~to~~ come'

God's light and love can guide anyone to eternal happiness. Silas is being called to the faith. He has a cross necklace, he reads the daily Bible verse, and he has a Bible. I am so excited and thankful that God is revealing working on his spiritual journey towards Him. Emma's and my prayers have truly made a difference I believe, and now I need to pray for ~~best~~ even more because I know that God is listening and that he has a plan. Lord, help me to trust in Your plan and lead me to do Your will and help others to see Your light. I want to maintain a steadfast form of prayer and love to guide my friends to You. I know that I'm very blessed to have such friends and family and thank You.

Amen.

Second Sunday of Easter

I do not want to take for granted how blessed I am to have my Catholic faith. It has been so easy for me to grow close to God because of my family. I want to continue to grow closer to Jesus, even as Lent has ended. In strengthening my relationship with Christ, I believe I can also somehow bring others to Him. Look at Emma, and Silas! I'll have to pray a bit more for Jack and definitely Kash. But, if I keep up my faith, I hope that I can encourage others to look to God.

When Jesus rises from the dead on Easter, the next time period is about the Pentecost and evangelizing and spreading the word and love of God. Jesus Christ suffered and died for my sins, so that all can reach heaven. Now it is my calling as a Catholic to call others and, with the help of the Holy Spirit like in Pentecost, I can bring everyone I love and care about to God. I pray that the Holy Spirit gives me His gifts and nourishes my faith in God.

Sunday April 22nd

Today is good shepherd Sunday

We are called as Catholics to evangelize, but we cannot do that when not all of ourselves as Catholics are even going to mass.

The importance of going to church is losing its meaning. It should be our number one priority, but in the modern world, it's not.

Faith is the most precious gift from Jesus, and the first reading reveals the saving power of Christ; and the second reading also has a miracle of God's love. Jesus gives us salvation and we need to show that same love towards every one by living lives of virtue. We are all called to holiness to be like Jesus, our shepherd. Jesus is the good shepherd who has laid down his life for his flock. We believe that the mass is celebrating Jesus's sacrifice for us as a memorial of his suffering, and going to mass helps us remember his love for us, and are called to offer ourselves just as he did. Let me keep in mind and listen to what Jesus is telling me through the entire week.

* Come to mass early next week

* Keep a resolute faith and strength in God

April 29th

1 John 3:24

he remains in us from the Spirit he gave us.

Jesus Christ is inside of me, and I in him. I can show his love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth. I have to truly believe that all good actions are from the love of Christ, and I must perform good deeds in his name. Jesus is the vine, and we are the branches. Only with him can we bear much fruit. The branches, like us, must be firmly rooted in Christ. Some branches are simply on the vine and fruitless, and to those branches, they will be thrown into the fire. We are all called to bear fruit for Christ, and now we have to ask what does he want me to do? We choose if we bear much fruit, it is our choice.

I want to choose to be fruitful, and in order to maintain that I have to humble my heart and be persistent in my faith. I pray the Lord help me to find myself in God and become more fruitful in my life.

May 13th

"But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs" (Mark 16:15-20)

Jesus confirmed everything that the apostles have taught - He is the Truth. The Catholic church is the only religion with proper authority, and that power is spread with the Holy Spirit. God can communicate to all his children through the Spirit, and that helps us find the Way. The Way is towards Jesus Christ, who gives us Life.

It is mother's day today, and mom's birthday is coming up. I would like to be a better daughter and I pray that Mary will help me with my relationship with her.

The most Holy Trinity

'if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him' - Romans 8:14

↳ suffering brings us closer to God

- when we suffer, you offer sacrifices up to Heaven
this offering must earn me holy graces, so
I look forward to suffering and I will praise
the Lord with my sacrifices

God's nature is to be in communion with others.
He chose us. He chose me. He has given us
The Holy Spirit as to be in relation with God.
He created us to be in the image and likeness
of God. We are most God-like when we
are praying all together. To be like God, we
must be in community. Catholic even means 'universal'
and we are a family. God calls us to be
like him and Jesus is our prime example.

I will focus on community during this
Sunday feast in hope to strengthen my
faith and be more closer to God.

June 10th

Listen for God. Open my heart to be hearing him. God created humans in His image and likeness, but he also gave them free will. By this free will, we make our own decisions some of which disobey God. But we are called to have a steadfast faith and trust in God. Saint Paul - "I can do all things in Him, who strengthens me."

4 Corinthians

"If our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God."

Whoever does the will of God is Jesus's brother. Trust that God is in control and has a plan for me - Open my heart to His grace and let Him lead me to His will for me.

Christ is in me, and I am in Christ. We are all called to be a part of His plan. Just trust that He is in control and listen for His calling.

- Father Sluiper

June 16th

Jesus teaches the mysteries in life in ways that we can understand (i.e. Mustard seed)

We celebrate holidays because it is a day of remembrance and it has special importance

Ordinary time = in good order, organized
- listen for ordinary things (mustard seed shows how the Kingdom of God can grow) and know that God is doing work, even in 'ordinary' time

God is always at work on our lives. He has a plan for me, and is in complete control. If we grow in appreciation of His work, then we will naturally open our hearts to Him and be more willing to do His work.

Remember that God is present at all times, and try to recognize Him in my life every day, working in me and through me. Thank God for always being with me.

July 8th

Corinthians 12:7-10

"Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong." ← Paul
'power is made perfect in weakness'

Ezekiel felt powerless, yet the message of God prevailed
Paul's preaching spread the word of God, even though he was rejected everywhere.

Jesus could not perform any great miracles in his hometown; he was amazed at their lack of faith - like Ezekiel and Paul, Jesus was rejected yet the message is spread.

He moves on from the town, power is found in weakness

in the end God's grace will be powerful enough
to overcome my weaknesses

July 22nd

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Jesus is hurt when we reject him, he is continually extending his strength and love to us and we have peace when we accept him in our lives.

I need to open my life up to Christ. He is the way to true happiness and peace and I have been neglecting my relationship with him. When this happens, I become inevitably unhappy and my other relationships suffer. To live a fruitful life, I need to show everyone Jesus's love and communicate with God what I need to do to become a better person. I pray that people see God's love through me and that they are called to grow closer to God because they see me, that is the person I aspire to be.

August 5th

Jesus is the bread of life, and his love nourishes us through our own journey.

Jesus does not always answer the question I ask, he answers what should have been asked.

Jesus was the sign, but the bread is there to help to understand the miracle.

The Bible is a tool for evangelization, the Gospel was being preached before it was written.

Jesus is always in charge and aware of what is all happening, there is so much reflection on what he has done, "What can I do for the Lord" = believe in Christ
↳ Moses gave them manna

↳ Jesus challenges us
↳ Jesus is the bread to wake up our understanding of life of God

Listen to Jesus's answers

for my questions; think like Jesus

August 12th

make use of the Gift of Faith

→ We cannot be forgiven for our sins until we forgive our own debtors

1 Kings: The Lord Strengthens me for my journey

Ephesians 4:32 - And be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving as God has forgiven you in Christ

John 6:41 ~ If I believe in Jesus and God, and Jesus is the bread of life, live forever
↳ supernatural food = true happiness

God is so divine and beautiful, we are not able to grow as close; He sent down Jesus, a man of substance as a mediator so that we may grow closer to God through him.

Jesus, the Eucharist, nourishes us for the bad time to get us towards happiness

Christianity is not orders, but a way of life

- Believing in Jesus will not bring us whole happiness, but will put us on the path

↳ not temporary

August 15th ~ Assumption of Mary

The ark of God's covenant was seen in the heavens - Ten Commandment = God's word
↳ place where God is present

Mary's womb contains God's presence
↳ David leapt before the ark, as Jesus leaps in Mary's womb

Ark of covenant = Mary in heaven

Mary's entrance to heaven is both soul and body - assumption she didn't die

✦ What exactly is resurrection of the dead?

↳ when we will be whole too

Death is the result of sin, Mary is sinless, so there is no corruption of death

fullness of the salvation of redemption of Jesus

↳ one day we hope and will be body and soul in the paradise with Christ = resurrection of the dead

August 19th

"Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord"
Ephesians 5:15-26

We are afraid that if we eat, we will still be hungry. But the bread that Jesus gives us will satisfy our hunger and we will live forever through him. Jesus gives us nourishment and the ability to live a full life. He depends on us to look at others with compassion and to be like him and nourish others so that they may see his love through us. Look for the least, the lost, and the last. The Eucharist gives us grace and strength to help nourish others, we have to be generous and not complacent towards the suffering.

September 9th

I want to be like St. Therese and make holy all the little things in my life. Life can be so short, and people can be taken from you at any moment, so I need to make sure I show love towards everyone and everything. I'm scared for what God wants for me, but I pray that he makes me strong in this new way of living and guides all my actions. I don't want this mood to be a phase, or just live through the motions, I want to stay passionate and keep a steadfast faith, for the things that are hard to do, I will offer it up and make sacrifices which I can only hope in turn make me closer to the Lord. Help me Lord.

Hannah

There is an equality of all believers before the Lord. Everyone is able to receive Jesus's love. We must not judge or discriminate God's children.

I will serve you, Lord.

September 16th

The Gospel is a sword that cuts
in between spirit and body and speaks
into our heart. Worldly immorality is
no place in the heart of God. Who

do you say that I am? → who am I?

What's at stake? How do I
respond to that? Who is he in my life?

Christ's love fully reveals every human
heart to themselves and makes their
supreme calling to happiness clear.

If I can't use my life for Christ,
I can never find true happiness.

• What is the foundation of my life?

I need to become what I worship and make
him my first priority. I worship Jesus and
I need to make him the center of my life.

• What good is it if I say I have faith
and not show it in my works?

Our actions reveal who we are. I need integrity
to do the right thing, only when we have truth
will we be free. Jesus delivers his promise to us.
He can save us from ourselves.

Who am I? Who is Christ to me?

September 30th

Jesus is all powerful in many things, people are powerful in his spirit more than his name. We were baptized in the name of Jesus 'whoever welcomes a child in my name' or 'because you belong to christ - offering water' → we become powerful agents in the name of God. Our actions should preach louder than words
↳ problem with being impeded in using his power by attachments → hinders us from doing God's work. Possessions possess us. → less things to care for gives us more time with God. "If heird keeps from doing God's work, cut it off" → things that hinder us we need to cut off from our lives and don't be distracted by it. Rather than get attached, grow in love with the Lord and spend time with him → examine consciences and rid myself of prohibitors and spend time with God.

October 14

Wisdom is a gathering of power and reflections → wisdom comes from God,
↳ Solomon asked God for wisdom rather than gold or material goods

Wisdom is an eternal gift from God and we receive it from the Holy Spirit

• we can pray for wisdom

Gospel - wealth as an economic measure

↳ man rich in material goods wanting to follow Jesus because he lived good morals but he had many possessions that didn't satisfy his meaning of life

• Jesus reminds us of the importance of moral wealth → fill our souls and actions with virtue to guide our spiritual will in life.

↳ requires humility and obedience, willing to trust God and rid of our material wealth to gain an abundance in spiritual wealth.

* There is more beyond this life

• money cannot solve problems, true wealth goes beyond → hard for us to resist the temptations of material possessions; must take up our cross
What do I lack? Trust in God and pray for wisdom.

October 21st

Jesus endured true suffering without sin
To eliminate suffering and be free of it,
we must abandon all worldly desires of sin.
God did not create evil, but that doesn't
mean human beings can't do evil deeds.

Healing from suffering comes from the Lord
- Be patient in suffering and prayerful.

Rejoice in your own suffering and share in
Christ's to be holy. Suffering has a purpose
in life so that we may thrive in heaven.

Jesus sacrificed himself to God and to others
↳ Like Jesus, we live our lives to serve others.

- Disciples are seeking glory instead of sacrifice
↳ James and John were bold in seeking glory.
Let our grace nourish our trust in the Lord.

October 28th

I feel sad from yesterday. It is unfulfilling to have spent so much time and energy into something not as rewarding. I need to focus on my faith more, because that growing closer to God is the only way for me to be happy.

- How do I know what God's call is? It is a very private thing that is personal to God and comes in many different ways. Most calls come into our heart silently. God's call comes in His time & way. We must open our hearts and obey - hear - His call.
- We can seek healing from God as well
 - ↳ pray about seeking help from God
- God tell me your call for me
 - ↳ yet let not my will, but your will be done.

- Love God and our neighbors → call from High
 - ↳ IF we focus on that, Jesus will take care of everything else
- We can pray for peace and bring God's light to mankind.

November 11th

- When things get bad, put full trust in God
 - ↳ widow puts in 2 cents her whole livelihood
 - and men put fraction of riches
- widows have stewardship to give everything to God

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and divinity,
and wisdom and strength and honor.
To him belong glory and power for ever and
ever.

Revelation 5:12, 1:6

September 25th

We live in an age where we are concerned about our identity

↳ we should be identified religiously

Jesus Kingship is founded upon truth

↳ our basic stance in life is thinking people deceive us

our lives are built on lies, which contradicts kingdom of

truth → Do I say Christ is King because I've been taught to say it or I actually believe it?

• make Christ in Jesus my King

What rules my life? What should rule my life?

Do I study schoolwork more than the Word of God?

Does God rule my life, establish my identity?

the Eucharist is Jesus, my King and we celebrate it and it should rule my life

First Sunday of Advent

"Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap"

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

- in life, we receive "wake-up" calls

- during advent, we await Jesus, am I ready?

Advent is a time of darkness, we search for light → hope

"Be vigilant at all times" → face dark side of life

*pray that Lord increase and overflow our love for another as Jesus is nearer

→ Jesus says your ransom is near at hand, stand secure before the son of Man

How should I spend my advent?

*don't worry about the anxieties of life

→ don't be distracted by what season means

Advent season of waiting and hope for the light of Christ that will bring us peace and happiness.

Second Sunday of Advent

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more."

-God's word still comes to us now

↳ Think of Jesus having 3 comings: humility as a child, glory at end of time, 'middle' coming - word, Eucharist, indeed

Every valley shall be filled and every mountain made low

↳ Isaiah promises to world's transformation

↳ Starts with me

• What twists and turns in my life need to be untangled? How can others see Christ in my rough edges, until they are made smooth?

How can I make the Lord visible and clear his path of salvation?

↳ think & reflect this next week of advent

Third Sunday of Advent

With all the excitement of the coming of Jesus, it is easy to question "What should we do?"

↳ we need to share with others, work well, be satisfied with what we have.

↳ "He will renew you with his love"

"The old has past away, behold the new has come"

↳ God takes the ordinary in us and makes it extraordinary

• Jesus merely applies the 10 commandment to the people's lives → always laid out in front of us

↳ John the Baptist lives out his faith, how do I live out my faith? Would the world be different if everyone lived through Christ?

path is in front of me paved ↓

• destination is wisdom and joy → eternal life.

Why are we called to temptation?

↳ as we try to follow God, there are enemies

What do I do in a world immersed in sin?

↳ Turn to Jesus, be not discouraged; we celebrate

the anticipation of the joy Jesus will bring

in Christmas → savior of our sins

Fourth Sunday of Advent

the Messiah will be our peace

Jesus Christ helps us trust and understand God's power

↳ fulfills God's promise of a Savior

Blessed Virgin Mary held the first communion

in her womb, she was the first tabernacle

↳ presence of children is as powerful of mothers

seeing Jesus born is a sign of hope and

faith that God is working on fixing the world

• every person has a calling from God to follow

in the footsteps of Jesus Christ

↳ he is our shepherd and ruler and he is coming

into our lives → welcome him home

• Thank God for our purpose and calling

• Ask God to change the hearts of non-believers

↳ every life is sacred

Campfire January 13th

- What does it mean to be a child of God?
- because of Jesus, we are adopted children of God, Romans 8:14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God
 - God knows me better than I know myself
 - scripture related to God as a Father
 - James 1:17, Luke 11:9-13, Hebrews 12:6-8
 - Psalms 3:5, Psalms 23
 - merciful and forgiving ~ honesty, open
 - obedient → humble ~~no~~ proud of Father
 - Psalm 56:1 → trust in God, fearless
 - God is supportive; have a child-like faith Mt. 18
 - ↳ Prodigal son story of forgiveness
 - Isaiah 56 God always guides us to goodness
 - ↳ be grateful for everything God does for us

January 18th

I am disappointed in myself for not being driven by faith. I should think with the love of God in everything I do. I keep on filling my words to Jesus with empty promises, with fleeting moments of motivation. I am proud to be Catholic, I am empowered by the Holy Spirit. I just have to feed fuel to the flame, make it a roaring fire.

Goals: go to adoration once a week - Adoration will help me feel God's presence and guide me back to Him
Read the Bible - the Bible is difficult to start reading and understand. But, it will help me to focus on Jesus and I can learn much, it is my Catholic duty
Set aside time for spiritual meditation - just spending time in the morning or at night will help me stay close to God, it is easy to get caught up in our lives - breathe - say Chaplet - I've heard they're powerful and I want to do it
Keep a healthy diet, take care of my body, think positively - having an overall good lifestyle will help me to more easily connect with God

↳ Recall power of positive thinking or another book

Lord, help me to fulfill all my commitments with an open heart and steadfast faith and mindset of your love. When I fall off the path, the way, bring me back and keep me motivated to stay on. Amen.

I do not want to feel ashamed to be Catholic.
Lord, give me strength to conquer a world of people
who deny you, give me courage to face my
enemies with love and openmindedness.

I have been keeping better physical and mental
health, but I want to learn specifically how
to pray, especially starting out. If I live my
life in prayer, I will be happy and also the
minor annoyances of days will not bother me.

O merciful Father, grant that your Divine Spirit may
deouse, inflame, and enlighten our minds and hearts.

A.M.D.G. - For the greater glory of God
- read about Padre Pio and pray to him

- Lord, give me fortitude - undertake very difficult
things and bear sufferings in your name
"offer it up"

The Church is given a wisdom that is not of
this world; a faith in divinely revealed truth
God is truth, and our mission is to spread the
truth. Lord, help me to become close to
the Truth, in Jesus Christ.

Live in prayer

Sunday, February 3rd

The second reading talks about love. Love is patient, Love is kind. Love does not have jealousy. Faith, hope, and -the greatest- Love.

The first reading talks about how my faith is my rock. Jesus will always support me and protect me from my foes.

The message I got from the Gospel was to be all inclusive. I can show love to everyone, and love never fails. I need to build my rock up in build my faith and share the love of God to others.

Today I also have learned to be childlike. To have a child-like faith is what God wants. We need to humble ourselves down and have a blind faith to follow Jesus.

Have I experienced Love? Have I spread Love?

Sunday, February 24th

We live life always being anxious thinking about the next thing. Earthly achievements are useless.

Philippians 3 + 4 "Waiting"

"forgetting what is behind and straining forward toward what is ahead" → never being content

↳ next thing to look forward to is heaven

• Earthly desires are unsatisfying

• we aren't designed to be fulfilled in Earth

Things are easy to say, hard to do.

↳ I say that I want to get closer with Jesus, but do it

4:5 "Let your gentleness be evident to all"

• eagerly ask God your requests "Do not be anxious"

Jesus will guard our hearts and minds, God guides me

4:13 I can do all things through Him

Live in the moment

Sunday, March 3rd

Ezekiel 37: looking on a valley of bones that are given skin and flesh and breath to come alive, though with no spirit within them - without Jesus, we are in a tomb

- We are made new with Jesus → What have I been saved to?

think about how Jesus gives us life and a purpose

- we are no longer dry bones; living life isn't as faithful without Jesus

How can I spread the good news of the Lord?

Saturday, March 17th

"For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ (their end is destruction"

Philippians 3:17-4:1 → minds on earthly things

- the Church needs vocations, pray for a call to vocation

"Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved."

- pray a rosary for vocations

Sunday, March 17th

Thank God for his never-ending mercy and forgiveness of my sins

- the "armor of God" → battle with Satan constantly
God's word never checks out because it's active and we should live it out

- ask God for strength to overcome evil; dependent on Christ's power & protection → encouraging

- Satan is trying to pull everyone from heaven → fall

• strategy, think to the end, address to occasion

• internalize "putting on God's armor" in day-to-day life and live through Christ → best of truth: who knowing truth, everything else falls apart; breastplate of righteousness;

covers all of our ^(heart) life; shoes of readiness → Gospel of peace: gives

us a purpose to go out and do something in life → read Gospel

to be well-equipped; shield of faith: take confidence in

faith in Christ to extinguish arrows of evil; helmet of

salvation: if you lose your head - detrimental → mind isn't

set on God → gives direction for body; sword of spirit: word

of God is important, w/o it, we'd be lost → only weapon

to fight of Satan → know how to use it

• we tend to lose sight of the big picture of getting to heaven

↳ do not lose heart in journey, be steadfast in faith

Who am I fighting for? What am I fighting for?

↳ fight until Jesus returns

Third Sunday of Lent

Romans 5:1-8

"But God proves his love for us, in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us."

↳ center in this passage, Paul talks about how it is fairly easy to die for a just person, and that one might find the courage to die for a good person, but Christ - who is God - died for the ungodly, us. We were helpless, we are sinners and unjust, but Jesus loves us so much that he would die for us. Jesus loves all of me - including all my sins and flaws.

↳ the Gospel reading from John 4 is about the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus does not care about earthly laws, and accepts the Samaritans even though he is a Jew. He speaks also about the bread of life and the drink that will leave no one thirsty - he is speaking about his Passion and with the love in the Holy Spirit we will never thirst for more, and will be satisfied.

↳ Am I thirsting for the Holy Spirit? Am I drinking from the well that leaves me unsatisfied? How can I open my heart to let God in me, to quench my thirst?
Lord, guide me with patience through this week.

Sunday, March 24th

there are so many things in life to fight for, but our battle should be fighting for Jesus, as well as getting to heaven → our goal is not only for us to get to heaven, but for us to get others to go to heaven; fight for others to get to heaven
pray for each other - the soldiers we are fighting w/ give me one praise for something God has done

Give me one prayer request → my talent in
↳ Abbey comes to club - pray daily music + family
Marion's new job - pray for her time

Fifth Sunday of Lent

The gospel is about when Lazarus died and Jesus tells him to come out of the tomb

↳ in John 11:35 "Jesus wept"

What was it like for Lazarus to hear Jesus and come into life? → this message is about being set free.

- Jesus wanted to go back to Judea, and the disciples had overcome their ideas of Jews - even though they were trying to stone him

- Lazarus walks out bound and Jesus said to set him free; Mary and Martha believe that Jesus is the Christ and can set Lazarus free

Baptism: prior to being baptized, we are bound, but through baptism, we are given new life

In Easter, Jesus gives us to newness of life through his redemption

- be vulnerable with a friend - step into light
- ask for forgiveness → Jesus redeems us + saves
 - ↳ where would I be if I didn't have God?
- cling to the truth

Sunday, April 7th

asking God why there is so much evil in the world - prophet Habakkuk

"but the righteous shall live by faith" 2:4

Hab is discontent with what he's surrounded w/ God's plan for us is amazing, we have to trust in him - he promises us that justice will be served - trust that everything will be okay

Chapter 3:17 - How do we stay faithful to God when things aren't going our way?

↳ ups & downs of life → discontentment: in the midst of such toil and tragedy, how is God good = disphoria

In the knowledge of God's truth and love, we still feel dissatisfied - so we turn to sin because it feels like it's good - but it doesn't satisfy

we struggle with giving grace to ourselves, even when Jesus has already forgiven us for our sins

↳ to think that we shouldn't ask for forgiveness is wrong → still humble myself and beg forgiveness

as a Catholic - What is the sin I keep committing?

Do I hate my sins enough to conquer them? = armor of God! to fight it: there is always hope

Romans 12:2 "Do not conform yourself to this age ...

be transformed ... discern what is the will of God"

↳ elaborate further study → renew mind daily

Palm Sunday

Psalms 139 13-15

Isaiah 50:4-7

"The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame."

Why does it mean to be an adopted child of God? What do I constantly struggle with - comparison, selfishness? I cannot understand how God views me, even my weaknesses. How we get so insecure that we fail to step out and love people because we feel unloved. It doesn't matter what others say about me, what matter is what God says about me - because that is everything. → God knit me perfectly in his image, how precious that is to men.

Matthew 9:2 "The heart, my son; your sins are forgiven" Matthew 5:48 "So be perfect, just as your heavenly father is perfect"

Romans 15:7 "Accept one another, then just as Christ accepted you, so be in order to bring praise to God; Genesis 1:27 - "So God created mankind in his own image to likeness"

John 4:18 "Place the crown over their heads and show them what they can be + let them rise into it"

Sunday, May 17th

'It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God': Acts 14:21

Revelation 21:1-5a New Earth

↳ John describing visions he has of new heaven and new earth - a new Age of Creation

- the sea was no more - symbolic of chaos and God restores order to creation

- new Jerusalem where God dwells with them
↳ Greek word 'temple'

- God has invited us to join him, it's up to us to accept him and live like as one of his disciples

↳ Jesus instructs us to love one another
what does it mean to love as Christ loves us?

↳ follow him + imitate him in selfless love for God
Jesus' passion reveals his love for us

Loving for the sake of God may be difficult in this culture, but we are called to follow the light

I pray for courage and perseverance to live in the way the Truth + The Life so I can join God in the New Jerusalem

Campaigners, May 19th

Remember your leaders who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

See the people in your life and live the way they do → remind us that Jesus is the most important
"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow"

↳ no one is like that, he never changes and is always there

1 Peter 4:7-12 → love one another and show hospitality
How can I show Jesus' love to my friends?

- It's so easy to live for myself, to spend my time for myself and so much harder to sacrifice my time for God

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- we need to be disciplined in our faith, make body & slave → wake up 30 minutes earlier to pray

- we're all running a race into heaven - bring others

Revelation 21:1-8

Adoration 5/24

Revelation 21:1-8

"He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them"

- God is always with us in our lives, but in new Earth, He himself will be with me

"He will wipe every tear from their eyes"

* New Jerusalem ~ 7^a bowls, 7^a plagues → Symbol Jerusalem

↳ deeper meaning of seven in Jewish religion

eternity is a long time; it's hard to fathom the

idea of forever. Think about being with Jesus

for eternity, with God and Mary and all the

angels + saints. When pondering eternity, I wonder

also how I would want to live my life - I only

have one chance to be merciful, thankful, grateful,

kind, loving, caring; every reflection of Jesus I

should strive for. Then I think of how much Jesus

sacrificed for me. His passion, his crucifixion, his

death was all so that I may experience eternity

with him, because he loves me. With that in

my subconscious, I can find the motivation I've been

looking for towards a life of holiness.

Sunday, May 26th

$a = b = c$ - transitive property \rightarrow in scripture

Jesus is the Word - he is the perfect understanding of everything in our faith, the Holy Spirit connects us to that understanding

Father \equiv Son \equiv Holy Spirit \rightarrow Church is transmitted what God knows and wants

New Jerusalem is here in some ways, even while some of it is only partly realized

- Controversy of issue on allowing non-jewish Christians into Church \rightarrow apostles ~~are~~ argued about it, think / pray about it \rightarrow decision of the Church and the Holy Spirit

God has ways of letting us know the right path to take; the whole world should be able to find a path to God by seeing, doing, and praying through the Holy Spirit

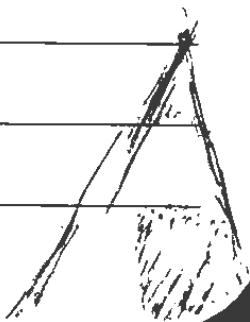
Sunday, June 2nd

The ascension of Christ is our exaltation
↳ the disciples returned to Jerusalem praising
God after the Ascension because they knew they
were exalted

Jesus became flesh and human forever
and when he ascends, human nature remains
in Heaven.

↓
St. Augustine said just as he remains with us
after ascension, so we too are in Heaven with
him and his promise

Christ and the Holy Spirit is visible in the
Sacraments, especially Holy Eucharist and
Holy Orders



June 16th

Christianity, Judaism, Islam - monotheistic

↳ one God → today we celebrate the Trinity; Everything is revealed by God and we try to understand the mystery

- Divine Simplicity can define the Trinity

What is the Trinity?

- The first thing we as Catholics learn is

• In the name of the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit

↳ name is singular because they are same person

- Trinity is 3 persons possessing the same nature

- Christians are the only ones saying "God is love"

↳ you need two people to have love, which

is why we have the Trinity

- Christian families are unified by the Holy Spirit because we're all adopted children of God

↳ 3 persons in communion - family, church

↳ Fathers are the head of the house and the sign of keeping unity and teaches the family love to hold them together

- We see God's image in his creation, the Holy Spirit renews its beauty in sunrise and sunset

↳ let us see the Holy Trinity in every day living things and in people in our lives

→ reading Scripture

Sunday, July 28th

We should expect good from God not evil

First Reading → Abraham prays Jesus in asking if he would spare the 10 innocent people for the whole city.

In the Gospel, Jesus claims that you should seek and find in him and great are the gifts of the Holy Spirit if you ask for them.

Jesus is continuously saving humanity

Second reading → Jesus teaches us the our Father, he leads the way for us into New Life (Gospel)

→ Jesus raises us from the dead

God is our friend - Luke 11:1-13

→ we ask and receive, God is our Father as in He gives us great gifts

Prayer must take a bigger part of our lives

→ playing turns our frustrations off

Take time in our day to pray and make God primary in our lives

Romans 8 - for all who are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God

↳ you have the Spirit of God in you, we are adopted children of God

↳ we say "adoption" to think about unwanted people, who were neglected and desperate, ^{alone} but God has given us the spirit of adoption

↳ adopting a kid is accepting their flaws, and loving the kid despite those flaws

Abba - means "Daddy" ↳ Childish call of humility to cry out to our Father

Galatians 4 - we become God's heir as an adopted child, we are no longer a slave we start as slaves to our sins ↳ adopted

2 Timothy 2:13 - faithful

heirs under supervision of

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - comforting

↳ Matthew 7:7-11 - selfless, providing

guardians

Zephaniah 3:17 - interested / involved



1 Peter 5:6-7 - caring

heir = free

Romans 5:6-10 - accepting

from control

Hebrews 12:7-11 - discipline

by others

John 3:16 - loving

September 8th

- Jesus challenges us to careful decision-making, thoughtful deliberation

- to be a disciple you have to give up every possession you own and take up your cross gladly
↳ love God more than your own family;

• IF I love my mother more than God, I am not worthy of God

↳ Where does God stand in priority?

• Paul wrote, I rejoice in my sufferings for the sake of Christ: → offering it up

• Do I control my "stuff" or does it control me?

↳ get rid of all the distractions, give up everything to be a disciple of Jesus

- Imagine the dedication I would give Jesus if it was the same as the time I put into marching band?

↳ make deliberate choices to put God first and spend more time with Him

Galatians 4:17

They show interest in you, but not in a good way; they want to isolate you, so that you may show interest in them."

Matthew 7: 7-11

you wouldn't want to give a son rocks when he asks for bread, in the same way God wants the best gift for us, and He is selfless in giving what we ask for

↳ if we ask the same and give to others what they ask for without being selfish or complaint, then God will surely give even more to us in heaven.

Matthew 8:24

↳ difference between hearing and doing

"listens to these words and acts on them"

building a house on rock

vs. sand

↳ good foundation

- build how I act based on Christ's way

▷ 8:21

↳ difference b/w saying and doing

"false prophets claiming in Jesus's name but not living will"

- fulfill my empty promises and do the things I say I'm going to do

September 15th

Gospel - prodigal son returns and is thrown a party because he repents his sins

Parables of the lost sheep returning to the shepherd and celebrating

↳ Jesus leaves the 99 to save the one sinner

-the other 99 resent the celebration because

he is jealous of the forgiveness the prodigal son has received; he was there and obeyed his

father all these years, so why does he not deserve a party?

↳ the father answers him saying that everything

we know, so also does the son. But that

was the time to celebrate the return of the lost prodigal son



Campaigners 9-22

Leadership

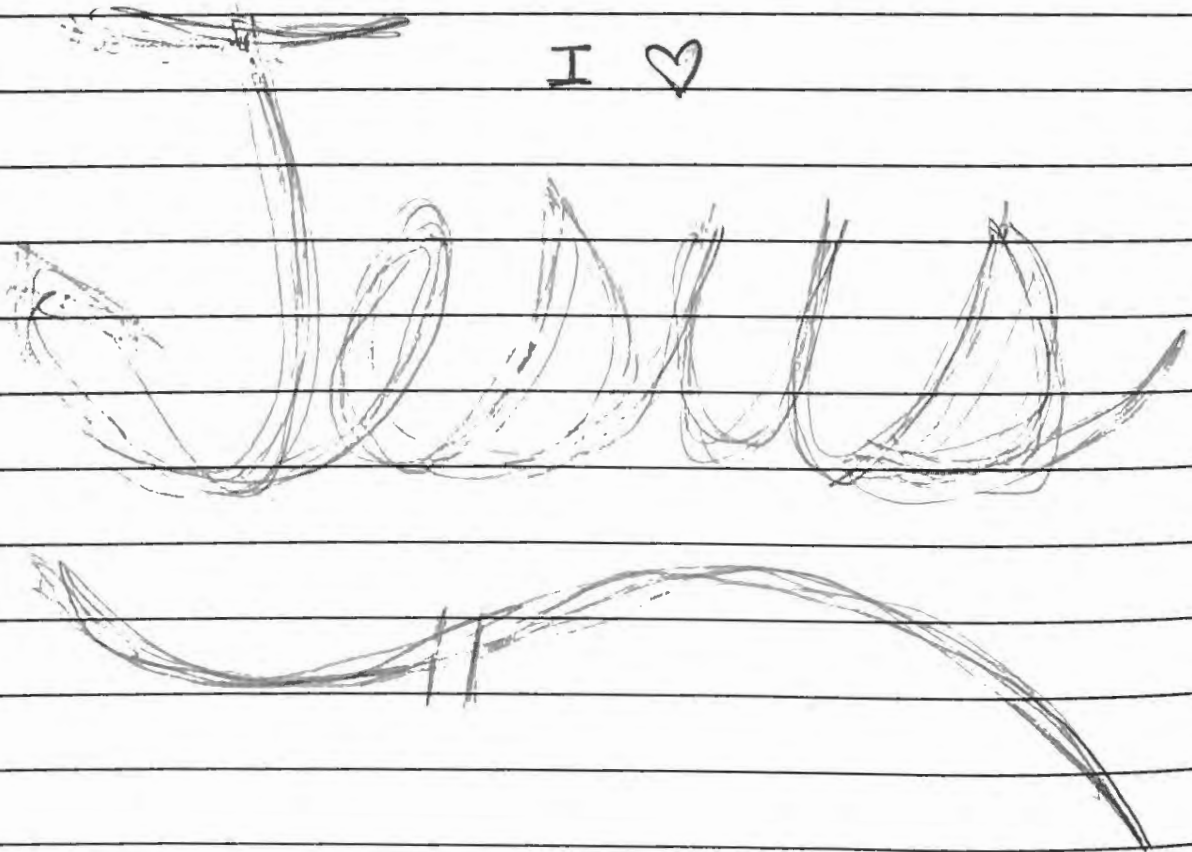
- process: Jeremiah 18:5-6 → none of us are perfect, we are
- influence: 2 Corinthians 2:14 a work in progress, and Jesus is working with us to be better
- groups: 1 Corinthians 12:27 ↓
- goals: we are one - we have so much influence as

Revelations 7:9 body of Christ, upperclass men → be a Christ-like fragrance

↓ yet we have different gifts to share → authoritative / emergent "leader" ↓ Leader

goal is to reach Heaven: our job is to bring others toward Christ, share ^(mission) Gospel → Live it! reflect Christ with what you say & do

Matthew 8:24



October 13th

- Second Reading 2 Timothy 2:8-13 speaks about how if we live with God in our lives, then we will live with Him in our afterlives; if we deny Him, then He will deny us; but God is always faithful, even when we are not.
- Gospel Luke 17:11-19 is the story about the 10 lepers being cleansed and the Samaritan going back to thank Jesus → we often take for granted what gifts God has blessed us with, and we need to be more thankful.

• Gratitude expresses God's grace and endless love for us

- we tend to focus on selfish desires and are not completely selfless

↳ God teaches us to experience the joy of being grateful and to show others God's love through gratitude

- be grateful for our parents

- we are affected by moral selfishness through Original Sin → Christ saved us with his passion and gave us constant access to God's grace, and this amazing act is worth celebrating and being thankful for

October 30th

First Reading: Isaiah 35:12-14

God is not impartial to any type of people, although he hears the cry of the poor and he serves the lowly and unrighteous whereas others do not

↳ In our lives, we should be welcome to all types of people and show them Jesus's love despite any differences between us

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8

When Jesus died, he forgave his persecutors and the Lord gave all his strength to those who needed it

↳ trust that God will save you from every evil threat and keep you safe. ☺

Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

Jesus uses the parable of a "rich" man thinking God for not being an "unlucky person", and a tax-collector humbles himself into praising God

↳ stay humble and God will reward you for what humility rightly deserves

- goal of life is to not back away when things get hard → St. Therese did little acts of kindness
- when we fall we turn to God's mercy, we get our graces from God → whoever serves God is willingly heard in heaven.

Lord Jesus Christ son of the living God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.

↳ if we ask, he will receive

• Jesus is anxious to forgive us because
he loves us

November 3rd

- pause and examine our lives to see what
we need to improve

• prayer: first priority?

• stewardship: how do I help the church?

• scripture: do I read the Bible?

- Jesus was going to pass through town, but
Zacchaeus changed that intention by going out
on a limb → nothing happens without God's will

- God has created me for some reason, what is
that and how am I going to fulfill it?

- if I want to be happy, do what God wants me to do
↳ if I want to do God's work to make God happy ↕

- we have to put ourselves out there, which can be scary,
in order for God to act in our lives - trust in
His plan for me → pray that God makes me worthy of my
calling; calling → qualification

Adoration 12

- Jesus loves everyone - even the lowly. Am I always like that? Even if someone is "unpopular" or I do not want to be associated with them just because they are uncool or annoying, wouldn't I be putting myself above Jesus? If they don't deserve my mercy, do I deserve God's?
- Do I guard my heart the way God wants me to in terms of relationships? I need to stop the meaningless and shallow flirting - do not make excuses. I can be patient during this time and instead let God strengthen my heart and soul. I will be much happier if I fully trust in God.
- Holy Hour is when Jesus was in the garden of Gethsemani, and the apostles can't spend even 1 hour awake for Jesus's sake. During His agony, he was feeling every sin and insult humankind would make about him. I need to sacrifice at least one hour every day for Jesus, at least weekly.
- Lord, please open my heart and mind and soul to your saving and inspiring love at NKYC. I want to be changed and improve how I live my life through you. For good - not "high".

Thankful:

- loving family
- friends who bring me closer to God
- early faith
- good education → effort into school
- love for literature
- my cousins
- stable homelife
- opportunities like USA + marching band, Europe!

Intentions:

- Mr. Fryer
- Amber
- Katherine
- Mom + Dad
- Grandpa + Grandma
- Isabelle
- end poverty
- vocations
- end to abortion

Goals:

- pray with Jessica in mornings
- Bible study "Through the Word" - nightly, ~~at~~ Mom
- pray a rosary daily - dinner time
- go to adoration weekly - Wednesdays
- pray before every meal - school
- do not be selfish - be selfless in everything I do
- trust in God's plan for me - marriage + college
- do not flirt with boys I won't potentially date
 - ↳ no smoking, vaping, drugs, sex, is Catholic, loves God
- do more acts of kindness - Jessica, Mom, Isabelle
- go to Campaigners - Sunday
- sort out my affairs - Emma
- Evangelize! - invite Amber + Emma adoration, rosary w/ Alex + Mason
- Stewardship - reach out to Matt Spencer - play clarinet mass
- prayer challenges: - Wovena
- join Grandma praying on Sunday

November 24th

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

"Amen I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Jesus was broken on the cross, but He chose to be so that he could save us from our sins → he is with us, carrying our crosses, and he died for us, so that we may have an eternity in Paradise with Him

Jesus is the king of kings, he is joyfully generous, giving everything to us
↳ one of those crucified demands Jesus to save himself if he is Christ

↳ the other crucified believes Jesus pure and innocent and asks for him to remember him, and that man is rewarded

Let us follow the king of kings with everything we are and everything we have

Christmas Mass

Christmas means joy and hope.

- Jesus offers salvation and conquers sin
- Christmas offers a rare opportunity for us to ponder how God humbled himself and came in human form
- the good news is Jesus is the Messiah
↳ Emmanuel = God is with us
- Creation is lifted up and embraced by the Creator

What and who needs saving in our lives?

- ↳ Jesus teaches us how to love God, neighbors and ourselves → this love saves us
- he leads by graceful example

Q God's desire is to save us

- ↳ we can return the gift of being willing and loving others for the greater glory of God's salvation

Adoration

"Embrace the rosary, and Mary will teach you how to order your heart, mind, and soul with the genius of simplicity."

Am I uncertain about who I am? Do I know what matters most and least in life? Am I reverent to God, or myself?

- the perfection of God is His simplicity. I should live by the simple command to love one's neighbor as yourself. But to do that, I also have to learn to love myself. Be confident in who God made me to be.

Then, I can spread that love and confidence to others.

In going to a public high school, I have been challenged even further to spread God's message of love - for the challenge retreat, I need to be right with God myself before I can show the girls how to act. I need to focus on the simplicity of life, and find God in every small act throughout the day - and I will be much happier.

I also think that God put in my life to challenge me to put more effort into living and more thought towards wanting to be intimate with God. It can be scary and intimidating to be called out like that. I don't want to focus and obsess over my flaws, but at the same time I'd like to make myself the best version I can be. None of that is possible without my faith.

I need to stop thinking of life as some daunting puzzle that I have to figure out. All these complexities are draining me, when it doesn't have to be complicated at all. Right now, I feel that no matter how hard I try to let go and trust in God, I just run back to the same problems or reach this impenetrable barrier between me and His everlasting peace. I want to be content. And I usually am. Or am I? Or do I actually just never think about that ultimate goal... is my mind too peaceful to where I don't grow at all? That is when my thoughts get depressing - when I think of how "pathetic" I am. Embracing the Rosary and other prayer in every day life will hopefully help me find true peace of mind, with a healthy spiritual balance of content and yearning for God. I just need to turn my chair around and run into God's loving arms which are always open for me to come home. I want to be home.

There is a frustration in thinking so deeply about God and what faith really means in life. I feel that I'm missing out on that with my place of mind. Why is it so hard for me to put 100% effort into anything? I've never put all I have into something and that is shameful. But the other part of me doesn't really see the point. Why waste all the time and effort into something when half-assing it gets the same result? I'm happy when I don't think about it.

Today has been okay. I'm living aren't I? Sometimes I feel like I am not really living though. Or that I'm living in anger and toil. I have so much to be happy for. I'm not supposed to change my personality for others, which I think was why today was so bad - I was trying to be a "serious" person, but that just got me being depressed and not caring or not feeling enough. Jesus says I am enough. He says we all are, no matter what the wrong we've committed. I should do likewise. So, I still think that I should try and be myself and stay joyful and happy, but also I need to take serious things more seriously. It's just a matter of recognizing serious situations, and adopting that mindset on said occasion.

If the desire to be holy is in you, God is in you.
The more we give, the more solid joy we get.

Methods do not solely make me holy, but they do aid in the process:)

- prayer 8 times a day

 - ↳ short 1-minute prayer before each class

- Verbal → meditation → contemplation

- Keep it simple + abandonment

↳ Holiness transcends methods; it also transcends words, because it is simple

- trust in God, do what He tells you

Luke 23:43 - live in the present,
forgive in the present ;)

"Today you will be with me in
Paradise"

Retreat

He talk too much about loving Jesus, but not about Jesus loving us.

You do not have to change anything in your life for God to love you.

"Jesus looked at him and loved him"

-my moment of grace will come
↳ open my soul, He knows me

God already knows everything about us, but He is respectful and wants us to tell Him on our own
↳ ask Jesus for help ☺

No matter what else is going on, my soul is thirsty for love. ☺

← What do I hope for in the girls?
Where do I hope for myself?
↳ Jesus loves us.

Mark 2:13-17

"Follow me. And he got up and followed him."

- these two sentences are so simple. God is asking us to follow Jesus, and it should be as simple and as quick a "yes" as Levi.
↳ following Jesus can be simple at the heart

"I did not come to call the righteous but sinners"

↳ Every piece of advice is like a water drop, but keep on pouring until it is a waterfall.
- be good listener with gentle heart and lead by example as a model of faith
↳ What does a good model look like?

Outline for meet-ups with conse. chaters

- Ally or Jackie
- they reach out to me or regular scheduled once a month meeting
- coffee shop → ask questions (?), talk about life-drama or future, ask for mentor/guidance
- practical tips + guidelines - what do I want to know more of how to do

Questions

Why do so many people hate the Catholic Church? We are not made for this world. How can I be closer to Mary, why should I want to be? Why do some feel like I'm unapproachable because I'm "holy" – how do they know that I won't judge them? Do I feel I'm truly not judging them?

Practical Desires

- Bible annotation techniques- how to keep a consistent study.
- Ways to see God in every day life.
- Finding God in nature.
- Retreats to go on and mission trips.
- Keeping a thankful mindset.
- Making a planned prayer schedule, how to pray a novena.
- How I can bring my (Catholic) friends closer to Jesus?
- How to stay out of a drought- things to help when in a drought.

Mary is always ready to embrace me. Her arms are always reached out in a hug. Mary takes my prayer intentions and gives it to those who need it the most. Mary magnifies my prayer 10,000 times more. Mary leads those devoted to Jesus through the back gate of heaven. Mary is God's mother. Mary knows Jesus more than anyone else. Mary shines a multitude of beacons on earth, but only some truly appreciate them. Mary is the Queen of Heaven. Mary is with me all the time. She will always comfort me. She does not judge me. Mary is Immaculate.

How do I open my heart up to her?

How do I ask for help from such a divine and holy woman? Will embracing authentic femininity help with fulfilling the role as a daughter of God, the role Mary set?

Sometimes I feel like I am not using my time wisely. Either in the sense that I only have so long in adoration or I only have so long on this earth. But God knows me better than I know myself - He knows exactly what I want to say and how I feel. Deep down. Jesus is also always with me. It doesn't matter where I am, I can tell Him anytime. Though sometimes I feel His presence more. My faith and love for Christ has always been there, but now that I'm reflecting on how I was when I was younger, I actually have grown, probably also because my mind has matured. I find the most happiness and peace in my heart in the little things. the quiet places. I love one on one conversations with people who are decently living their lives - also I want to be like Mother Teresa and when I talk to someone, have them be the most important only person in the world - I love being in nature as an onlooker like in a comfy setting, I love the library and adoration. Alone time with Jesus truly gives me peace yet joy.

I love my family and just having a cozy night with them. My cousins are one of the pillars of my life - and I want what's best for them, to get to Heaven. Part of my heart breaks when they do things to separate them from God, but I must not judge for who am I to judge, right? Alas, I have to admit I am disappointed in part, and I will continue to pray for them. deserves someone great too. I do not think I am worthy to love him. That's what's beautiful about our relationship is we think of each other so highly and want the other to be one with God. It's easy to micromanage things, but I have to let go sometimes and trust in God's plan. Vickie told me I have a deep soul. A deep soul that feels so deeply, I have trouble expressing it into mere words. I also have a quiet, simple soul. I find my rest in the stress-free silence of God. It is hard to remember and absorb everything from conversation but I can only hope that my heart remembers and is changed.

Amen.

Why are we afraid of some things? Why are we afraid of the darkness? Because we don't know what is around us. We are afraid of the unknown. I'm afraid to follow you when you lead me into the unknown.

Sometimes going into the unknown feels like "trying to get across an abyss. Trust in God, believe He has it covered, follow His voice. "I will make you a light to the nations" God wants to make us a torch, to lead others through the dark abyss. We can lead others to Jesus. The apostles left everything behind and trusted that Jesus would make them a light - they had to go into the unknown first.

1. Find your little ways.

- sit w/ someone at lunch

- say hail mary for ambulance

- bow when Jesus is said

2. Find your friends

- surround myself with those who love Jesus

- we are not made for this world

3. find a role model

- look to the saints, Mother Teresa,
Saint Theresese, Blessed Kiana

- Jacquie, Ally, Sophie

You can see Jesus through these girls. They inspire me to have the child-like dynamic of faith. God and His love is so apparent in the purity, laughter, and spirit that these girls embody. Lord, I am not leading them; they are leading me. They teach me to come to you with courage, step into the unknown with a stout heart, to see the joy in every little thing, shows me that anything, no matter how small, can mean the world to them. I pray that this everlasting love for you, Lord, is everlasting in them. Stay in their hearts Lord as they grow older and life becomes more complicated these moments are precious. You can feel the Holy Spirit in the air.
All God's plan.

Give Jesus everything. Lay it
all down on the cross.

I am restless until I rest in you.

How great is our God, so mighty
though He is, He still forgives us for
all of our sins. It may feel like I'm
running to Jesus, but He is always
running for me with all His heart. Sometimes
we doubt in God's plan - think of Peter
when Jesus calls him to walk out on
water. God sent wind and distractions
and at first Peter could walk but when
it got hard he stumbled and lost sight
of God. I must trust in God with a
steadfast and faithful heart, to walk
on water. Our God is greater and stronger
than any temptation. He has defeated
every evil already. He has also blessed
me with so many gifts and I am
greatly grateful. 😊 Loved, I pray that
this retreat shapes my heart to be a
reflection of yours. Amen.

God is calling me to lead a deeper life. This culture is obsessed with superficial thinking and gossip. Any time I find myself wanting to tell something that would bring others down, and Jesus down, I will instead choose to think of all the gifts that person has, or see the best in those situations, and then praise Christ for His endless mercy and love for even the lowliest of people. Also, who am I to judge someone else or put myself above them - when I've sinned so much and am not worthy of God's love? We are made to be an image of Jesus, and Jesus always forgives, never judges, and loves every person in His path. I pray that the Holy Spirit comes into my soul and guides me on that path. I pray the Blessed Mother teaches my soul and heart and mind to ponder the greatest treasures the Lord has revealed. Amen.

January 26th

"I can do this" → where do they find the source of this power and strength

"Those who dwell in darkness have seen a great light" → what is the source of light that causes so much joy and happiness?

John the Baptist is in prison, in darkness, Jesus comes in and John rejoices

↳ in Baptism, we are given the light of Christ, our true source of strength

God calls us to do extraordinary things as ordinary people, because He transforms us.

We become the light in the world.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

February 9th

• there has always been organizations, and none of those have been called churches

↳ if the church were just a club, then it should stay out of people's lives

• the church is a place where you will be loved and accepted no matter what you do

↳ the church is not a club, not for making people feel good about yourself

- the best service the church can do is tell you the truth

• the mission of the church is to tell the glorious truth of Jesus Christ

↳ the truth will set you free

↳ I am Jesus

- the world focuses on self-congratulations

- the church helps people through word and sacrament to live holy lives

↳ mass renews our strength to live out our daily lives in faith, hope, and charity

February 16th

- natural to believe "less is more"
- you can keep the commandments and they will save you, it's your choice
 - ↳ we believe in free will as a gift from God
- if it is impossible for us to sin, we would not be the image of God - because He has free will
- God respects our free decision

sermon on the mount → Beatitudes

↳ Jesus is the new Moses on the mountain

- Pharisees externally followed laws, but their hearts were never in it

- Jesus challenges us to perfection

- ↳ striving towards perfection

- Jesus asks us to live up to a higher standard

High Wednesday

- Your Father, who sees in secret, will repay you

- disciples preached repentance

↳ some people don't even realize they are sinners and need a Savior

* We are sinners → Jesus makes us aware of avoiding being hypocrites

• do not boast of almsgiving or make my appearance suffer from fasting

- Keep in mind that we are sinners, we accept that. I make mistakes. I am not perfect.

↳ proclaim that so some may come to know Jesus, who offers our sinfulness salvation and mercy.

March 1st

- temptation is an opportunity for greatness
- we progress by means of trial
- Adam & Eve were tempted by the tree of free choice
 - ↳ greatness is achieved by accepting what God has given us → trusting in Him through trial
- temptation to "be like God"
 - ↳ tempted to be great through material goods
- Jesus is tempted, like Adam and Eve, to choose God above greatness
 - ↳ so must we.

"Blessed Sacrament of the Altar"

- 6:30 am before public school
- raised by faith, but does it mean anything to me?
- is my faith based on getting what I want when I need it?
- Do I know Jesus? Do my friends know Jesus?
I can't go on living like this

- we get distracted at mass; we are never distracted by Jesus

"Mass is boring"

• sometimes the like mass the most important part of our lives do not have entertainment

↳ we fantasize things

- the most important things may seem like the least urgent + least entertaining

Mass: reclaim its true beauty

"Lord, consume my life as you have allowed me to consume yours."

Transubstantiation

↳ body ← bread: miracle of changing interior substance of a material; God in the bread. God as the body. Miracle

• think about the act of genuflecting

↳ kneel for a pope, a king, a proposal

↳ consider the profoundness of doing so

• think about the tabernacle

↳ Jesus housed in gold

• ponder the reverence in which we are to talk with God and receive in communion

- God is understanding and forgiving
 - Jesus, let not your passion and carrying on my sins be in vain, I want to help
 - my soul desires to do good, but my flesh is subject to carnal sin
 - Choose the good Law over the sin law
 - God of the universe is in my heart
 - Jesus is in my heart
 - Holy Spirit is in my heart
 - Mary is strong - she comforts me
- ~~trust~~ • I can't wait for Heaven!
- Spread all of God's love on Earth to everyone
 - forgive others
 - be a light to world
 - be consistently drawn to God, confidence!
 - choose good
 - Listen to God
 - Listen to others

- Israelites cry to Moses for lack of water
- Jesus is thirsty for water from the Samaritan woman, then she becomes a disciple as he talks about the living water

↳ Sacrament of Baptism

↳ Lent is a time to reflect our baptismal vows; it is not just a one time thing → we must renew our vows every day with our family and people around us; we show love

What keeps me from being joyful, happy, and peaceful, and sharing it with others? Am I worried about what others will think of me if I talk about God? → invited to join in the recognition of Jesus and follow in His ways

Pentecost

the day will come when we harness the forces of nature for the love of God

↳ Love = Fire

• Holy Spirit comes upon apostles with tongues of fire; their souls were on fire for love of Christ

• We as humans must learn to control love for the forces of God

• Jesus breathes on them saying "Receive Holy Spirit" → given to them by and for the forgiveness of sins.

↳ given to us to learn to forgive

★ Reflect on the gifts of the Holy Spirit

- we each have spiritual gifts unique to us to help build the body of Christ

↳ through the Holy Spirit, we are one, body, Catholic, and apostolic

Father's Day

Jesus references his Heavenly Father, it is because of Jesus that we know there is a trinity.

All of us have a Heavenly Father.

When did He become a Father?

↳ God knit us in our mother's womb and decided every loving detail of us

▷ in baptism, God brought us into the royal family, God's grace came into our soul

Baptism changes our life.

• We get a glimpse of God the Father through our father on Earth

↳ always faithful, and pure of heart

- good husband, makes sacrifices

- patience (Jesus with the apostles and their questions)

- courage; take care of family

- keeps peace in a charitable way

- humility; grace of God to hold family together

* Spend time in adoration pray for virtues

- The suffering that we bear now is nothing compared to the glories of Heaven

- bear good fruit by planting seed in good soil, some hear the word but don't understand it so their seed is planted on concrete because it cannot thrive

↳ Matthew 13 : parables

- Why does Jesus speak in parables?
 - draws them in, ask questions, find the answer themselves so that the answer is more concrete
- also can interpret scenarios to have different meanings so that it's more versatile & meaningful

Why would God not tenderly plant every seed?

Why would God allow some seeds to be bad?

Concrete:

- sometimes people don't want to change. they don't want to be planted in the good soil.

* St. Ambrose + St. Monica - "The Confessions"



"Late have I loved thee, ever ancient, ever new"

Rocky Ground

- Seed of "retreat high" a "fit of pique"
- It dissipates because the seed is not nurtured after the retreat

→ Thorns: Matthew 6: do not worry
the stress and anxieties of daily life are
the thorns. DO NOT BE ANXIOUS FOR TOMORROW
"take it DAY BY DAY"

- 'sufficient for the day are the troubles thereof'
- don't let fear guide my life. Trust in God.
- don't compare ourselves to others; God doesn't care about that!!

Rich Soil - bears fruit

- life of a Saint; the soul corresponds to God emotionally and intellectually
- St. Benedict received so many graces that his fruit is still present and overflowing today

King Solomon asks for wisdom (right decisions)
↳ actually asking for Jesus Christ "Eternal Wisdom"

Mary is "Seat of Wisdom" with Jesus on her lap

"Seeking out Jesus will have Salvation
↳ Jesus' humanity hides His divinity;
revealed in the transfiguration
or Jesus hidden in Old Testament
"Jesus is the hidden treasure"

↳ our whole lives should change; joyfully
sell our belongings in life knowing that we
have a treasure

• nothing else matters except our relationship
with Jesus → core of saint's life

Jesus is all that matters.

our own spiritual life must be centered
around Jesus and we must omit anything
or anyone that prevents our unity with Him.

November 22nd

- gospel : clothing the naked, visiting the sick
↳ what you do to the least of His people, you do to God

- treat everyone with the same love that God has treated me with → who am I to judge?

* Feast of Christ the King (1925)

→ Kingdom is eternal and universal

→ not just heaven, we are living in it now; it's just not fulfilled yet

↳ treat my life as if I'm in the Kingdom of my God

→ holy + grace, justice, love, peace ♡

→ the world does not accept the Lord or Kingdom

↳ chasing things that do NOT LAST

• my Captain, my Confidence, my King

→ reign in our minds, wills, and hearts, bodies

→ STOP Passively waiting for the "reign" of Christ

↳ START now making Jesus reign over my life

the Kingdom of our universe is the
Kingdom for our hearts

↓
Jesus, Christ the King

December 27th

The Holy Family → trust in Divine Providence

- we are all in the right family we are meant to be in, even with all its faults
- follow the laws of the Church, pray for vocations

Sign of contradiction = the cross → Jesus

↳ Simeon

↳ one accepts the cross, one doesn't

{ Commitment of faith amongst time }
of Suffering

- Mary suffered more than all the martyrs combined; she suffered more because she loved so deeply

↳ she suffered seeing Jesus suffer

↳ We are called to model the Holy Family
family life has challenges and the way to overcome them is prayer

↳ more prayer → easy to forgive them

- pray together as a family

- pray for all members of family

* Patrick Peyton *

"family that prays together,
stays together"

- unity, love, forgiveness, and peace in family.

I turn to you when I'm troubled,
you hear me with the joy of your salvation,

• Lent : only salads + water at work,
Friday mass, pray rosary daily

• prayer, fasting, almsgiving
↳ when you give you don't tell, and you
don't remind - to truly give

Challenge myself next 40 days...
make God the center of my day,
the center of my life

First Sunday of Lent

- temptations of Jesus in the desert
- When is he tempted? after baptized by John

↳ this is for our benefit bc it shows temptations are common in life of Christian

- Christ comes as the new Adam to undo the pride and disobedience of Adam

↳ leads to sanctifying grace on Cross

3 sources of temptation:

- the devil; wants to bring us down
- the company we keep; be aware of who I surround myself with
- own fallen nature; our emotions don't want to obey our intellect → original sin

Remedy: Sanctifying grace

↳ sacraments - mass, confession, communion

° prayer will overcome temptation

Retreat

God doesn't change. I want
God to change me, who I am.

God is always there for me, and he
leaves hidden bouquets in my
life every day.

Nothing compares to You.

I want to be different and changed.
Change me into a fire so bright.
I want others to see you through me.

my fire is dwindling; It's dying in
the embers

↳ I want to have the strength, the
power to re-ignite it and keep
feeling the flame until it's a roar

• After Jesus died, Peter was lost and wondered
who he was and where he was going.
What am I going to keep in my life? Peter
went on the boat to try to find God

- there's no need to feel guilty with God

Memories with God

- challenge camp

- NCYC

- leading retreats

- Power Positive Thinking book

- adoration

- confession

- mass before GSA

- with family

• What does trust look like?

• Who am I when I'm at my best?

• Where do I feel accepted?

- pockets of friendships

- accept myself → don't judge

- balancing interests and faith

↳ penalties, balance system

- I shouldn't feel guilty when I come to God
God does not feel disappointment

Thank you for bringing me here today. This is a good reminder of what really matters. When I am unsure of God's plan for me, I can tell him that I don't understand yet still at the same time trust in his plan for me that it'll all work out. Though I can't see the whole picture and I don't know where I fit, God has a special plan just for me and a space in his plan that I fit perfectly into. It may be scary to face the new changes and life decisions coming. Lord, please help me to place my trust in you, and know that everything is for a reason and you have a plan, help me to let go of my worries and focus on worshipping you.

You are my King. I am restless until I rest in you. Commit to having my identity be in Christ and my faith. Never be ashamed of Jesus. Stand up for righteousness. Build a foundation of who I am.

Seek refuge in Jesus, and also in group of friends that keep me accountable and seek to grow in faith with God. It feels so nice to be accepted and to know that this is where I'm meant to be. If anything brings me closer to God, or gives me the opportunity to, it is the right thing. Don't be discouraged when things don't work out.

"I like being alone. I love solitude with Jesus. I like to read. I love music. I enjoy one-on-one conversations. I am a verbal thinker. I like journaling my spiritual reflections. I like K-Pop. I love my family, my cousins are my best friends. Jesus is my rock. Faith is always a constant. I love the weather after it rains. I love food. I love my mom and my dad. I love my siblings. I want those who are special to me to be happy. I want to travel. I never want to be out of control of my body or mind. I do not want to drink alcohol at parties. I love the Kenton County Library Erlanger branch. I respect other cultures and accept those who are different from me. I aspire to be a light of Christ others can see. I want to be a mom. I am patient. I am Catholic first. I love the Catholic Church.

3rd Sunday in Lent

- understand the Salvation history throughout Lent to understand Jesus' salvation in the Passion

- Jesus saw the temple being made into a marketplace and became angry

• God wants my priority to be Him

→ Jesus wanted reverence and respect
Has God found that in me?

Am I in total respect for God always?

Lord, forgive me.

- God gave us Jesus not to punish or restrict us, but to make life easier and help us love.

↳ the more we lose respect, the more we drift

→ express it!

Jesus doesn't remain silent against injustices he sees

• Jesus encourages the Gentiles to come and pray
"Be angry, but do not let your anger cause you to sin"

↳ St. Paul

Fourth Sunday of Lent

people prefer dark over light
because they do wicked things

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son... that we might be saved" - John 3:16

Agony in the garden → Jesus stressed
because he knew people would reject
his grace

↳ angel brought Jesus a chance of consolation
where he saw all the faithful

God did not send Jesus to condemn
the world, but that we be saved
by his mercy and grace

Easter Vigil

"Adam, where art thou?"

↳ first question in Bible is God

seeking out man; inviting him to intimacy forever, in heaven

- through miracles, stones, salvation, God reveals Himself seeking us out

"Jesus comes and takes on our humanity, all but sin; He takes on death

↳ He invites us to not be afraid of death and of the cross

• Jesus keeps His promise; Jesus is seeking me out

- Jesus is drawing me closer to himself to be intimate with him

The Resurrection message is one of hope and comfort and an inspiration to be faithful to our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

- back to the scene of the Last Supper

↳ Jesus knows that he would not be with disciples physically, so he is trying to explain to them that he still remains in them; just because Jesus is not there in flesh, he is still with us and wants us to do his work

• 7 "I am" statements: reveal his identity and the relationship he wants

"I am the bread of life" "the light of the world" "the gates" "the good shepherd" "the resurrection" "Way-Truth-The Life"
"I am the vine"

- anytime we hear "I am" from Christ, it's a reminder that he is God

- Jesus expects us to respond to what he is;

↳ we are the branches → where is the spirit?

↳ How does the branch bear fruit?

* from the nutrients the vine provides from the soil

- When we live in Law and Love, it shows that we remain in him, the vine.

★ Abide in Christ: Communion Dependence, Continually living in him (stay with the lord)

↳ nutrients + graces + sacrament received

"you are what you eat!"

Sixth Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day

- we are still reading about the last lessons that Jesus gave the disciples at the Last Supper
↳ the messages about the Holy Spirit
• moves from "the vine" to have us "remain in Him"

↳ through Love. (God is Love).
• everything he has received from the Father, he has given to us; no secrets!

↳ we should not, and can not, hide anything from our relationship with Jesus.

1. the coming of Christ himself reveals to us that the Father loves us

↳ God has become man so that man may become God (and be with Him)

2. sent His son as expiation for our sins

↳ God allowed His son to go through such pains because He loves us.

- we share our glories and sufferings with one another, for that is what love truly is

God is love. → not God is loving, He is love. God = Love; Love = God

May God bless Mothers. - sacrifices of themselves and not seeking for themselves

Pentecost

different gifts → same spirit

↳ what gifts?

• Peter preaches to 3,000 people from different places and they each heard in their own tongue

• "Birthday of the Church"

- charismatic graces: healing, prophecy

↳ some saints have these gifts

- sanctifying gifts: wisdom, counsel, fortitude, fear of

↳ perfects virtues and choices in life (confirmation ^{God})

Trinity Sunday

- today we are celebrating God

↳ He has given us the Holy Spirit in order for us to understand and know Him

• 3 persons in One God → revealed to us progressively through the course of time

- God is the Beginning and the End

God = Alpha

Genesis 3: heard the voice of God walking

Word = God

↳ reveals there is a meaning to Him

• God lives in the Family, God is Love

• Trinity helps us understand that there is community in God; as the works

have been revealed to us

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel today has a miracle within a miracle → 12-year old girl + turning of clock

• we do not perceive how God perceives

- Jesus on his way to heal the girl when another healing occurs - innumerable

↳ Timing of God

• Our time is not "our" time,

it is God's time

• forming acts of charity

• prayer

• if at the end of the day, I got half accomplished - sit back, breathe, and let God's will be done

- Jesus says she is not really dead, people mocked

↳ God made us to be immortal, to be imperishable

• the plan had no death, which shows how detrimental Original Sin was, and in turn how powerful the incarnation of Christ is

↳ Jesus teaches us not to be afraid of death

"not dead but sleeping" → Resurrection

• believe in sanctifying grace, death is

just one final step to heaven → death loses its sting

July 4, 2021

4th of July's gift of piety

- one of the 7 gifts of Holy Spirit

• Spiritual life started at the font → piety given

Orphan boy becomes Prince of Beams, adopted son of a king; King dies, prince can't inherit the kingdom as not Royal blood

↳ in Baptism, we become adopted children of God, holy water touches with Sanctifying grace and now we belong in the Kingdom of God

piety → walking with God, explaining all of life and taking away all my pain and hurts

• gift of piety is love for the Father who loves us → parents, Fatherland

↳ patriotism = called to love USA

• be grateful for our country's history and the blessings we have received

The Assumption

• Mary wants to tell us that God has done mighty things in this world.

• Mary was selected to bear Jesus, both Jesus and Mary have crushed the head of the serpent and conquered death (in heaven)

• We are not meant for greatness, we are meant for happiness

- Mary is Queen of the Universe

• it is important for us to remember our dignity as children of ^{the} King
↳ we are not meant for this world, that is why it bashes us; this world cannot satisfy

• all we truly need to do to change the world is to be like Mary

↳ in all things, accept what the Lord gives us - with our whole heart

- be humble, be quiet, be loving
see another, all with the hope of eternal salvation

• take on the small tasks in love for God

Bible Study 10/3

Matthew 16:13-17

Did the Apostles know who Jesus was, truly?

★ "Who do you say that I am?"

- variety of answers ... He is God.

- personal relationship w/ Jesus

↳ Apostles leading

John 14:6

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"

↳ Jesus is the center of mission to heaven

• humble, but authoritative

Psalms 107:28-30 → God forgives sins.

Matthew 9:2-7 / 2:7

↳ "your sins are
forgiven"

↳ only God can
forgive sins
"calms sea"

★ Jesus is God. (Like Father, like Son)
stress → calm

John 10:30 → John 8:58

"I am" = "Yahweh" ~~Yahweh~~ Yahweh

• if Jesus seen as just a man, easier for wiggle room
with your sins. ... don't want to accept God's mercy
Legend, Liar, Lunatic, Lord? - Trilemma C.S. Lewis

★ Is Jesus Lord of my life? ★

Sunday, October 3rd

"salvation may be perfect through suffering"

"Women taken ribs from man's flesh"

• marriage - becomes one flesh

- Where is the goodness in the world?

- The world is broken & divided

• God is communion. Love is communion.

↳ God only creates things that are good.

↳ declares it "not good" for
man to be alone

• Love cannot exist in isolation

↳ God is a communion of persons - trinity

We need Love. We need Communion.

↳ without communion, the world goes to hell

↳ absence of God is despair

• divorce destroys communion of marriage

↳ people are too selfish & self-serving

"Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted

is the most terrible poverty." - Teresa of Calcutta

• St. Therese - do every little thing out of love

for God. Let's treat each other with love

See Jesus in everyone.

Embrace communion. Embrace Love

Embrace God.

"Let go of control"

Sunday, October 10th

The more possessions you have, the harder it is to go into heaven.

"What must I do to gain eternal life?" - rich man

↳ Jesus looked at him with love, and told him to sell all his possessions and then he will be rich in heaven

↳ the man's face fell.

- He threw away the greatest opportunity in his life

• Money only has worth if it's not enough for everyone. Making money uses up your entire life, there is a true reality that is so much fruitful.

* Never be afraid of Jesus and what he asks us to do.

* Jesus can only love. Jesus can only give.

* Jesus never takes away.

Lord, help me to abandon my own will and abandon my own possessions. I pray that you will help me trust in you and guide me to your Kingdom, which no amount of earthly value can compare. Keep my mind and my heart fixed on Heaven.

- Catholics help people. Amen.

- Catholics like faith outside of church. ↳ because God loves us, so we will help you.

- no one judges.

God knows me. God calls me by name.
I have a mission.

Winkley, October 17th

Jesus is not calling us to be merely in the audience, he wants us in the Team.

Jesus wants us with Him through our own suffering - not for our own glory only; whoever wishes only for their own glory will be a slave to all.

Christianity is a doing religion

① Prayer - persistent, prolonged, intimate with Jesus.

↳ Do I pray? Really pray?

We need God's grace from prayer

It is through prayer that our hearts are transformed to be like Jesus.

② Start Locally - forgive someone,

let go of resentment, reach out.

opportunities are endless

Be a part of the good news.

It may look like we're being against a tough opponent; the Devil is a loser. God is King.

Jesus conquered death.

We are in a battle, but we already know the outcome.
We are on Jesus' team.

Sunday 10/31

Gospel - Luke is the first of the Gospels.

• Was there a time that you asked a question that you already knew the answer?

↳ first commandment - only one God, love neighbor as oneself

• Jesus knows what is in everyone's heart

- Scribe wants to know / confirm that he is on the right path to God

* How can I show that I love God with all of my heart, my soul, and my strength.

- mass, Bible, prayer, trust, belief.

↳ Is this enough? No, it is not sufficient.

• Jesus is asking me to live through my neighbors → 2nd commandment

"You are not far from the Kingdom of God"

↳ if we perform the 2 commandments

↳ enter Kingdom of God

Sunday 11/13

celebration centered on the mystery of the end of time - 33rd Sunday Ordinary Time
"Heaven & Earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

• Do not worry about tomorrow, tomorrow will take care of itself.

↳ I trust Jesus in my heart, but not my need.

• All the injustices of the world are bothersome

↳ Jesus says these tragedies are not the end. The end is beautiful and glorious and Jesus will be in complete control.

-the end is not something frightening, it's something to look forward to and pray for.

The end of the world near the face of Jesus → why we can celebrate it.

• transform worries → into desire for good
uncertainties → trust in God

First Sunday Advent

- The Lord tells us not to become
lazy because of the anxieties of life
- we become sluggish from the tribulations
of life on our shoulders

↳ We can ask God for strength

Jesus: pray that you may have the strength
if it seems like walking w/ God is not
enough, he will carry us.

* There is no problem bigger than God
can handle; there is no sorrow
too deep for God

"God can carry the world on
His shoulders"

when God is carrying us, let us
remove all of the anxieties and replace
them with the love and care of God

↳ then our lives will be lively

and joyful and we can stand straight

- in Advent, we are willfully and confidently
walking towards God

"to you, O Lord, I lift my soul."

Thursday Second Week Advent

"He will renew you with His love."

- We celebrate the anticipation of the joy the Lord will give in Christmas

Lord, teach me to be trusting and obedient to your will. I would like to grow in intimacy with you as Christmas nears, so that I can celebrate in fullness your incredible coming.

- Advent reflections

- read spiritual book (beg. Life of Mary)

- Adoration

↳ reflect on past journals

- pray Rosary

Sunday January 23rd

• it is difficult for us to put someone who doesn't agree with us in our friends list

↳ How can we be a friend of God?

• love others as ourselves

↳ Is this enough to be a real friend of Jesus?

Word of God Sunday

- it's difficult for us to be friends w/ Jesus because we lack knowledge & understanding of who he is

↳ know him through the word

* Read scripture! Pray it!
Live it!

↳ take initiative to open scripture

* make time * prioritize *

make it a hobby

- have faith that God will

penetrate our hearts to

desiring Him

- if we understand & know Jesus more ourselves, it is easier to introduce him to others

7. Celebrate feast days

- increase sacrifice on Fridays
- increase celebration on Sundays
↳ do not splurge, but cherish

* When there is no temptation,
there is no triumph

Lord, help me to carry
my cross.

Second Sunday in Lent 2022

- Gospel: Transfiguration

Lord, help to make me a new
person through you.

Teach me your merciful Love.

• Jesus used different methods of
teaching → Moses & Elijah affirm
what Christ says and leads to Apostles
to believe in Him.

↳ accepts that we are to suffer;

allow myself to be transformed through Christ

Transform fle

Christ asks to tell no one of the glory of Transfiguration

"Jesus, my God and my King, transform me through your cross."

I am your lowly servant."

- What has transformed me in the past?

Lent = Transformation

to allow transformation to occur, our lives/actions have to share in the life of Jesus

↳ spend more time w/ Jesus

~~24~~ | 24 hours in a day is the least I can give up for my Lord who died for me.

- accept my responsibilities of being a confirmed Catholic, accept my place in this ministry

if genuine love is rooted in the Lord, this sacrifice leads to joy.

Why am I such a burden?

I make so many mistakes that hurt so many people. I hurt ya every time I sin.

Please forgive me.

Why am I so broken? Why am I so lonely?

I just want someone to hug me.

Homily 5/15 self giving love

As I have loved you, so should you love one another.

given right after The Last Supper, which adds urgency and sincerity.

Jesus knew the entire time that Judas would betray him.

He was so patient with the Apostles; he loved them with such depth even before His passion.

“Love is a choice. Love is in the will”

When love is carried out by Christians it becomes a present sign of the love of God.

Love can transform.

I want to receive love, but I especially want to give it; self-giving

=>reflect on how God has loved me, and how I can love others.

* Therese of Lisieux "My God... Flow... You"

Sixth Sunday of Easter

readings discuss heaven & Jesus returning to His Father → prepare for Ascension

- floor of heaven is sapphire, describes heaven with gems

"Heaven. Don't miss it for the world"

the world distracts us with frivolous things, the most important thing is to get to heaven and to have a relationship with our Creator

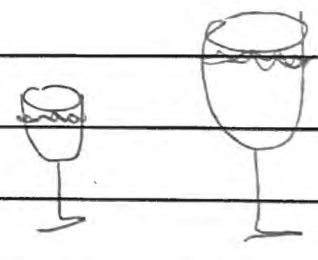
↳ only then can we have happiness & satisfaction

* St. Therese dreamt about heaven

↳ Is there a hierarchy in heaven? Can others be happy when some are closer to God?

↳ glasses analogy

: both are full, but one has more capacity to be full & satisfied



* Heaven is the virtue of Hope

→ we desire the kingdom of Heaven as our happiness, we place all our trust in Jesus

& Hope is our longing for Heaven, and hope keeps us grounded - Hope is our anchor so the cares of life don't have us stripped away

St. Therese had dry pray. Her longing for Heaven

Pentecost Sunday

God is trust worthy and calls us to depend on Him

Today the Holy Spirit is descended onto us

- Pilgrim Feast = travel to Jerusalem

- recall how the Lord gave them the Law on the mount, the Law descended in clouds & fire

↳ same picture as the Pentecost

The Holy Spirit is the Love b/w Father + Son

* Law of Love = new Pentecost

The Lord gives us a new covenant; the law of Love is written down on our hearts

God the Holy Spirit live inside us } we are not alone!
The Son lives beside us }
The Father lives above us }

→ Jesus lives in us through Love

↳ Holy Spirit

We Love's lives in us and we

live in Love - we become one with the Lord

* God gives us the language that unites us

Spirit forms unions of Love, so that we may serve one another and bring gifts to God

Pentecost → Holy Spirit → Love

celebrating not what God has done for us, 145
but who He is

The Most Holy Trinity

What is the central theme of our belief as Christians? → Most Holy Trinity

As Catholics, it is the Eucharist the crucifix.

this separates us from all other religions

Trinitarian = 3 persons in 1 God - Father, Son, Holy Spirit

• the Love b/t Father + Son = Holy Spirit

it is through God the Father that all come to be

• the Son is as eternal as the Father

"consubstantial" → the essence is the same

the Holy Spirit shares the same divinity as the Father and the Son

God is a Family; there is a relationship,

through each, He is sanctifying us

Sign of the cross = sign of the Trinity

• the sign is the beloved, the Father is the Lover

- they are indivisible

Second Reading

afflictions → endurance → hope,

and hope does not disappoint

God has done so much for us

do not despair

Jesus and Mary take care of me, please,

* when we sigh ourselves, we are calling ourselves to Love

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
 Gospel of 5 Loaves + 2 fish miracle happened
 more than once; this is about the Eucharist
 "people are in need of being fed, being satisfied
 Jesus is preparing his disciples for the Eucharist,
 & he can do this, he can feed the whole
 world with his body and blood.

↳ food we receive at the altar
 will last forever

The Altar bears the greatest miracle ever
 - 12 baskets left over → can be brought
 back home as evidence that the miracle
 happened; bear witness

◦ Corpus Christi procession - St. Juliana
 - adore the Throne of Christ

✕ Devotion to Sacred Heart of Jesus

◦ Father's Day - taught by example
 steady as a rock

Father gives you confidence, security
 affirmation, encouragement

↳ God the Father loves us perfectly

A pray to St. Joseph

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

"Behold the Lamb of God"

• Omnis Honor Et Gloria

↳ 2 fingers staying together because priest held Christ

Saint Isaac Des - martyred & lost 2 fingers

July 22 Mass - Pro-life Cathedral

laying down your life can foster the conversion of hearts

• it is a time to rejoice, but more importantly it is a time to pray

- the sanctity of human life is under attack

↳ how to answer with love and understanding?

• called to embrace family culture

St. Gianna's Home for Mothers & Babies

• Adoption

- look at life as a gift from God and celebrate it

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- We are encouraged to pray

consistently & continuously

Pray until something happens

Lord, the disciples teach us to pray (like John)

Our Father = forgiveness, if you refuse to forgive your brother's sins, the Holy Father will refuse to forgive your sins either

• prayer is serving your friends → Father

↳ love is sacrificing for them & your enemies

God serves us because He is our friend

Jesus raised us to be adopted children of God

↳ we become brothers & sisters in Christ

God wants us to see Him as a

Father & a Friend that

we do not give up on

• we should not be afraid to tell

God we are sad or mad because

He knows us already, He is our

own special confidant and friend

↳ no use in hiding our true self from God

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

★ Thursday adoration @ 9pm - 6am
↳ Vigil - pray through the night
"Can you not watch with me for 1 hour?"

~~Adoration~~ ↳ going to Adoration fills a ~~cup~~
Chalice of Consolation for Jesus
at Adoration

→ plant seeds; trust that God will bear fruit
→ Jesus holds a special place in his
heart for single people

↳ Martha, Mary, Lazarus

Adoration Prayer Intentions

- Keren, Joseph & Grace + baby, grandparents

- we live in a beautiful land; most countries
have to worry about famine

- What do we do with our money? What is

my bounty that I am better off who?
Reason why we have a bounty is because
of the gifts that God gave us

↳ have a spirit of gratitude to God

★ have a spirit of humility

How can I use my resources to build up the Kingdom of God?

Lord, show me how to use my gifts wisely.

Basary - detachment = 3rd joyful → Nativity
↳ Mary + Joseph had nothing to give to Our Savior, but their love

2 months ago

97A

Forgive me, Father

My God, I am sorry for my sins
with all my heart. In choosing to do
wrong, and failing to do good, I have
sinned against you whom I should love
above all things. I firmly intend with your
help to do penance, to sin no more, and
to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our
Savior, Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.
In His name, my God have mercy. Amen.