

St. John Neumann Youth Faith Formation - 2021-2022
Grades 1, 3, 4, and 5 Lessons
A Family of Faith: The Profession of Faith

February – Lessons for Home Study

(Also use this packet if you are registered for onsite, hybrid lessons and miss the onsite session for the month.)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Lesson</u>
Before beginning lessons with your child(ren)	Parent video	View parent video for February at: https://vimeo.com/channels/1730471 (Note: this will be posted on the first of the month)
Before beginning lessons with your child(ren)	Parent reading	Read the background to the chapter on pages 255-258 of the <i>Parents' Guide</i> .
Throughout month	Complete chapter at home	Lessons 8 and 9 in the February Chapter in the purple <i>A Family of Faith</i> books
Sunday, February 27, 2022, 5pm	Family Mass and Potluck	Register for our Family Mass and Potluck at: www.sjnstcharles.org/events-registrations/ .
By 2/28/2022	Monthly Reflection Due	Visit this link with your child to complete the reflection: https://forms.gle/dYnmRLUL5JeYc8St5 .

March 2022:

Family Service Week for Grades 5 and Under

Visit the following link to sign up your family for one service project:

<https://tinyurl.com/5t2ty2rf>

Prayers to Memorize throughout the Year: Sign of the Cross, the Lord’s Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Prayer to One’s Guardian Angel, Blessing Before a Meal, Act of Contrition, Apostles’ Creed.

Key Ideas for the Month

Key Ideas of our February Lessons: (see page 162)

- Lesson 8: “He is Not Here; He has Risen!”
 - Jesus descended into Hell after his death. There he preached the Gospel to the holy souls in the realm of the dead. He saved the souls of God’s friends who had died before Him.

- On the third day after his death, he rose from the dead. This is the Resurrection of Jesus.
 - The Paschal Mystery is the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus.
 - Lesson 9:
 - Forty days after he rose from the dead, Jesus ascended into Heaven.
 - Jesus is the only intercessor between God and man.
 - He is seated at the right hand of the Father in Heaven.
 - We look forward to the Second Coming of Jesus, when he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.
 - To work on all month:
 - Scripture verse of the month, saint of the month, Apostles' Creed memorization, Words to Know for the month, and Car Conversations.
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Lesson 8 Activities

Parents, choose two to three activities in this lesson to present to your children at home. Communicate the lesson's key ideas, listed above.

Activity 1: Did Jesus Really Die?

Ages: All ages

Focus: After He died on the Cross, Jesus preached the Gospel to the holy souls in the realm of the dead.

"Parent's Guide" pages: pages 139-141

"Children's Activity Book" pages: pages 107

Activity: Explore the meaning of the line from the Apostles' Creed: "He descended into Hell." Use a painting in the children's books to talk about the meaning.

Key ideas to communicate to the children:

- Jesus did really die.
- Jesus' body was laid in a tomb. During the days between Good Friday, when he died, and Easter Sunday, when he rose from the dead, Jesus' soul was in the realm of the dead.
- Jesus delivered the souls of the dead who died as God's friends. He kept the promise that God made to humans, starting with Adam, to open Heaven to all of God's friends.

Supplement:

- Catholic Kids Media has a video that helps to explain death in a Christian context. View the video with your child at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7YJxwVzSOo0>. The description begins at about the 4:15 minute mark.
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Activity 2: The Resurrection

Ages: All ages

Focus: The Resurrection is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ.

“Parent’s Guide” pages: pages 142-144

“Children’s Activity Book” pages: pages n/a

Activity: Read the Scripture accounts of Jesus’ Resurrection and appearance to His disciples. Discuss the truths present in the accounts.

Key ideas to communicate to the children:

- Jesus rose from the dead. His disciples did not immediately understand and believe that this was Jesus. They needed to rely on faith to understand and believe in God’s plan.
- Jesus was not a ghost when we rose from the dead. His body was real. Jesus proved this by eating with His disciples and allowing them to touch Him. One day our bodies will also rise from dead at Jesus’ Second Coming.

Bible Stories:

- For younger children, read “Jesus Rises from the Dead,” on pages 226 to 229 in the *Book of Bible Stories*.
 - For children in Grade 5, read Mark 16:1-11, and complete the “Live It! A Model Friend” box on those pages of the *BreakThrough Bible*.
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Activity 3: Salvation is a Process

Ages: Ages 8 and up.

Focus: Salvation is both a free gift of God and something we must work for throughout our lives.

“Parent’s Guide” pages: pages 145 and 146

“Children’s Activity Book” pages: page 108

Activity: Learn that salvation is a process by examining scripture passages

Key ideas to communicate to the children:

- Catholics believe that salvation is not a single event that happens to us. It is a process in which we must cooperate with the grace God offers us.
- Jesus’ Passion, Death, and Resurrection makes it possible for us to go to Heaven, but it is not a guarantee.
- Salvation is a free gift, but we must also work for it throughout our lives.

Activity 4: Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday

*In 2022, Fat Tuesday is on March 1, 2022, and Ash Wednesday is on March 2.
Save these activities to do with your family on those days.*

Ages: All ages.

Focus: We should ask God to unite our desires with His as we enter into Lent.

“Parent’s Guide” pages: page 147

“Children’s Activity Book” pages: pages 109-110

Activity: Mark and celebrate the days of Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday.

Key ideas to communicate to the children:

- Lent is the liturgical season in which we prepare to enter into the Paschal Mystery via the celebration of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday.
- The Tuesday before Lent is often called Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras. People would traditionally eat all the food on this day that they planned to give up for Lent.
- On Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, we receive ashes on our forehead in the shape of a cross to remind us that we will one day die and that we are completely dependent on the saving work of Jesus Christ.

Lesson 9 Activities

*Parents, choose two to three activities in this lesson to present to your children at home.
Communicate the lesson’s key ideas, listed above.*

We encourage you to complete Activity 4, “These Least Brothers of Mine,” which will add a page to your Family Storybook/white binder.

Activity 1: Te Deum Prayer and Discussion

Ages: All ages.

Focus: Review of our learning to this point.

“Parent’s Guide” pages: pages 150-151

“Children’s Activity Book” pages: page 111

Activity: Review the year's lessons so far using the words of the fourth-century Christian hymn *Te Deum*.

Key ideas to communicate to the children:

- See the lesson review on page 151 of the "Parents' Guide"

Supplement: With your family, view a video of the *Te Deum* hymn at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSnowlEA08o>. Or listen to the Latin version: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Diqtm6J3_E.

Activity 2: The Ascension

Ages: All ages.

Focus: Jesus' Ascension is our hope that we too may go to Heaven one day.

"Parent's Guide" pages: pages 152-154

"Children's Activity Book" pages: page 112

Activity: Read the scripture account of Jesus' Ascension and discuss the event as a family. While coloring a picture, guide your child in retelling the story.

Key ideas to communicate to the children:

- After Jesus' Resurrection, He spent 40 days with His disciples. After 40 days, He ascended into Heaven.
- Because Jesus ascended into Heaven, we have the hope that we too can someday go to Heaven. We can get to Heaven only through Jesus.
- At His Ascension, Jesus' friends must have been saddened that Jesus would no longer be on earth with them and also afraid to be on their own.
- Jesus gave his Apostles the mission to spread the Gospel. He also told them that He would send the Holy Spirit to them to enable them to fulfill their mission.

Bible Stories:

- For younger children, read "Jesus Gives the Great Commission and Ascends into Heaven," on pages 238-242 in the *Book of Bible Stories*.
- For children in Grade 5, read Luke 24:36-52 in the *BreakThrough Bible*.

Activity 3: Last Days and Last Judgment

Ages: All ages.

Focus: At the end of the world, Jesus will return to earth to judge the living and the dead and to bring His Kingdom to its fullness.

“Parent’s Guide” pages: pages 155-156

“Children’s Activity Book” pages: pages 113-114

Activity: Read the essay in the parents’ guide or children’s activity book and discuss the last days.

Key ideas to communicate to the children:

- Be sure to discuss the main points on page 155 of the Parents’ Guide.
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Activity 4: These Least Brothers of Mine *Storybook Activity*

Ages: All ages.

Focus: Jesus will judge us on the basis of how we treat the poorest of our fellow man.

“Parent’s Guide” pages: pages 157-158

“Children’s Activity Book” pages: pages 115

Activity: Read the story of the last days in the book of Matthew and discuss it. Create a family storybook page showing how your family commits to treating others as though they were Jesus Christ.

Key ideas to communicate to the children:

- In this passage of Matthew, Jesus is talking about people. The sheep are the people who have followed His commands, and the goats are those who did not.
 - Jesus tells us that we will be judged on the how we treat others who are poor and marginalized. When we see a hungry, thirsty, or lonely person, we should see Jesus.
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Additional Activities for the Month

Explore the additional activities: Saint of the Month, Verse of the Month, Car Conversations, etc.

