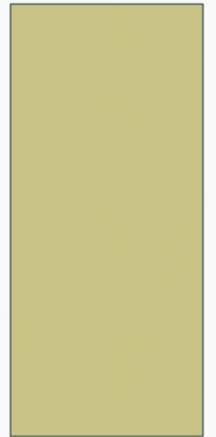


FAMILY FAITH FORMATION – 2025/2026

SAINT PATRICK'S & SAINT LUKE'S



THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- To help you learn more about God so that you can deepen your own personal relationship with Him.
- To give you the confidence to speak about your Catholic faith with others.
- To help you as you guide your children in their own personal relationship with God.
- To provide you with an opportunity to spend more time with your immediate family and also with our parish family.
- To provide you with a short time for prayer and an opportunity to use the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church is divided into 4 sections. They are:
 - The Creed – What we believe
 - The Sacraments – How we are sanctified
 - The Commandments – How we are to live
 - Prayer – How we relate and interact with God
- This year we will be studying Prayer

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Worship – What is it?
- How do we worship?
- When should we worship?

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

Come,
let us bow down
in worship;
us kneel before the Lord
who made us.

— *Psalm 95:6*



WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in the heavens above, on the earth below, or in the waters beneath. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on their children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing loving devotion to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments (Ex 20:2-6).”

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- The temptation in the desert (Lk 4:1-13)
 - Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only (4:8).’”
- The Lord’s Supper (Mk 14:12-25)
 - “On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was to be sacrificed ...”

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- So Why worship?
- Worship is the proper response to the fact that we are dependent beings. Proof of this includes the fact that:
 - We did not choose to be born
 - We did not choose our sex
 - We did not choose our race
 - We did not choose our physical or intellectual attributes
 - We can only do so much with regard to our health
 - We ultimately cannot prevent death

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- There are various responses to these facts:
 - Some never consider them (they lead unexamined lives).
 - Denial – I can overcome these limitations if I just work harder or try harder.
 - Fatalism – That's just how life is. Eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die.
 - Rebellion – Anger with God who does not allow me to live as I want.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Believers, Religious People have various responses as well:
 - They worship God as He demands.
 - Can God make demands on us? Does He do so? [Yes, as does any loving Father.]
 - They worship God according to their own ideas without regard for attention to what God has said.
 - They fail to worship God out of ignorance or their own free choice.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Let's look at these various responses.
- God was clear about how the Israelites were to worship. See the Book of Leviticus for example.
- He is clear now as well (more about this in a moment).

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Can we worship according to our own ideas? Is this a good idea?
 - The third Commandment is important here
- What would be the motivations for this approach?
 - Ignorance
 - Laziness
 - Rationalization/God is loving so He won't care
 - Failure to set proper priorities
 - Conforming to the culture/Doing what others do
 - Pride

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Worship is not an option for us ...
- Failure to worship in the way the God demands is a mortal sin (CCC 2181).
- At it's worst, it is a rebellion against God to whom we are dependent for everything.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Default position for many people is simply this:
 - “That’s your opinion”
 - No, it’s not. It’s the clear teaching of the Church and of Jesus Christ.
 - Do not be fooled by the devil here. Don’t follow the crowds; don’t be a conformist.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Suppose you are convinced that you have an obligation, a duty to worship God.
- Also, you have made up your mind you are going to do this.
- What should you do? How do you fulfill the 3rd Commandment?

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Before the coming of Christ, the Israelites offered Sacrifice in the Temple.
- Sacrifice is something we have that is given back to God for various reasons
- These can be as a sign of submission and worship, in thanksgiving or praise, in petition or reparation.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- For the offering of sacrifice Priests are chosen by God.
- In the OT, it was Levites and the descendants of Aaron.
- In these “last days” it is those who are ordained priests through the Sacrament of Holy Orders.
- What is offered is called the Victim.
- Offerings were made on an altar.
- In the OT, sacrifices were offered in the Temple where animals were slaughtered and burned as an offering to God.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS



WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- In our own times, we participate in the new and eternal sacrifice offered by Jesus Christ the Great High Priest.
- Consider these words of the priest:
“Pray brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.”

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Mass is called a Sacrifice because it is a participation in and representation of Christ's unique Sacrifice on the cross.
- Jesus is the victim and the priest.
- However, at Mass, we unite ourselves to Christ as He offers Himself to the Father. We are also the victims along with Jesus Christ.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- We ourselves are also joined to this offering of the Son to the Father.
- In praise and thanksgiving and worship, we unite ourselves to Jesus our Savior and freely offer all that we are back to God.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- This humble submission is most pleasing to God.
- For His part, God is never outdone in generosity.
- He gives to us the Bread of Life and the Chalice of Salvation.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS



WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- We Catholics have a most precious gift.
- We Catholics have the greatest treasure in the world.
- Our worship can be servile if we think of it only as a duty. However, it is much more if we remember that God loves us beyond our ability to understand.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- How do we fulfill our duty to worship?
How and when should we worship?
- We must attend Mass on Sunday or Saturday evening.
- Failure to do this is a serious or mortal sin. Please pay attention here.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Exceptions (God is not unreasonable):
 - When we are sick or elderly
 - When we are taking care of someone who is sick
 - When Mass is not available
 - Excessive distance
 - Obstacles such as snowstorms or lack of transportation

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Not acceptable excuses:
 - I was traveling
 - I had company over
 - I had a game
 - I was on vacation
 - I had to work ...

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Dispensations ...
- For a good reason, your pastor can grant a dispensation and give you something else to do in place of attending Mass.
- It never hurts to ask.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Conditions for the reception of Holy Communion:
 - One must believe what Catholics believe
 - One must be baptized
 - One must be in a state of grace (without any serious unconfessed sin)
 - One must have fasted from food and drink (except water) for one hour

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Briefly, the main parts of the Mass are:
 - The Introduction and penitential rite
 - The Gloria
 - The Liturgy of the Word including the Readings, Homily, Creed, Intercessions
 - The Liturgy of the Eucharist (prayers over the gifts of bread and wine, preface, Eucharistic prayer & Consecration
 - The Lord's Prayer, reception of Holy Communion.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Sunday is also to be a day of rest. It's a time to spend with God and family and friends.
- We should refrain from things that keep us from doing so.
 - Unnecessary work around the home
 - Teens working
 - Shopping

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS

- Parents at Home:
- Go over and practice genuflecting
- Practice other gestures at Mass
 - using holy water
 - sign of the cross
 - striking one's breast at the penitential rite
 - signing oneself with the sign of the cross before the Holy Gospel is read
 - bowing at the words "And by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man" in the Creed
 - bowing before receiving Holy Communion

HOMework

- Parents at Home:
 - Read from the Catechism:
 - CCC 1322-1344 (Introduction to the Eucharist/Mass)
 - Watch the three short videos on the Mass.
 - Ask your children:
 - Why we have an obligation to worship God and to worship Him alone
 - Why we have an obligation to attend Mass each week

WORSHIP/SUNDAY MASS



HOMework

- Parents at Home:
- See that your children complete any homework assignments they have.
- Ask your children to explain what happens at the Consecration at Mass, that is, when the priest says the words Jesus said at the Last Supper and the bread and wine are changed into the body and blood of Christ.

FAMILY PRAYER

