

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Today we will be talking about “The Lord’s Prayer” a name which comes from the prayer’s author, the Lord, Jesus Christ.
- This prayer is also known simply as “The Our Father” a name which comes from the first words of the prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Reminder:
- Prayer is talking to God, and by extension, to the angels and saints.
- For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy (St. Therese)

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

- There are two ways to pray:
 - Memorized prayers – we have these so that we can pray together and also so that we can pray more easily in times of difficulty or distraction.
 - Prayers we say in our own words.

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

- There are three kinds of prayer:
 - Vocal prayer – prayers we say out loud.
 - Meditation – where we think of holy things.
 - Contemplation – where God guides our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- The Lord's Prayer is both:
 - A memorized prayer
 - A vocal prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- There are two versions of the prayer in the Gospels:
 - In Saint Matthew 6:5-15
 - Saint Matthew was present when Jesus told the Apostles how to pray.
 - In Saint Luke 11:1-4
 - Saint Luke who was a disciple of Saint Paul was not present (nor was Saint Paul).

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Saint Matthew introduces the prayer by having Jesus say, “Pray like this”
- Saint Luke introduces the prayer by having the disciples say, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples. And He [Jesus] said to them, “When you pray, say”

THE LORD'S PRAYER



THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Notice the request and the desire of the Lord's disciples.
- They see in Saint John's disciples a good thing. His disciples know how to pray to God.
- The Lord's disciples desire to know how to pray to God as well.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- This implies that there is a right way and a wrong way to pray to God.

or

- Gradations of prayer from less perfect to more perfect.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- These gradations are based upon:
 - Our attentiveness – how focused we are on what we are doing.
 - Our knowledge of God and His plans – the more we know, the more we can unite our will to the will of God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- These gradations are also based upon:
 - Our reasons for praying – the more selfless the more pleasing to God
 - However, God also desires that we ask for what we need (Ask and you shall receive (Mt 7:7))

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- The Lord's Prayer is the answer to the request, "Lord, teach us to pray."
- It contains the proper form for how we should address God, and
- It contains all of the things we should ask of God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- The Lord's Prayer begins with these words:

“Our Father”

- This clearly establishes a familial relationship. God wants to be seen as a Father, one who provides for us and protects us and loves us. He is OUR Father and we are His sons and daughters.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- God does not want us to see Him primarily as Lord and Master (although He is those things).
- Rather, God wants to be seen first as Father.
- Here consider the parable of the prodigal son.

THE LORD'S PRAYER



THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Note how our understanding of God differs dramatically from Moslems.
- Moslems see God as Lord and Master and themselves as His slaves and servants. He is not a father to them.
- Hence, Islam = submission.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Next, the prayer answers where God resides: In heaven.
- Our God is not an earthly being, one who is dependent upon this planet like the pagan gods. He transcends all.
- “All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made (Jn 1:3).”

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Georg Friedrich Händel put it:

- The kingdom of this world
Is become the kingdom of our Lord,
And of His Christ, and of His Christ;
And He shall reign for ever and ever,
For ever and ever, forever and ever,
- King of kings, and Lord of lords,
| : King of kings, and Lord of lords, : |
And Lord of lords,
And He shall reign,
And He shall reign forever and ever,
King of kings, forever and ever,
And Lord of lords,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Next we pray,
- “Hallowed be Thy name”
- Hallow is an old word meaning “Holy”
- God’s name describes Him and stands for Him. To say His name is holy is to say the He is holy – without evil.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- To misuse God's name is to show great disrespect for God.
- Pray the Divine praises:
 - Blessed be God, blessed be His holy name.
 - Blessed be the name of Jesus.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- We then pray, “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.”
- God's reign will be perfect when all submit to it either willingly or by compulsion. It is not now perfectly observed here on earth.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Next we pray for ourselves and ask that God “Give us this day our daily bread.”
- As His children, we ask our loving Father for what we need today in confidence that He will grant our request.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Note something important here.
- The Greek word for “daily bread” (epiousion) is only used in this one place in the Bible.
- It means not just earthly food, but the bread from heaven which sustains our souls and gives life to the world.

THE LORD'S PRAYER



THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Forgive us our trespasses/debts/sins.
- Here we ask pardon for the times we have failed to love as we ought.
- We humbly acknowledge that we are sinners in need of forgiveness.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- As we forgive those who trespass against us.
- We are asking for forgiveness on a conditional basis. We ask for it in the same manner that we choose to forgive. Think about this prayer carefully before you say it ...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Lead us not into temptation.
- These words have always caused misunderstanding.
- The Greek word (peirasmon) has the idea of trials or difficulties or the temptation to give into these things.

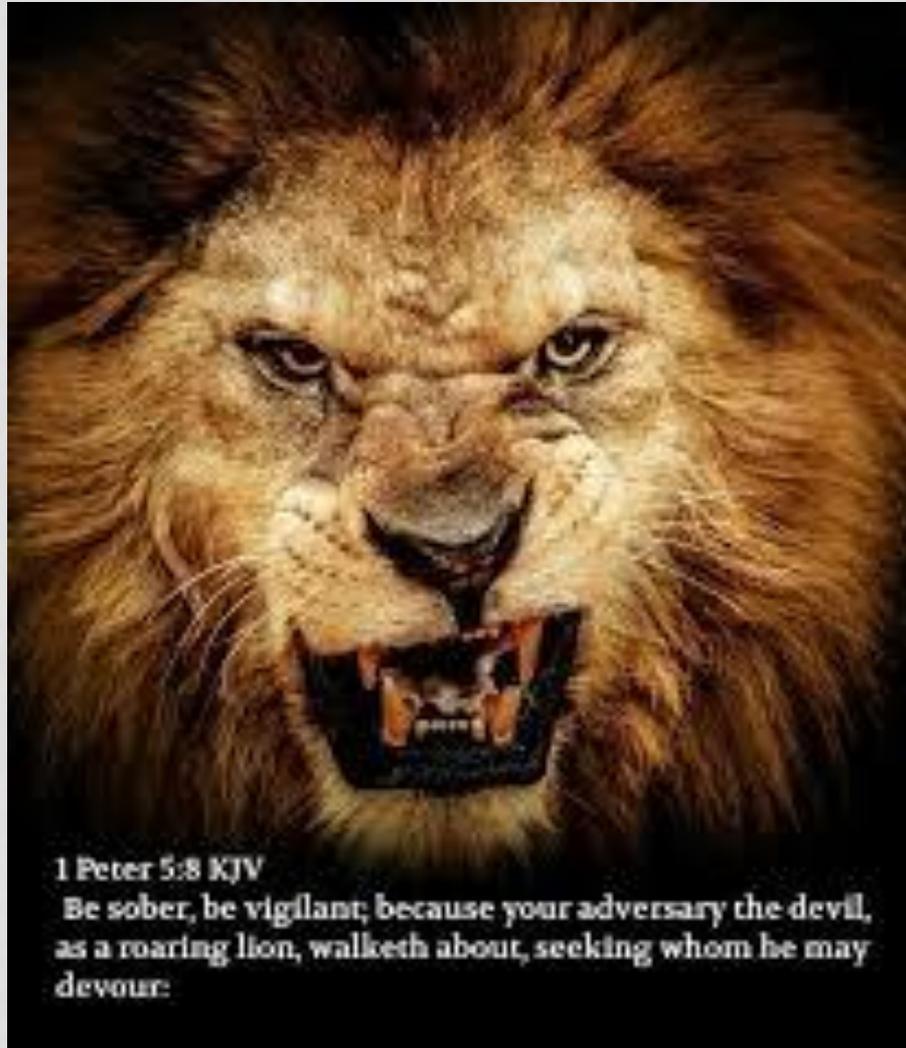
THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Recall that Jesus prayed to His Father in the garden “Let this cup pass from me (Mt 26:39).”
- This was a great trial for Him which He accepted as the will of His Father.
- Many when faced with trials or tests, fail, and for that reason, we ask not to be tested. Yet, these trials often make us stronger and give us a deeper understanding of God's plans for us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Deliver us from evil.
- This refers to the evil one, the destroyer of human souls.
- Saint Peter cautions us beware of the devil. He says, "Be sober; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour (1Pet 5:8).

THE LORD'S PRAYER



1 Peter 5:8 KJV

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- We cannot oppose the devil on our own.
- It would be foolishness and arrogance to think that we could do so by ourselves.
- That is why God has given us guardian angels.

HOMework

- Parents at Home:
 - Read from the Catechism:
 - CCC 2761-2776 (Introduction to the Lord's Prayer)
 - You are encouraged to continue reading.
 - Watch the two short videos on the Lord's Prayer.

HOMework

- Parents at Home:
 - See that your children complete any homework assignments they have.
 - Listen to your children recite the Lord's Prayer and correct any mistakes they make (if they do not have it memorized, make sure they memorize this prayer before our next class).
 - Answer any questions they have about what they saying to God.

FAMILY PRAYER

