



Catch the Spirit



This week, your child learned that:

- ▶ Jesus was obedient to His parents, and He grew in wisdom and favor before God and man; we can imitate Him in this.
- ▶ Mary used her own free will and human reason to cooperate with God's plan for her life.
- ▶ We are able to discern and choose what is good.
- ▶ Being created in the image and likeness of a Trinitarian God means that we are made for communion with others. This should manifest itself in a sense of fraternity (or brotherly love) toward all persons.



Family Talk Time

Is it always easy for children to obey their parents? Why or why not? How are Jesus and Mary examples of youthful obedience?



Meditation for This Week:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



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This week, your child learned that:

- Perfect happiness comes from loving God and being loved by Him; other things that bring happiness in this life are foretastes of the love of God in Heaven.
- Every Christian is called to holiness. We have real examples of holiness in the saints.
- God's grace is available to help us attain holiness and the perfect happiness of Heaven.
- The human body, made male or female, serves an important purpose in the plan of God.
- The gifts of masculinity and femininity are unique to each and come to fruition differently in each person.
- It is important to learn the difference between real love (in chastity) and using others.



Family Talk Time

Have you ever had something which made you happy at first but over time lost its appeal? How does this turn us back to God?

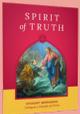


Meditation for This Week:

Dear God, thank you for choosing us and calling us to your perfect happiness. Thank you for creating the world with so many wonderful things. Help us to see these things as signs of you. Help us not to get distracted and look for ultimate happiness in the wrong places. We pray for all people who are unhappy. We ask that one day we will all be united in your perfect happiness in Heaven. Amen



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This week, your child learned that:

- ▶ Our soul possesses certain powers, or faculties, two of which are the intellect and will.
- ▶ Human beings also have emotions, which are responses of the body and soul to an outward or internal stimuli.
- ▶ Our intellect, will, and emotions can work together to help us make good decisions and to inform and follow our conscience.
- ▶ We can know the truth, and searching for the truth is worthwhile.
- ▶ Our family forms our social development.
- ▶ The Gospels teach us how to make a “gift of self” in everyday life.



Family Talk Time

Our passions (or feelings) themselves are neither good or bad. Why do you think God wants us to use our intellect and will to direct our feelings?



Meditation for This Week:

O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the holy catholic Church teaches, because in revealing them you can neither deceive nor be deceived.



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This week, your child learned that:

- › The virtues of faith, hope, and love help us to know and be in relationship with God.
- › There are many forms of prayer.
- › We each receive unique gifts from the Holy Spirit and can ask God for His grace to strengthen these gifts.
- › When we choose the good consistently, it becomes a habit, or virtue.
- › The Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the virtues should inform the way we act in relationship to God and to others.



Family Talk Time

What form of prayer moves you to God the most?
Why do you think you are drawn to it in particular?



Meditation for This Week:

O my God, relying on Your almighty power and infinite mercy and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of Your grace and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer. Amen.



Catch the Spirit



This week, your child learned that:

- › Every person has equal dignity as a human being made in God's image and likeness.
- › The choices we make affect other people.
- › We must rely on the gifts and talents of others and ask for and receive help from God and others in order to flourish in this life.



Family Talk Time

What are your gifts and talents? What are the gifts and talents of your family members that you most admire and appreciate?



Meditation for This Week:

O God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.