



Catch the Spirit



This week, your child learned that:

- › God is love, and Jesus commands us to love God and to love our neighbors.
- › Jesus is the truth, and He manifests the whole of God's truth.
- › Faith is both a virtue and a gift that requires an informed response. It is handed down to us through divine revelation.
- › Divine revelation is the body of truths shown to us by God, both in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.
- › The Magisterium of the Catholic Church has been entrusted with the guarding and handing on of Divine Revelation.



Family Talk Time

What are some examples of family traditions? What about civic (or community) traditions? What is it that they transmit? Do you have a special family tradition?



Meditation for This Week:

Lord Jesus Christ Son of God, have mercy upon me a sinner. Amen.



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This week, your child learned that:

- ▶ All Scripture is inspired by God, who is the primary author of Scripture.
- ▶ Scripture teaches solidly, faithfully, and without error the truth that God wanted written in Scripture for the sake of our salvation.
- ▶ We must consider the intention of the human authors, circumstances of the times, and literary techniques used in order to full understand what God wanted known through the text.
- ▶ There are two main senses of Scripture: the literal sense and the spiritual sense.
- ▶ The Scriptures are composed of 46 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Together they make up one story of Salvation History.
- ▶ The Old Testament speaks of the deeds and words of God revealing Himself to His people in preparation for the sending of His son, Jesus.
- ▶ The New Testament provides eyewitness accounts of the life of Christ and the beginnings of the Church.
- ▶ The Old Testament prefigures the New Testament, and the New Testament fulfills the Old Testament.



Family Talk Time

What kind of problems could we run into if we took a passage of Sacred Scripture out of its proper context? Why do you think it is important to know what audience a work is written for before you read it?



Meditation for This Week:

Lord Jesus, help us see with the eyes of Faith. Open our hearts and minds to your Word.



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This week, your child learned that:

- ▶ The Gospels are the heart of Scripture since they convey the life, teachings, and Paschal Mystery of our Lord.
- ▶ The formation of the Gospels has been guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Each evangelist (or author of a Gospel) wrote to convey the Faith to a different audience, highlighting different aspects of Jesus' life.
- ▶ Jesus lived more than 2,000 years ago in a place and culture very different from our own.
- ▶ To understand Jesus better, it is helpful for us to consider the context in which He lived.



Family Talk Time

Think of something exciting, or adventurous, you have done; what key points would you highlight in retelling your experience? What little ways can we get to know Jesus better each day?



Meditation for This Week:

LORD, you have probed me, you know me: you know when I sit and stand; you understand my thoughts from afar.

—PSALM 139:1-2



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This week, your child learned that:

- ▶ The Incarnation is a dogma of the Church that says that the Son of God assumed a human nature in the Person of Jesus Christ.
- ▶ God sent the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce to her that she would conceive the Son of God by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Jesus is fully divine and fully human.
- ▶ Jesus' entire life and public ministry were focused on proclaiming the message "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."
- ▶ The Paschal Mystery is how Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection saved us from sin and death for new life as sons and daughters of God.



Family Talk Time

Isn't it marvelous how God Himself became man and came down from Heaven to be with us? What does the Incarnation teach us about what it means to love someone?



Meditation for This Week:

Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

—PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8



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This week, your child learned that:

- ▶ Matthew was one of the Twelve Apostles and the author of the Gospel according to Matthew.
- ▶ Matthew's Gospel is an orderly and reliable historical account of Jesus' life and teachings.
- ▶ The Gospel of Matthew invites its readers to consider how God's promises to three key Old Testament figures – Abraham, Moses, and David – are fulfilled by Jesus.
- ▶ Traditionally, the author of Mark's Gospel is thought to be a man named John Mark, who was not an Apostle, but was a traveling companion of St. Peter.
- ▶ Mark wrote to a Gentile audience in Rome, and his Gospel is concerned with presenting the mystery of Christ.
- ▶ Jesus performed four types of miracles: miracles of nature, miracles of healing, miracles of the supernatural, and miracles of supply.



Family Talk Time

How does your audience affect the way you would recount a story? Would you tell it the same way to friends as you would to a group of strangers? Why?



Meditation for This Week:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



Catch the Spirit



This week, your child learned that:

- ▶ The Gospel of Luke was written by St. Luke, a traveling companion of St. Paul.
- ▶ The main audience of Luke's Gospel were Gentile Christians.
- ▶ The Virgin Mary was likely a source for Luke's Gospel, which contains many details only Mary could have known.
- ▶ The Gospel of Luke, known as the Gospel of Mercy, focuses on the mercy and forgiveness of Jesus.
- ▶ The Gospel of John was written by John the Beloved Disciple and was the last Gospel written.
- ▶ The Gospel of John is very different from the other three Gospels. John's Gospel is centered on seven signs, or wondrous deeds, of Jesus, that point to the greater reality and goal of Jesus' mission.



Family Talk Time

Luke's Gospel tells us that Mary kept many special family experiences in her heart. What family memories do you keep in your heart? Do you think your mother has treasured memories of you?



Meditation for This Week:

Lord Jesus, you taught us that you are the Bread of Life whom we receive in the Eucharist. When we receive you we are invited to eternal life where we will never hunger or thirst. Draw us ever nearer to you, Lord, in the Eucharist, so that we can respond to your invitation of eternal life. Amen.