

# A FAMILY OF Faith



## April English Guide Year 4

- ❑ **VERSE OF THE MONTH:** Matthew 5:11-12 *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.*
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 246
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 152
  
- ❑ **SAINT OF THE MONTH: SAINT Vincent Ferrer**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 250, 280-281
  - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 172-174

### Overview of Lesson 12: The Battle of Prayer

In this lesson, your children will explore obstacles to prayer and how prayer can even be a battle—not a typical battle, but one against our own weaknesses and lack of faith, all of which the Devil is delighted to exploit so as to turn us away from God.

- ❑ **WORDS TO KNOW:**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide: Page 254
  - ❑ Activity Book: Page 175
  
- ❑ **Activities and Key Concepts Lesson 12: Parent's Guide: Page 253**

### Overview of Lesson 13: Prayer and the Communion of Saints

The aim of this lesson is for your children to discover that one of our greatest aids to prayer is to read the lives and writings of the saints. Their lives inspire us to lead holy lives, and their instructions can guide us on how to develop our prayer lives.

- ❑ **WORDS TO KNOW:**
  - ❑ Parent's Guide Page 270
  - ❑ Activity Book: Page 175

**Activities and Key Concepts Lesson 13: Parent's Guide: Page 269.**

- ❑ **Your Catholic Home: 3 O'Clock Prayer to the Divine Mercy:** Parent's Guide Page 248. The Gospel writers record that Jesus died on the Cross at 3 p.m. Because of that, most churches hold the Stations of the Cross or the Good Friday service at 3 p.m. on Good Friday during the Triduum. Jesus appeared to St. Faustina Kowalska and revealed to her that we can remember His Passion and Death all throughout the year. She recorded what He revealed to her in

her diary: At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony: This is the hour of great mercy for the whole world. I will allow you to enter into My mortal sorrow. In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion. (Diary, 1320)

**BY THE END OF THIS MONTH, YOUR CHILDREN SHOULD BE ABLE TO:**

- Recite this month's Scripture Memorization:**
  - Parent's Guide: Page 246
  - Activity Book: Pages 152
- Define this month's Words to Know.**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 254, 270
  - Activity Book: Page 175
- Tell you about Our Lady of Pontmain and St. Vincent Ferrer**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 267-268, 280-281
  - Activity Book: Pages 161-163, 172-174

***April in Review***

**THIS MONTH YOU EXPLORED AS A FAMILY THE QUESTIONS:**

- How can I keep my mind focused on God when I pray?**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 255-257, 260-261,
  - Activity Book: Pages 153, 155
- What if I feel like God isn't listening?**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 258-259, 262-263,
  - Activity Book: Pages 154, 156
- How can the saints help us to pray?**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 271-272, 273-274, 275-276,
  - Activity Book: Pages 164, 165

**In Lesson 12 your children learned that:**

- When we feel distracted, we can ask God to help us focus our minds on Him.**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 255-257, 260-261,
  - Activity Book: Pages 153, 155
- Persevering in prayer during times of dryness is an act of great faith.**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 258-259, 262-263,
  - Activity Book: Pages 154, 156
- The Archangel St. Michael will defend us in battle against the devil.**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 264-265, 266,
  - Activity Book: Pages 157, 158

**In Lesson 13 your children learned that:**

- The saints are the prayer experts of the Church.**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 271-272, 273-274,
  - Activity Book: Pages 164,
- One of our greatest aids to prayer is to read the lives and writings of the saints.**
  - Parent's Guide: Pages 275-276, 279,
  - Activity Book: Pages 165, 184,
- The saints achieved holiness through a life of intimate prayer with God.**

- Parent's Guide: Pages 277-278,
- Activity Book: Pages 169

**Recommended Activities:**

- Parent's Guide: Pages 255-257, 258-259, 260-161, 262-263, 264-265, 266, 271-272, 273-274, 275-276, 277-278, 279
- Activity Book Page: Pages 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158-159, 164, 165-168, 169-170, 171

<b>Weekly Teaching for Parents</b>	
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Introduce Words to Know:</b> Parents discuss <b>words to know</b> with their children on Parent Guide pages 254 and 270. Teach their children what the words mean.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Understand Words to Know:</b> By the end of the week, the children should know how to <b>explain and define the words to know</b>.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Get to know St Vincent Ferrer</b> Parents and children should read the brief biography of Saint Vincent on Parent Guide pages 280-281</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Learn Scripture Verse:</b> Begin reciting daily the <b>Scripture verse for the month</b>. <i>“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus”</i> (Hebrews 12:1-2)</li> </ul>
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Parent and Child Activities:</b> Parents should choose one or more activities on the battle of prayer in the Parents Guide pages 255-268, lead the children through this activity.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Learning Goal for the Week:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>The child should understand that -</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> When we feel distracted, we can ask God to help us focus our minds on Him.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Persevering in prayer during times of dryness is an act of great faith.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The Archangel St. Michael will defend us in battle against the devil.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>The child should be able to answer the questions -</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How can I keep my mind focused on God when I pray?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What if I feel like God isn't listening?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Parent and Child Activities:</b> Parents should choose one or more activities on prayer and the communion of saints in the Parents Guide on pages 271-279 to teach their children.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Learning Goals for the Week:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>The child should understand that -</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The saints are the prayer experts of the Church.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> One of our greatest aids to prayer is to read the lives and writings of the saints.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The saints achieved holiness through a life of intimate prayer with God.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>The child should be able to answer the question -</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How can the saints help us to pray?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p><b>Your Catholic Home:</b> Set an alarm on your phone for 3 p.m. Pray together with your children a short prayer to remember Jesus' Passion. The prayer can be as simple as, "Jesus, have mercy on us and on the whole world." Encourage your children to offer up to Jesus any special intentions that they might have at that time.</p>
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