

Materials in This Packet

OCTOBER 2020

Hi, Families! Please keep this as a reference as you explore the materials in this bag. Please make a special place to keep and access these materials. Some of them we have provided as a basis for the entire year, but many are supplements up through Christmas. We will reference many of these in the weekly emails and activities suggestions as time goes on.

- **Letter from the Pastor:** Please read this letter from Fr. Paul from last week's bulletin. Fr. Paul will officially be installed as our new pastor this Saturday, October 3rd, at the 4:00 Mass. This Mass will be posted to the parish website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel. While we are still not able to have more than 120 persons at each of our in-person Masses, we encourage you to pray along with this very special Mass. The reverse side of Fr. Paul's letter includes information about our current Mass and prayer opportunities at St. George. *We ask that you respond to the Family Mass Reflection that was included in your weekly email.*
- **Invitation to Pet Blessing Saturday, October 3rd, at 10:00 a.m.:** Maintaining social distance in the parking lot, masks required – not on pets, of course ;).
- **Peace Prayer of Saint Francis cards:** one per student
- **Sidewalk Chalk:** Next week (*and possibly in the future*) we will be asking families to participate in a fun activity that promotes positivity. ("Always be prepared to give a reason for your HOPE.")
- **Children's Envelopes:** This year, Fr. Paul has selected envelopes that have references to Bible stories. *We ask that you incorporate these Bible stories into your shared family prayer.* God speaks to us through the Scriptures, but at times, we have discovered that our children are not very familiar with many of the stories in the Bible. *Yet, Jesus wants to speak to us in this way. ("In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word became Flesh and dwelt among us.")* In addition to learning the stories, regular use of the envelopes encourages the practice of stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. *Envelopes (both children and adult) may be returned weekly in the Key Return at the Rectory or in the basket at the entrance to church.*
- **Bible:** 6th grade students will receive the *Catholic Youth Bible* which we have typically used throughout Grades 6-8. We are also including a Bible to help you make encountering God in Scriptures a regular part of your prayer routine.
- **Catholic Prayer for Catholic Families booklet:** wonderful resource from Loyola Press on how to pray, types of prayer, and many traditional Catholic prayers.
- **The Sound Collector:** An activity which calls us to quiet ourselves. We will forward directions at a later time. This will give us a chance to, "Be still, and Know that I AM GOD," as the bible reminds us.
- **Saint Prayer Cards** (assorted)

- **Books by Grade Level:** *Finding God* by Loyola Press. We will reference activities and lessons throughout the year from this text. There will also be digital resources that will be made available to accompany these texts.
- **Prayer before Meals:** Included as a reminder for family prayer before meals, for Thanksgiving, but also for practicing an attitude of gratitude in all things. (Again, we will have more of an explanation in future weeks.)
- **Rosary pamphlet and rosaries for family members:** October includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. We encourage you to incorporate the rosary into your prayers during the month of October and will offer a specific activity shortly.
- **Advent pamphlet:** to be referenced in December as we prepare for Christmas.
- **Vicariate V Prayer for Ministry to our Communities (for Families):** We ask you to join us in asking the Holy Spirit to renew our church by including this prayer for faith formation in our communities at least once a month. The reverse side of this prayer is the Renew My Church prayer that the Archdiocese of Chicago has asked us all to pray as well.
- **Prayer cloths:** Assorted colors for varied liturgical seasons or feasts
 - Green:** Ordinary Time
 - Purple:** Advent, Lent, Repentance, Preparation
 - Red:** Holy Spirit, Martyrs, Passion
 - White:** Easter, Christmas, Special Feast Days
- **Candle:** for your prayer space
- **Beatitudes and Corporal/Spiritual Works of Mercy Cards:** to be referenced at a future date
- **Portrait of Our Lady:** may be incorporated in your prayer space
- **Family Faith Agreement:** highlights the basic outline & goals of our formation plan
- **I Believe – A Summary of Basic Catholic Beliefs**
- **Renew My Church Core Vision**
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe information sheet**
- **Grade Specific Items:**
 - Grade 1: The Sign of the Cross, _____ is a Child of God, Children Come to Me
 - Grade 2: God’s Gift of Reconciliation & Eucharist text, booklet, & parent guide
 - Grade 3: Children Come to Me
 - Grade 4: Gospel Fun for Little Ones
 - Grade 5: Gospel Fun for Little Ones
 - Grade 6: Footprints
 - Grade 7: Footprints, Our Lady of Guadalupe sheet
 - Grade 8: Footprints, Our Lady of Guadalupe sheet
- **Large Coloring Sheets:** one per student, to be referenced in the weekly lessons
(All About Me, All About the Rosary, Colors of Faith, A Thanksgiving Prayer, The Meaning of Advent, The Story of Christmas, and Jesus says, “Follow Me”)