

December

This month we celebrate Advent, the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary & Christmas.



Be sure to join us each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm via Zoom for a brief (15-20 minute) but important Advent gathering. We look forward to seeing you!

Peace and all God's blessings.

6th Grade

Week of December 2nd: As we enter the season of Advent (a time of watching & waiting), put yourself in the historical time and role of Mary learning that she will be the Mother of Jesus. Identify and write down at least two feelings you experience. Discuss with your adult how Mary is a model of faith. Reread pg. 34-35. Make a word card for Obedience. The virtue of obedience is grounded in love and intended to help us grow. Have your student retell the story of Adam & Eve. Turn to the glossary on pg. 179 & read the meaning of free will. Go back to pg. 36 & read out loud. Discuss with an adult the connection between temptation and sin. This week complete 2 of the choice board activities.

Week of December 9th: Recall your discussion at the end of last week about the connection between temptation & sin. Look up and read in your Bible, Genesis 4:1-16. Discuss with your student the similarities between Cain & Abel and Adam & Eve. What choices did they make exercising free will? Now read pg. 37 in your workbook. St. Anselm (1033-1109) pointed out the connection between the Garden of Eden & the Garden of Gethsemane in the New Testament Gospels. In the Garden of Eden a man (Adam) chose to obey his own will over God's. As a result he lost his chance for eternal life and suffered death. In the garden of Gethsemane, a man (Jesus) chose to obey God's will over his own. As a result of that choice, death was overcome and eternal life with God was restored. Review the meaning of Covenant. (Look it up in the glossary if needed). Read Great Blessings on pg. 38 & share what you know about Abraham & Sarah. Now silently read A New Home on that pg. Discuss what you understand God's promise to be. Write it down. Complete 2 more choice board activities.

6th Grade (continued)

Week of December 16th: Take out your Bible & read Genesis 27: 1-30. Now turn to pg. 39 in the workbook & read aloud. Discuss with your student how the story of Jacob & Esau illustrates the effects of sin. Review the 8th Commandment (Refer to pg. 163 if you need to look it up). In ancient Israel, the guilt of someone accused of a crime depended on the testimony of 2 witnesses. If even 1 of the witnesses lied, an innocent person might be punished. While perjury is still a sin against this commandment, any form of false witness is wrong. The Church teaches that lying, gossip, rumor & slander are all prohibited by this commandment. Whether it is stated orally, on social media, or by email, bearing false witness against someone is wrong & a sin. Make a word card for *fidelity*. Now read Genesis 37: 1-4 in your Bible. Read through pg. 40. Discuss how the story of Joseph demonstrates the power of forgiveness. Think about the Faith Connection question at the bottom. Choose 2 new choice board activities this week.

Week of December 23rd: Discuss with your child the traditions in your family that help us to remember Jesus' birth. Write them down in a journal or special notebook to keep. This year, will your family go to Mass in person or watch online? Be sure to dress up even if you aren't going to Mass in person. Read together the story of the Nativity from your family Bible (Luke 2:1-20) If you have a nativity set in your home, consider having your children place the baby Jesus in the creche on Christmas day. Perhaps this can be a new tradition for your family. What are the gifts of love your family gives to each other? How do we show our love for God at this special time of year?

Week of December 30th: Complete 2 more choice board activities.