

Make-Up Packet for Day 1

of our 2023 Elementary Summer Religion Program

Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church ✠ Erath, Louisiana

Opening Prayer:

- Review the correct, respectful way to pray (make) **The Sign of the Cross**
 - It isn't an air prayer! We should touch our forehead, chest, left shoulder, and right shoulder with intent as we pray the words, "In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." We put our hands together in "praying hands" posture as we say, "Amen."
 - The Sign of the Cross serves as a reminder of our own **baptism**—the moment when we became adopted children of God and joined His family. Baptism washes away the stain of Adam and Eve's **Original Sin** on our souls. As Catholic Christians, we were baptized in the Trinitarian format which names all Three Persons in one God.
 - **NOTE:** Many people forget to speak the first four words ("In the name of . . .") and jump jump right into saying, "The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." Those missing words are important! They remind us that, at our baptism, the priest said, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
- Review/Recite **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, Who **art** in Heaven, **hallowed** be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread,
And forgive us our **trespasses** as we forgive those who trespass against us,
And lead us not into **temptation**, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

 - ◆ **Art:** an old-fashioned way of saying "are"
 - ◆ **Hallowed:** holy, sacred
 - ◆ **Thy:** an old-fashioned way of saying "your"
 - ◆ **Trespasses:** Most of us know what a "*Do not trespass*" sign means. (*It reminds us not to walk on or into someone else's property without permission.*) In this case, we're not just talking about the piece of earth that someone owns; instead we're including everything that is that person. We should not "walk (or stomp) on" someone's feelings, personality, characteristics, reputation, etc. We should treat everyone with God's love, mercy, and respect.
 - ◆ **" . . . forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us . . .":** We trust that God will forgive us when we are truly sorry for doing something that He doesn't want us to do. After we have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation (*also called Confession*)—and because Jesus Christ granted His Apostles the authority to forgive sins when He said, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you forgive are forgiven; whose sins you retain are retained;" (John 20:23)—we should go into the Confessional to confess our sins. After we experience God's loving mercy and forgiveness for the things we've said/done to displease Him, we should be willing to share His loving mercy and forgiveness with others when they hurt us and/or our feelings.
 - Some people struggle to forgive others. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says that we must forgive 77 times! For people who have been hurt, that is a huge number! Perhaps it may help to think of it this way: Forgiving is actually easier than forgetting! If/When we can manage to extend God's mercy to others in the form of forgiveness, we may need to do it over and over again—every time we remember that we were hurt by them.

- **Temptation:** When we go fishing, we put **bait** (*usually a small, wiggly worm or a shiny fishing lure*) on our fishing line to **tempt** (*attract and convince*) the fish to bite the hook. Throughout our lives, the bad angels are always close by, hanging around us, our family members, and/or our friends to try to tempt us to do (or say) things that God doesn't want us to do (or say). As we pray the last couple of phrases in **The Lord's Prayer**, we know and trust that God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit will never tempt us to do or say something bad, so instead, we ask them to "deliver us" (*protect us*) from evil.

Topic for Day 1: The Creation Story

- **Bible Point:** God is the Creator of the universe!
- **Bible Verse:** "God looked at everything He had made, and He found it very good." ~ *Genesis 1:31*
- **Day 1's Theme Song:** [The Creation Song](#) (*we added our own hand motions and gestures!*)
- **Your choice:** Watch video(s) and/or read, then read/discuss questions in the next dark bulleted section.
 - Watch a **YouTube children's video** about The Creation Story: [Option 1](#) and/or [Option 2](#)
 - Read The Creation Story:

The Story of Creation

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

¹In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth—²and the earth was without form or shape, with darkness over the abyss and a mighty wind sweeping over the waters—³Then God said: Let there be light, and there was light. ⁴God saw that the light was good. God then separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." Evening came, and morning followed—the **first** day.

⁶Then God said: Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters, to separate one body of water from the other. ⁷God made the dome, and it separated the water below the dome from the water above the dome. And so it happened. ⁸God called the dome "sky." Evening came, and morning followed—the **second** day.

⁹Then God said: Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin, so that the dry land may appear. And so it happened: the water under the sky was gathered into its basin, and the dry land appeared. ¹⁰God called the dry land "earth," and the basin of water he called "sea." God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said: Let the earth bring forth vegetation: every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it. And so it happened: ¹²the earth brought forth vegetation: every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree that bears fruit with its seed in it. God saw that it was good. ¹³Evening came, and morning followed—the **third** day.

¹⁴Then God said: Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the seasons, the days and the years, ¹⁵and serve as lights in the dome of the sky, to illuminate the earth. And so it happened: ¹⁶God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night, and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky, to illuminate the earth, ¹⁸to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. ¹⁹Evening came, and morning followed—the **fourth** day.

²⁰Then God said: Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures, and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky. ²¹God created the great sea monsters and all kinds of crawling living creatures with which the water teems, and all kinds of winged birds. God saw that it was good, ²²and God blessed them, saying: Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas; and let the birds multiply on the earth. ²³Evening came, and morning followed—the **fifth** day.

²⁴Then God said: Let the earth bring forth every kind of living creature: tame animals, crawling things, and every kind of wild animal. And so it happened: ²⁵God made every kind of wild animal, every

kind of tame animal, and every kind of thing that crawls on the ground. God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said: Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the tame animals, all the wild animals, and all the creatures that crawl on the earth. ²⁷God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them and God said to them: Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that crawl on the earth. ²⁹God also said: See, I give you every seed-bearing plant on all the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food; ³⁰and to all the wild animals, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the earth, I give all the green plants for food. And so it happened. ³¹God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed—the **sixth** day.

¹Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed.

²On the **seventh** day God completed the work he had been doing; he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had undertaken. ³God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work he had done in creation.

- Discussion questions/answers:

- How many days did it take for God to create the universe? *(A total of seven days: six days to create; one day to rest. However, we should remember that God doesn't wear a watch or follow a calendar as we do. His sense of time is very different than our sense of time. One day in His perspective may be 100 days or 100 years or one million years in our sense of time!)*
- On the seventh day, God rested, and He wants us to do the same. Unfortunately, in order to pay bills and support our families, some of our parents now have to work on Sundays—and that probably makes God sad, but at the least, all of us should try to avoid working just for the fun of it on Sundays. God wants Sundays to be a day of rest and relaxation—time to spend with our family and friends—and with **His** family, too!
- Genesis 2:3 states: “God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.” We should make every effort to keep Sundays holy! How can we do that? *(All of us should visit God in His house for a **Sunday Mass**! It's like a family reunion! We gather with God's children—young and old—to hear “family stories” from the **Bible** and share a sacred meal—**Holy Communion**—from Jesus Christ, Himself! If you search the internet for Catholic churches in your area, in many populated areas of the planet, you'll probably find at least 2-3 Catholic churches near a specific location. Many Catholic churches offer at least one Anticipated Sunday Mass on Saturday afternoons and at least one Sunday Mass on Sundays. In cities, they may offer as many as two Anticipated Masses and five or six Masses on Sundays! In gratitude for everything God has provided for us, we should be willing to attend one of those Masses each weekend!)*

- Mrs. Frances' PowerPoint presentation also reminded our campers (and volunteers) that:

- Some of God's creatures are cute: kittens, puppies, dolphins, baby ducks
- Some of God's creatures are beautiful: macaws, many types of salt-water fish, peacocks
- Some of God's creatures are ugly: blobfish, proboscis (*snout*) monkey
- Some of God's creatures are weird: star-nosed mole, frill-neck lizard
- **All** of God's creatures serve a special purpose here on earth!
- God made all human beings, too! Some of us are:
 - tall and thin
 - short and stocky
 - hair color: blonde, brunette (brown), ginger (red), black, gray as we age
 - some people have freckles; others don't
 - some people have eyes that need glasses; others don't
- Remember: Even though you are different from someone else—or everyone else—**God loves you as you are!** You serve a special purpose in His universe!

Food for Thought in Day 1's Bible Theater:

- The campers discussed fact that the shape of all snowflakes are different from one another (because of the journey they take—bumping into dust particles—as they fall to the ground), but they do have some similarities:
 - Each one is made of ice crystals.
 - Ice is frozen water and, because a water molecule (H₂O) is shaped like a letter “V,” snowflakes usually form a six-sided hexagon and, as they continue to fall from the sky—and other particles latch onto them—they branch out into beautiful six-sided pieces of art!
 - Snow crystals are actually colorless (like clean water), but as the sunlight attempts to pass through them, they appear to white.
- Similar, yet different—just like people and animals!
- Even the human body has different, yet similar parts!
 - All organs of the body are made of cells, but each organ in the body performs a specific purpose!
 - **Read** this passage from scripture:

One Body, Many Parts

1 Corinthians 12:12-26

¹²As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Now the body is not a single part, but many.

¹⁵If a foot should say, “Because I am not a hand I do not belong to the body,” it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. ¹⁶Or if an ear should say, “Because I am not an eye I do not belong to the body,” it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended.

¹⁹If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰But as it is, there are many parts, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I do not need you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I do not need you.” ²²Indeed, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are all the more necessary, ²³and those parts of the body that we consider less honorable we surround with greater honor, and our less presentable parts are treated with greater propriety, ²⁴whereas our more presentable parts do not need this.

But God has so constructed the body as to give greater honor to a part that is without it, ²⁵so that there may be no division in the body, but that the parts may have the same concern for one another. ²⁶If [one] part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy.

- Read Verse 22-24 again. The parts of our body that seem to be worthless are actually very important! While my fingers actually move to pick up and hold things, the muscles in my upper arm play an important role in that movement! Without those muscles, some of that movement in my fingers may no longer exist!
- **Think:** Although the poor and/or homeless people can't contribute much to move the economy forward, they can help us practice being good Christians! We can provide food, warm blankets, clothing, etc., to help make them comfortable. We can donate money to local (or international) charities that provide specific services for those in need.

- **Think:** While donating money or these types of items is always a good thing to do, some people do go out of their way to do a bit more. Some people are willing to get into personal contact with those who need extra help of any kind.
 - Examples:
 - a barber finds a homeless man on the sidewalk and offers to give him a free hair wash and haircut
 - a group of people go on a mission trip to help poor people in another area of the world, etc.
- **Reminder:** Do the best you can do to help those in need! Our world needs people who are willing to help others who cannot help themselves!

Today's Catechism Lessons: Students in Grades 2-5 should have already received these textbooks. If necessary, they may borrow a textbook from our office. If a Grade 1 student doesn't have access to a blue/white textbook yet (possibly from an older sibling or friend), he/she may borrow one from our office. *(Students typically receive/use their blue/white First Communion textbooks in Sacramental Prep classes in Grade 2 and bring them home just before receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist (Holy Communion). The red/white textbook is usually distributed to students in Grade 3 Sunday Sessions.)*

Grade	Textbook	Please read and discuss these lessons:
1	Blue/white F.C. textbook	Lesson 1 (God Made Us)
2	Blue/white F.C. textbook	Lesson 1 (God Made Us)
3	Red/white B.C. textbook	Lesson 1 (The Purpose of Man's Existence) Lesson 2 (God and His Perfections)
4	Red/white B.C. textbook	Lesson 15 (The Two Great Commandments)
5	Red/white B.C. textbook	Lesson 23 (The Sacraments); introduce the Three categories of the Seven Sacraments

Closing Prayer: Glory Be

- Don't forget to begin and end your closing prayer with the **Sign of the Cross!**
- Text of the prayer: "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Thank you for taking time to work through this packet with your child!

Please **sign** the **next** page of this packet to indicate that Day 1's work has been made up

and **mail or deliver** it to Mrs. Frances at our church office.

She will make the necessary notes on your child's attendance record and will file the signature sheet in your family's registration folder.

Please complete this page and return it to our Church Parish Office as soon as possible so Mrs. Frances can update our records to indicate that you have helped your child read/discuss the Bible stories and Catechism lessons that were introduced and discussed on **Day 1** of our **2023** Summer Religion Program.

My child, _____, in **2022-23** grade level _____, and I have read and discussed the enclosed topics and catechism lesson(s) for **Day 1** of our **2023** Elementary Summer Religion Program.

NOTE: Instructions for accessing all videos on YouTube and/or Formed.org are provided in this make-up packet.

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date