# MAY: THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY, AND LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN.

**CLASSROOM SHEET**

**Opening Prayer:** Dear Jesus, thank you for giving us all the saints to be good examples for us and to pray for us. We can’t wait to be in heaven forever all together! Amen.

**Bible verses:**

* **Acts 2:42 -** They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. They held all things in common.
* **Hebrews 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, the leader and perfecter of faith.

**Information:**

* What is a saint? Someone in heaven forever with Jesus! You have to be dead to be a saint.
* We are all connected to the saints! We can talk to them, ask their help, and they can help us in our needs.
* The biggest place we are connected to the saints is at Mass.
* Because the saints are so close to Jesus, they can pray for us to Jesus!
* Many saints are patrons of special things. A patron is someone dedicated to something specific. Like St. Anthony is the patron saint of lost things. You can ask him to help you find anything you lose.
* We need to ask for the saints’ intercession.

**Discussion points (make it your own & use as age appropriate):**

* Let us take an example to help us remember that there is more to the world than just what we can see.
* It may be helpful for kids to draw all the layers in the ocean.
* **Has anyone been to the ocean? When you look out what do you see?**
* Draw the water, glistening in the sun. Some waves, and maybe some birds flying over the ocean.
* **What is beneath the ocean surface?**
* Maybe sand, rocks, fish, algae, sharks, whales, shrimp, bacteria, salt, plants, octopus, sea horses, starfish, coral, clams, manatees, etc. See what all the kids can come up with!
* **Have you ever seen a shark in the ocean? Or a starfish? Or a coral reef? Or an octopus, etc.?**
* **But you believe they are there?**
* The same is true about the spiritual world. **When we look around, what do you see?**
* Objects in the room, people, air, etc.
* **What is there that you cannot see? Because it is “beneath the surface?”**
* Angels, Jesus, saints, demons, the Holy Spirit, Mary.
* You can’t see them, so it is easy to forget that they are there, but they are!
* **Turn your paper over and now draw what is all around us in the spiritual world!**
* The demons try to make us sin and choose the wrong thing to do. But the angels and saints are there to defend us and help us always do the right thing! To choose God!
* One day, we will see all the angels and saints just like you see me and the other people still living here.
* **Let us now go over some saints specifically there to help you!**
* Your guardian angel is specially assigned to just you all the time! They are your own personal angel until you die. Let’s pray the guardian angel prayer together! (Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God’s love, commits me here. Ever this day be a t my side, to light to guard, to rule and guide. Amen.)
* There are also special angels for children, special angels for teenagers, and special angels for students. So there are lots of angels around you!
* We already talked about St. Anthony. If you ever loose something, St. Anthony can help you find it!
* St. Nicholas is the patron saint of children. He will help you play, have fun, be safe, and stay holy!
* St. Joseph is the protector of girls. If you are a girl, St. Joseph is defending you especially!
* St. John Bosco is the patron of little boys. If you are a boy, St. John Bosco is helping you! He especially like roughhousing and doing tricks!
* St. Francis is the patron saint of animals. If you love animals, St. Francis wants to be your friend! He once tamed a wolf that defended a village.
* If you love sports, St. Sebastian is a saint for you! He was a really tough guy and a soldier and survived being shot by multiple arrows at a very short distance. He can help you use your toughness for Jesus.
* St. Raphael is an angel and the patron saint against nightmares. If you ever have a nightmare, St. Raphael can comfort you.
* St. Giles is patron of anyone scared of the dark. He lived all alone in the forest for many, many years, so he knows what it is like to be alone in the dark.
* St. Joseph of Cupertino is the patron of test takers. If you have a big test coming up, St. Joseph of Cupertino will help you. He really struggled in school and almost failed the test to become a priest, but God helped him!
* What other things are you interested in! You can always look up the saints for almost anything!
* **Middle & Older children** need to be very aware that everyday there is a spiritual battle going on over their soul. The demons are trying to always convince them to be bad so they end up in hell. The saints and angels are always trying to protect them and help them choose the good so they end up in heaven. The choice ultimately belongs to them. What they choose, everyday, even in the small things, will make the difference.
* **What are some ways that the demons try to trick you?**
* Distractions like phones, ipads, video games, TV distract you so you don’t take the time to pray or think about what you’re doing.
* Lies either about yourself or other people. You aren’t cool unless…, they did this or that.., you did this sin, so you aren’t worthy of God’s love. Do not give into them, do not gossip, do not listen to stories about others. Most of the time, these stories come from demons to begin with, so don’t spread them!
* Business, demons try to make you believe that you are too busy to have time for God or time to pray. They usually end up convincing us that all these other things are more important and God comes last instead of first!
* Demons are fallen angels, so they are more powerful than humans, but not as powerful as God.
* Many sins are demons hanging around us. The demon of laziness may be always hanging around you. Or the demon of fear. Or the demon of lies. Or the demon of doubt. Don’t let these demons control you!
* St. Michael can really help us fight the demons. \*(St. Michael the archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray. And do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.)
* **What are ways the angels and saints help you?**
* Prayer, by convincing us to pray, the angels and saints always try to bring us closer to Jesus.
* Pricking our conscience, by making us feel guilty after doing something wrong, the angels and saints help us reconcile with God and the Church
* Conscience by helping us stop and hear what our conscience is saying, the angels and saints guide us to choose the right thing and avoid the wrong situation or decision.
* Peace, Joy, and Love, when we choose good, the angels, saints, and God give us peace, joy, and love!

**Closing Prayer: Pray the Creed together. Saint \_\_\_\_\_\_, pray for us!**