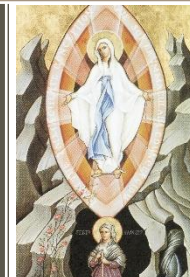


OUR LADY OF LOURDES TORONTO



Sunday, February 7, 2021 ~ The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Kids@Mass



*“Where two or more are gathered in my name,
I am there among them.” Matthew 18.20*

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This Week's Gospel >>>

Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-law

He was filled with love and pity by their suffering, and he healed many of them.

Hello Parents!

Lots to look forward to in February! The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is on February 11. We hope you will join us for our live-streamed mass at 7pm – <https://lourdes.to/tv> And Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 17!

Today we continue our look at an essay by John Roberto, entitled “Nurturing the Christian Life: The Essential Role of Parents”, which draws on major research studies, and the four findings that were highlighted.

Today we look at the second::

3. The family is the primary community where Christian faith practices are nurtured and practiced.

In some ways, this is not new for those of us in the Catholic tradition. The Church has, for a long time, spoken of the family as the “domestic Church.”

What this means is that in a family of baptized believers, whenever they are gathered and practicing their faith, Christ is present. The study showed that what is primarily important in the family structure is not the formal teaching of faith, but practicing the faith. Among the most important practices are:

- Reading the bible as a family regularly
- Praying together as a family
- Serving people in need as a family
- Eating together
- Talking about faith



- Providing moral instruction
- Involvement in faith community, esp. Sunday worship.

Your faith as parents, is so important to your children's relationship with the Lord. If there is any way that we, as a church can support you, please email us: info@lourdes.to

Sharing God's Word >>>

Let's start with a Prayer
– make the Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father
And of the Son
And of the Holy Spirit. Amen



Some things to think about before we read the Gospel.

Hello Friends, and welcome back to our Kids' mass.

Just before we look at today's Gospel, we want to remind you that Ash Wednesday is coming soon and with it the beginning of Lent.

Lent is the time of preparation before Easter. And we, as Christians take the time to repent – which means to be sorry for what we have done wrong, or ask for forgiveness and also reflect (think) about the sacrifice that Jesus Christ did for us and our salvation over 2 thousands years ago.

So this is a good time to start thinking about what you will give up and/or do more of for Lent this year. Here are a few examples: candies/chocolates, 1 hour of TV/video games, do more giving, help more at home.

Don't worry you have 10 days to decide. :)

Okay so today we will be reading about healing. As mentioned last week, Jesus Christ is also a healer and has the power and authority to heal people and free them from evil spirits.

Do you remember how Jesus got the evil spirit to leave the disturbed man in the synagogue in last week's gospel?

-He simply said with a firm voice: Be quiet and leave this man in peace!

So as we see Jesus Christ can speak to the spirits, but he can also heal the sick.

Have you ever had a fever? Most of you probably have. And when someone is feverish, they are very weak with barely any strength and may be shivering.

Well in today's gospel, Peter's mother-in-law is found sick. Jesus quietly went to her and took her by the hand and she was healed. So what do you think this tells us about Jesus?

Jesus came to show us how much God the Father loves all of his children (that's you and me). God cares deeply about our pain and suffering and no situation is beyond his healing touch. When Jesus gently takes the sick woman's hand he reminds us of how gentle yet powerful God's healing and miraculous love can be in our lives.

Nobody's life is free from suffering and pain. But Jesus shows us God's love and care for us, and his readiness to be close to us and heal our ills and relieve our pain in any way that he can.

So you want to see how Jesus heals her? Then head over to the gospel reading and get ready to listen and learn with our eyes, ears, and hearts wide open.

You will find this week's readings at the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tDomu5vmH4>

Gospel Reflection & Activity:

Good job listening guys. Now let's do some true or false questions to make sure we understood what we just read. Ready?

1. Jesus went to the house of Simon Peter and his brother Andrew. True or False? True

2. At the house, Jesus heard of Simon Peter's mother-in-law being sick, but he did not do anything. True or False?

False. Jesus went to her and as he took her hand to help her up, she was healed and felt well again.

3. No one heard of the story so Jesus did not heal anyone else. True or False?

False. The same night there was a crowd of sick people gathered by the house and Jesus cured a lot of them.

4. After, Jesus took some time alone to pray. True or False?

True. Even Jesus prayed often, and took time to give thanks and ask for strength to God the father to continue the work he had to do.

5. Jesus then left Capernaum so that he could reach more people in other towns and villages. True or False? True

Jesus showed us that his Father's love for us is unconditional. God cares deeply about our pain and suffering and nothing is beyond his healing touch. Therefore, it is why we pray to God in our time to heal people who are sick.

God is loving and compassionate and one of the ways he shows his love is through his healing power.

Do you know someone who is sick?
Here is a little prayer you can say for them:

Dear Father in heaven,
we pray for all those who are sick and suffering in mind or body, especially for _____;
may You give them strength and ease their pain. Amen.



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Praying together to Our Father

Let's now pray together a very special prayer that Jesus taught us, Our Father.

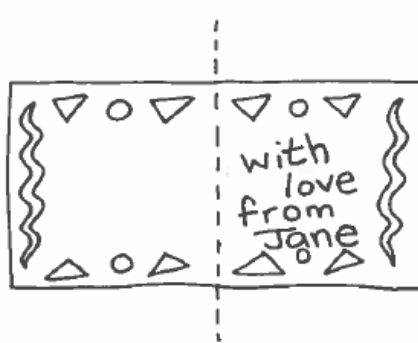
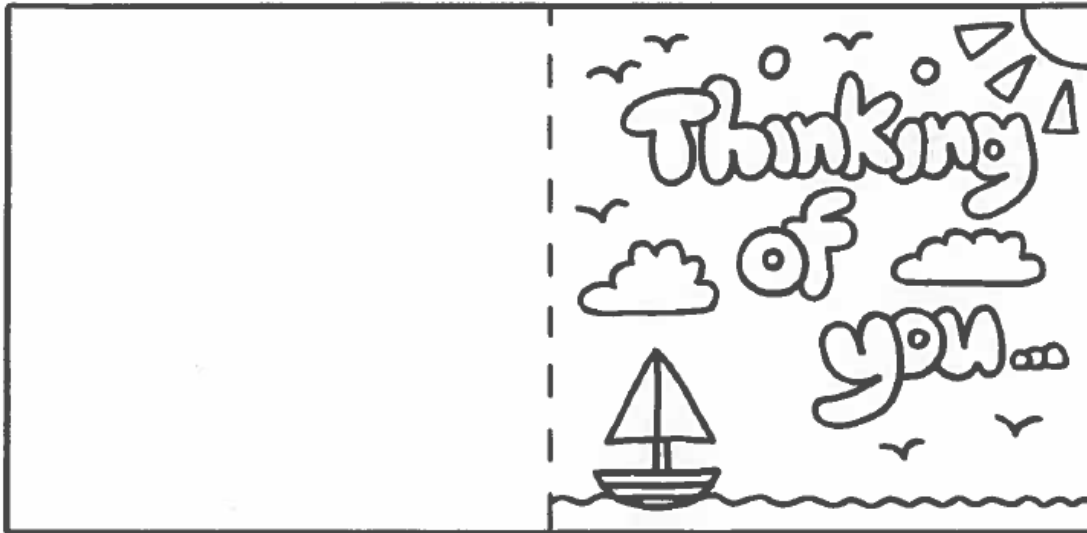
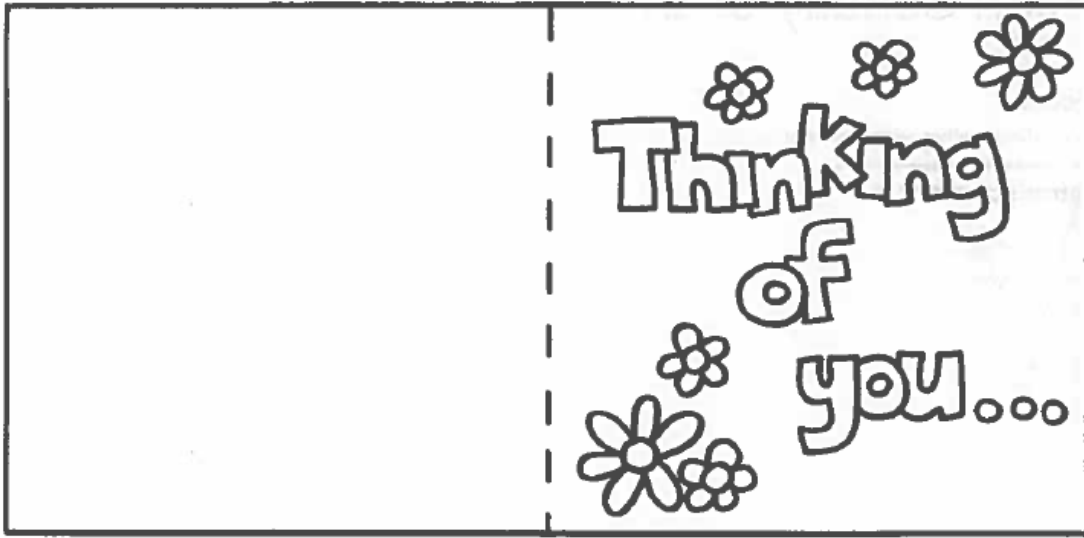
Our Father,
Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy Will be done,
on earth as it is in
Heaven.

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!

Kids Korner >>>

Do you know someone who is sick? Make them a "Thinking of You" card to show them how much your care.



Our Lady of Lourdes

You know what, this story of Jesus healing the sick, reminds me of another person who is very special – Jesus' mother, Mary – who visited a young girl named Bernadette.



Many years ago on February 11, 1858, Bernadette Soubirous, a poor girl from France was collecting firewood with her sisters. She was not very healthy, and so walked very slow. Her sisters ran ahead of her and she started to lag behind. She stopped to wait for them by an garbage dump.

While she waited for her sisters to return, a beautiful lady appeared to her. The lady was glowing and dressed all in white with a blue sash. She had yellow roses on her feet. The lady was holding a rosary and called Bernadette to pray the rosary with her.

The lady asked Bernadette to come back and see her daily. Every time Bernadette would pray the rosary with the lady. It did not take long for the people from her town of Lourdes to start talking about the lady appearing to Bernadette. There were many who did not believe Bernadette and thought she was making the story up.

Bernadette asked the lady for a sign. The lovely lady told Bernadette to dig in the dirt and she did. On that very spot, a beautiful, clear spring of water appeared and the water continues to flow to this day. Many, many miracles have occurred there at the spring, as well as through blessings done using the water.

When Bernadette asked who she was, the lovely lady said, "I am the Immaculate Conception" which is a very special way to say that she was the Blessed Virgin Mary – Jesus's mother. Her message was one of mercy – she wanted Bernadette, and all of us to know how much God loves us

The young girl would become St. Bernadette, and to this day, many people go to Lourdes to renew their faith, ask for God's mercy and healing and to be refreshed spiritually. Many people pray to Our Lady of Lourdes every day. And our own church is named after her.

February 11 is always a special day for us at the church – we light candles and say the rosary and celebrate a Mass together to thank God for his special gift of Jesus and his mother Mary. This year you will be able to watch on line at lourdes.to (Thursday, February 11 at 7pm) remember to have your candles nearby so that you can join us in singing and praying the rosary.

On the next page, is a colouring sheet of Our Lady of Lourdes and Bernadette. Have fun!



Coming Soon >>>

Here's what's happening at Lourdes during the next month:

- **Thursday, February 11 7pm:** **Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes** Livestream of the Mass and Rosar <https://lourdes.to/tv>
- **Sunday, February 14:** **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time** Livestream of kids@Mass <https://lourdes.to/kids/>
- **Ash Wednesday – February 17** Anticipating that there will still be significant pandemic restrictions in place, at least for the beginning of Lent, the Archdiocese has provided guidelines to parishes regarding Ash Wednesday. We have been granted permission to conduct modified Ash Wednesday services (**with a limit of 10 people in the church at any given time**) Also, permission has been given to extend the **distribution of ashes from Ash Wednesday, February 17, until the following Saturday, February 20, at noon.** In order to accommodate the numbers of people expected, we will be scheduling services once an hour, beginning at 8:15am. As for the distribution of ashes, we have received norms from the Vatican on how to do this in a time of Pandemic. After Father has said the prayer over the ashes, he will address all those present, saying "Repent, and believe in the Gospel." Then, instead of marking people on the forehead with ashes, he will sprinkle them on top of each person's head. Service times and sign up will be available from our website: www.lourdes.to
- **Sunday, February 21:** **First Sunday of Lent:** Issue 9 of the Family Pack
- **Sunday, February 28:** **Second Sunday of Lent** Livestream of kids@Mass <https://lourdes.to/kids/>

See you next week for our next Kids@Mass episode at <https://lourdes.to/kids/>

