

September 9th – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: Jesus is there for those who need him.

First Reading Introduction (Isaiah 35:4-6):

In today's first reading, the prophet Isaiah tells us why we should never lose hope even when bad things happen to us.

Psalm: **All: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

God always keeps his word. He gives justice to the poor and food to the hungry.

All: Praise the Lord, my soul!

The Lord sets prisoners free and heals blind eyes. He gives a helping hand to everyone who falls. The Lord loves good people and looks after strangers.

All: Praise the Lord, my soul!

He defends the rights of orphans and widows, but destroys the wicked. The Lord God of Zion will rule forever! Shout praises to the Lord!

All: Praise the Lord, my soul!

Gospel Introduction (Mark 7:31-37):

In today's Gospel, we see that Jesus was always there for people who were in trouble.

Discussion:

In the first reading, what people does God talk about? (the blind, the deaf, the crippled, those who cannot speak)

Why do you think He talks about these groups of people?

Where was Jesus in the Gospel reading?

How did Jesus treat the man? What did he do?

How do you think the man felt after he was healed?

What other ways can we be "deaf" to Jesus' message to us? How can we be healed from this form of deafness?

Leader: 10:45: Melany, Abby

5:00: Pam, Marilyn

September 16th – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: Jesus call us to follow him.

First Reading Introduction (James 2:8, 14-18):

Today's reading reminds us that we don't really have faith in God if we don't try to love others.

Psalm: **All: I will walk in the presence of the Lord.**

I love you, Lord! You answered my prayers. You paid attention to me, and so I will pray to you as long as I live.

All: I will walk in the presence of the Lord.

You are kind, Lord, and good and merciful. You protect ordinary people, and when I was helpless, you saved me.

All: I will walk in the presence of the Lord.

You, Lord, have saved my life from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. Now I will walk at your side in this land of the living.

All: I will walk in the presence of the Lord.

Gospel Introduction (Mark 8:27-35):

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us a big lesson: True love sometimes means doing hard things.

Discussion:

What did the first reading tell us is the most important commandment?

Why is that important?

How can we live that commandment?

What did Jesus tell us in the Gospel about his disciples or followers?

What does Jesus mean when he says we have to accept the cross?

What kind of crosses do we have in our lives?

Leader: 10:45: Pam, Abby

5:00: Madeline, Dee, Marilyn

September 23rd – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: The Greatest is the one who serves!

First Reading Introduction (James 3:14-18, 4:1-3, 7-8):

In today's first reading, James the apostle reminds us of the kind of people God wants us to be.

Psalm: **All: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for You.**

It made me glad to hear them say, "Let's go to the house of the Lord!" Jerusalem, we are standing inside your gates.

All: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for You.

Because of my friends and my relatives, I will pray for peace. And because of the house of the Lord our God, I will work for your good.

All: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for You.

Gospel Introduction (Mark 9:33-37):

In today's Gospel, we see how Jesus reacted when he noticed his disciples arguing with each other as they walked along a country road.

Discussion:

Do we sometimes have fights and arguments with others? Why does that happen?
What does James tell us we should do?
In our Gospel, we hear Jesus' disciples having an argument. What does Jesus do?
How does Jesus ask us to treat others?
How can we be peacemakers in our lives?

Leaders: No CLOW - Oktoberfest

September 30th – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: God's love is for all people.

First Reading Introduction (Numbers 11:25-29):

Long ago, Moses was a great leader who spoke in God's name. In today's first reading, we will learn what he thought when other men began speaking in God's name.

Psalm: **All: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy**

Tell everyone on this earth to shout praises to God! Sing about his glorious name. Honor him with praises. Say to God, "Everything you do is fearsome!"

All: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy

"You are worshiped by everyone! We all sing praises to you." Come and see the fearsome things our God has done!

All: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy

All who worship God, come here and listen; I will tell you everything God has done for me. Let's praise God! He listened when I prayed, and he was always kind.

Gospel Introduction (Mark 9:38-41):

In today's Gospel, Jesus lets his disciples know that he is happy whenever anyone speaks and acts in his name.

Discussion:

What happened in the first reading? Why wasn't Moses angry or jealous?

What happened in the Gospel?

Why did the apostles think Jesus would be upset when he heard about the man curing others?

How did Jesus respond?

Jesus wants ALL of us to do good works in his name. What good works can we do in our lives?

Leaders: 10:45: Melany, Abby

5:00: Pam, Dee, Marilyn

October 7th – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: Jesus always welcomes children

First Reading Introduction (Genesis 2:18-24):

In today's first reading, we see what God did for Adam after seeing that Adam was feeling lonely in the Garden of Eden.

Psalm:

Gospel Introduction (Mark 10:13-16):

In today's Gospel, we see how Jesus reacted when some men in his group tried to keep the children away from him.

Discussion:

Why were the disciples upset in the Gospel when people brought their children to Jesus?

What did Jesus say?

Jesus didn't want anyone to feel left out. Do we ever see people left out in our lives?

How can we include them?

Leaders: 10:45: Pam, Abby

5:00: Pam, Marilyn

October 14th – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: Keep your faith and show your love

First Reading Introduction (Wisdom 7:7-11):

In order to follow God on the path of life, we need to be filled with the spirit of wisdom. In today's first reading, King Solomon speaks of wisdom as if it were a wonderful and wise woman walking with him on the path of life.

Psalm:

Gospel Introduction (Mark 10:17-27):

In the first reading, we heard King Solomon say that wisdom is more important than anything else on earth. In today's Gospel, Jesus meets a man who has trouble deciding what is most important. Listen to what Jesus tells him.

Discussion:

What did the man ask Jesus in the Gospel?

What did Jesus tell him at first? (follow the 10 commandments)

How did the man respond to what Jesus said?

What did Jesus answer him next?

Why did Jesus say it is easier for a camel to get through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter heaven? What does he mean by this?

What things can come between us and Jesus? How do we make Jesus first in our lives?

Leaders: 10:45: Melany, Abby

5:00: Madeline, Dee, Marilyn

October 21st – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: Jesus teaches about true greatness.

First Reading Introduction (Isaiah 53:10-11):

The prophet Isaiah reminds us that God will take care of us.

Psalm:

Gospel Introduction (Mark 10:42-45):

James and John knew that one day God would make Jesus king of heaven and earth, and when that happened, they wanted to be the two most important people in the kingdom. Listen to the Gospel and find out how Jesus tells us we can be truly great.

Discussion:

What do you think makes a good leader?

Who are some good leaders you know? What do they have in common?

What does Jesus tell us in the Gospel you must do to be truly great?

What reason does Jesus give for why he came to Earth?

What are some ways we can serve others, like Jesus did?

Leaders: 10:45: Pam, Abby

5:00: Madeline, Marilyn

October 28th – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: Jesus shares his gift of healing.

First Reading Introduction (Jeremiah 31:7-9):

How would you feel if someone powerful made you leave your home forever? In today's first reading, the Lord promises to help his people return home after they have been held prisoner for many years.

Psalm:

Gospel Introduction (Mark 10:46-52):

Today's Gospel is about a joyful visit Jesus made to the town of Jericho.

Discussion:

Where were Jesus and his disciples coming from?

Where was the blind man?

What did the blind man say to Jesus? How did Jesus respond?

What did the man do after he could see?

How can we thank Jesus for the gifts he gives us?

Leaders: 10:45: Melany

5:00: Pam, Dee, Marilyn

November 4th – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: Jesus teaches us the greatest commandment of all

First Reading Introduction (Deuteronomy 6:4-6):

In today's first reading, Moses reminds the people of ancient Israel to always love the same God their ancestors loved.

Gospel Introduction (Mark 12:28-34):

In today's Gospel, let's listen to what Jesus tells us is the greatest commandment of all.

Discussion: What does Jesus tell us is the most important commandment?

In what ways can we show our love for God?

What is the second most important commandment?

In what ways can we show our love for others?

What can get in our way from obeying these two important commandments from God?

Leaders: 10:45: Pam, Abby

5:00: Madeline

November 11th – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: When we share our blessings unselfishly, we live the way Jesus taught us to live.

First Reading Introduction (1 Kings 17:10-16):

When the prophet Elijah lived, there was a time where there was a big shortage of food. Poor people had nothing to eat except little pieces of bread made from flour and oil. Today's first reading is about Elijah and a poor widow he met while he was traveling.

Psalm:

Gospel Introduction (Mark 12:41-44):

Today's Gospel tells a story about Jesus and a poor widow. Listen to the important lesson at the end of the story.

Discussion:

What did the widow in the first reading give to Elijah?

Why was this a sacrifice for her?

How did she show her faith in God?

What did the widow in the Gospel give to the Temple?

Why did Jesus say this was more valuable than the money the rich people gave?

Does Jesus ever ask us to make sacrifices for him? How can we do this?

Leaders: 10:45: Melany, Abby

5:00: Madeline, Dee

November 18th – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Color: Green

Theme: Christ will come again!

First Reading Introduction (Daniel 12:1-3):

In our first reading, the prophet Daniel describes what it will be like when Christ comes again.

Psalm:

Gospel Introduction (Mark 13:22-23, 26-32):

We know there is suffering in the world. When Christ comes again, that will all change, as our Gospel tells us.

Discussion:

What kind of suffering do we see in our world today?

What does our Gospel tell us will happen when Jesus returns?

What signs will we have?

What are some ways God shows us His love and protection today?

How can we share God's love with others?

Leaders: 10:45: Pam, Abby

5:00: Pam

November 25th – Christ the King

Color: White

Theme: Christ is king of every nation.

First Reading Introduction (Revelation 1:5-8):

Our first reading tells us Jesus is the beginning and the end, the Alpha and Omega.

Psalm:

Gospel Introduction (John 18:33b-37):

Jesus conquered death by dying on the cross for all of us. The day he was dragged before Pontius Pilate and sentenced to death, he didn't look like much of a king. In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that his kingdom is different from all others.

Discussion:

How is Jesus like a king?

How is Jesus different from other kings we have learned about?

What is different about Jesus' kingdom?

How can we honor Jesus as our king?

Leaders: No CLOW – Thanksgiving weekend

December 2nd – First Sunday of Advent

Color: Purple

Theme: We prepare for Jesus' birth. Advent is a time of preparation. We prepare for Christmas by making peace with God and one another. Jesus says, "Be Ready!"

First Reading Introduction:

Gospel Introduction:

Discussion:

Leaders: 10:45: Melany, Abby
5:00: Pam, Dee, Marilyn

December 9th – Second Sunday of Advent

Color: Purple

Theme: We continue to prepare for Jesus' birth. Advent is a time of preparation. We prepare for Christmas by making peace with God and one another.

First Reading Introduction:

Gospel Introduction:

Discussion:

Leaders: 10:45: Pam, Abby
5:00: Madeline, Marilyn

December 16th – Third Sunday of Advent

Color: Purple – we light the pink candle on the wreath representing Joy

Theme: We continue to prepare for Jesus' birth. Advent is a time of preparation. We prepare for Christmas by making peace with God and one another. Get Ready for the Lord!

First Reading Introduction:

Gospel Introduction:

Discussion:

Leaders: 10:45: Melany, Abby
5:00: Madeline, Dee
