

October is the month of the Rosary

The Rosary is a powerful prayer to which popes, saints, and Catholics have turned over the centuries for miraculous help in seemingly impossible situations. When we inspire a love for this time-honored devotion in our children, we gift them with the skill to avoid sin and strengthen their faith throughout their lives.

A connection to the Gospels. The mysteries of the Rosary describe the events of Jesus' life, death and Resurrection. By praying the Rosary, we remember these events described in Scripture. To invert St.



Jerome's famous quote, knowledge of Scripture is knowledge of Christ.

The prayer of virtue. We are all called to be holy and virtuous, but what does that look like? Praying the Rosary and meditating on the lives of Jesus and Mary gives us models of virtuous lives, from Mary's obedience during the Annunciation and her fortitude during the crucifixion, to Jesus' entire life of virtue – justice, temperance, and courage, in particular. Regular Rosary meditation opens us to the graces needed to acquire those very virtues.

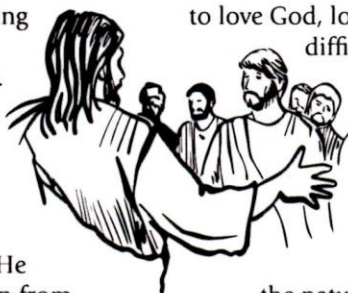
Scripture LESSON

Mark 12:28-34 – What is most important?

Jesus threatened the comfortable life of hypocrisy the scribes and pharisees enjoyed at the expense of the Jewish people. The worked to discredit Him by tempting Him to say something that violated Jewish law. The strategy never worked for them. In fact, Jesus' wisdom impressed one of the scribes so much that he asked to hear more. He sincerely wanted to learn from Jesus' answer.

The scribe asked which of the commandments was most important. Jesus said everything starts and ends

with love – love of God and love of each other. To love God is to love one another. They are as inseparable as the beams of the cross. While it is easy to love God, loving others is more difficult.



What can a parent do? True love of neighbor is measured by how we treat those who are neither family nor friends. It means including people when

the natural inclination is to exclude them. Remind children that Jesus loved thieves, lepers, even His political enemies. This is how God loves and He wants us to do the same.

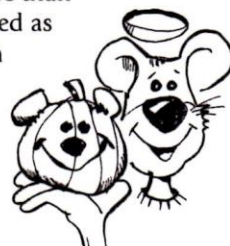
Feasts & Celebrations

October 14 – Saint Callistus I (222). Born a slave in a Roman household, St. Callistus was ordained a deacon by Pope Zephyrinus, whom he later succeeded. Callistus fought against heresy and showed compassion toward sinners. He was martyred in Rome.

October 20 – Saint Paul of the Cross (1775). Born in Italy to a poor but noble family, St. Paul was inspired by a vision to start a religious order dedicated to the Passion of Christ. He founded the Passionists in 1720 and was elected superior general of the order. He became a priest, lived a

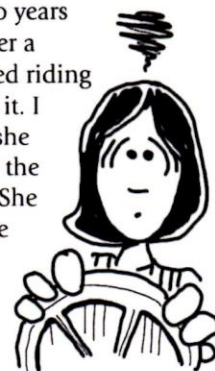
penitential life, and cared for the poor and sick.

October 24 – Saint Anthony Mary Claret (1870). St. Anthony became a traveling preacher in the Catalonia region of Spain before becoming the archbishop of Cuba. In 1849, he founded the Claretian orders and the Religious Publishing House that published more than 200 works. He served as confessor to Queen Isabella II and defended the doctrine of infallibility in the First Vatican Council.



Parent TALK

When Kara was two years old, my sister gave her a toddler car. Kara loved riding around the house in it. I watched one day as she rammed the car into the wall and stopped it. She got out, slammed the door and yelled, “\$#&*!”



I admit, I used profanity and showed more temper than I should. Seeing my beautiful toddler mimic my behavior was shocking. It was a clear signal that my tiny daughter was watching what I did with an eye toward imitation. I felt humbled and ashamed.

Since that time, I have worked to authentically live my Catholic faith each day, not just on Sundays during Mass. I realized that if I wanted my children to be faithful Catholics, I had to be one myself. Now we are all aware Jesus is present in our family and we want Him to be pleased by how we live.

Our Mission

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