

Faith on Fire

Family Guide

Week of May 1, 2022

3rd Sunday of Easter
(Weekly dated May 8)

Opening Prayer

+ Our Savior

Thank you for...
We are sorry for... and we ask
for your help with...
In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen +



Jesus Is Our Good Shepherd John 10:27-30 (Overview for Adult Leader)

The Gospels for the Sundays of Easter continue to witness to the Good News of Jesus' work of salvation. This Sunday, we hear the Gospel of the Good Shepherd. The imagery of this passage gives us comfort and assurance. Jesus will care for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep. Jesus says, "I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me" (John 10:11). The relationship is reciprocal: We stay close to Jesus and trust him as our Shepherd; Jesus guides us and protects us, even to the point of laying down his life for us. The Gospel ends with a dispute among those present. This, too, is relevant for our time. We can believe in Jesus and accept Him as our Shepherd, or we can be among those who misunderstand or simply reject his teachings.

QUICK CONNECT (10 min)

Begin by each child completing the front cover of *their* Gospel Weekly (3 min)

Catholic Faith Word: A great way to start your Scripture time together is to do hangman with the Catholic Faith Word. Choose one word if you have multiple children or if time permits do multiple words!

NOTE: Families with **ONLY PROMISE** children, please go [HERE](#) for your Parent Teaching Guide which includes opening story, Gospel, & questions. You may look at this Family Guide for extra resources.

DO ALL TOGETHER - READ A OPENING STORY & Do the Questions This is a quick opportunity for everyone to listen to ONE story which will prepare them for the Gospel. (If you have students in different levels, pick just one story.) Promise found at **RED** link above.

Short on time? Skip the story & pick from the discussion starter questions below to make a quick connection with family members & move on to the Gospel Reading.

Questions: Pick 1 or 2 that apply to your child(ren)



- Is there anything or anyone that you take care of in your life?
- What do you do to take care of a pet? a younger sibling? an older adult?
- Who do you follow at school, at home or in your workplace?



Discover the Gospel TOGETHER - 20 min

(Overview for Adult Leader) In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of the sheepfold, a low wall for enclosing a flock of sheep. "The Church is, accordingly, a sheepfold, the sole and necessary gateway to which is Christ... Good Shepherd and Prince of Shepherds, who gave his life for his sheep" (CCC, 754) "The Church is the Body of Christ. Through the Spirit and his action in the sacraments, above all the Eucharist, Christ, who once was dead and is now risen, establishes a community of believers as his own Body" (CCC, 805).

Read the Gospel (in Bible) OR read/act out the Gospel Play from ONE of the printed Pflaum Weeklies - John 10:27-30



TOGETHER do the Gospel Reflection Questions found in your child's Weekly. (in yellow boxes), except Promise & most explained below.

Who are Jesus' sheep? Those who follow Jesus; we are his sheep

What do we learn about Jesus when he talks about himself as a shepherd? He leads and cares for us all.

How is Jesus like a shepherd to us who follow him? Jesus knows us, our human needs and weaknesses. He leads us in the direction of love.

How does it feel to know that Jesus is our shepherd? We feel safe and cared for.

How do we know Jesus' voice? We learn Jesus' voice through reading the Scriptures and through our prayers.

What are some ways you know that Jesus cares for you every day?

How is the work of the pastor of your parish like the work of a shepherd? The word pastor comes from the Latin word for shepherd. The pastor is in charge of a parish and he is responsible for helping us follow Jesus and to get to heaven.

How do shepherds and sheep grow close? Sheep grow close to their Shepherd by depending on their care. Shepherds grow close to their sheep through time, anticipating their needs and habits and keeping them safe.

How are Christians like sheep? As Christians we follow Jesus just as sheep follow a shepherd.

How are we not like sheep? People in most other ways are not at all like sheep. We do not simply follow. We want to lead, too and think and choose and create new ideas. We must always remember though that Jesus is the one we should follow in all we think, say and do.

What are ways you can be a good leader in your school, work or parish?

How can we be good shepherds of Creation? We try to protect our environment. We can recycle avoid waste, shop locally and try to conserve the energy we use. We can look out for our neighbors, be kind to animals and tend to plants.

Have each child work on **their** pages in What the Church Believes & Teaches (WCBT)
Each child will work individually in their book as they may not be covering the same content.

Promise students will do Glory Be to the Father (p 30)

Good News students will do Confirmation (p 21)

Venture students will do Treasures of the Catholic Faith (pp 52-56)

Visions students will do Nicene Creed (p 6); Fruits & Gifts of the Holy Spirit (p 59); Praise & Celebrate (p 19)





Go Live It!! (10 min)

Make the time this week to find a way to take care of God's creation...recycle, pick up trash, pick up sticks in the yard, care for a pet, etc.

Don't forget to be sharing your highs & lows for the day; what you're thankful for AND what you are sorry for.

Closing Prayer:

Use the prayer found in your Gospel Weekly to close your time together. It can be found in the Family Corner (Promise/Good news) or With My Family & Friends section (Venture/Visions).



Show us what you've learned or how you've lived your faith this week!

Together, let's take one step closer to God!

Find the Assignment Form [HERE](#).
Due Next Sunday

Car Rides Review Questions!

Can you tell me what the Gospel was about?
Why do you think this story is in the Bible?
What did we learn from the Gospel?

INTERESTED IN A LITTLE MORE
ADVENTURE?! CHECK OUT
THESE ADDITIONAL
RESOURCES!!



To receive weekly tips from Pflaum Weekly click [here](#)

Learn about the Eucharist

You ask how the bread becomes the Body of Christ, and the wine . . . the Blood of Christ. I shall tell you: the Holy Spirit comes upon them and accomplishes what surpasses every word and thought. -Saint John Damascene

The term Transubstantiation means that the substance of bread and wine are removed and replaced by the substance of the Body and Blood of Christ. This quote by Saint John tells us that it is the power of the Holy Spirit that accomplishes this. During the Eucharistic Prayer, when the priest places his hands over the bread and wine, he invokes the power of the Holy Spirit to change them into Jesus' Body and Blood. This is a miracle! There is no other explanation. The Holy Spirit transforms simple elements into the greatest spiritual food. As Saint John says, this "surpasses every word and thought." It is more than we can ever imagine. What a gift our faith gives to us!

Saint of the Week -

- [Our Lady of Fatima](#) (May 13)
Excellent! Watch this!

Younger Students

- [Bible Bag Story](#)
- [Gospel with Miss Heidi](#)

Older Students

- [Confirmation Flame of Faith](#)
- [What is the Trinity with Bishop Barron](#)
- [What is a Doctor of the Church?](#)

