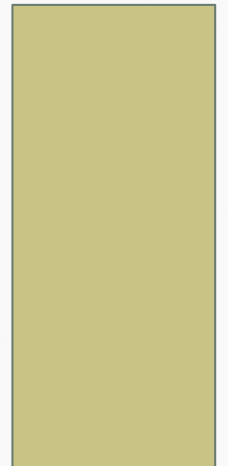


# FAMILY FAITH FORMATION – 2024/2025

SAINT PATRICK'S & SAINT LUKE'S



# THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- To help you learn more about God so that you can deepen your own personal relationship with Him.
- To give you the confidence to speak about your Catholic faith with others.
- To help you as you guide your children in their own personal relationship with God.
- To provide you with an opportunity to spend more time with your immediate family and also with our parish family.
- To provide you with a short time for prayer and an opportunity to use the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- In our lesson on the Great Commandments, we learned that all of God's laws are founded on love.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- We also learned that love between persons can be defined as "willing the good of the other."

And ...

- Love for God can be defined and "willing what God wills."

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. This was only a short time after God had liberated the Israelites from their slavery to the Egyptians.
- The first three commandments have to do with our relationship with God. The last seven have to do with our relationships with our fellow man.

# THE GREAT COMMANDMENTS



# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- In the ancient world, all the nations except for the Jews, worshipped multiple gods. To these false gods they offered sacrifice and prayers.
- The one true God, our God and the God of the Israelites forbade the worship of false gods. To do so would be an affront to His infinite goodness and to His sovereignty as Creator of all things and Lord of heaven and earth.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- Like all human beings, the Israelites did not want to stand apart or be different from their foreign neighbors (peer pressure).
- Their great temptation was to adopt the false gods of their neighbors, and they fell for this temptation on numerous occasions.



# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- One of the reasons the Israelites longed to return to Egypt was that during their 400+ years of captivity, they had absorbed and begun to honor the Egyptian gods.
- For that reason, God commanded not just that they have no foreign gods but that they not make any graven images (engraved or carved) of these false gods.
- We can make images today ...

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- The First Commandment makes it clear that we have a duty to worship God and to acknowledge His absolute sovereignty over us and over all Creation.
- We are completely and totally dependent upon Him for all we have and for our very existence.
- Consequently, we must have complete faith, hope and love in God.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- By faith in God we mean to believe in Him and to bear witness to Him. We must guard our faith by prayer and study. We cannot love what we do not know.
- Sins against faith include:
  - voluntary doubt where one questions what God has revealed.
  - incredulity where one refused to believe some divine truth.
  - Heresy where one rejects or denies some revealed truth.
  - apostasy where one rejects Christianity altogether.
  - schism where one rejects the authority of the Pope.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- By hope in God we mean to trust that God will give us the help to love Him as we ought and the aid to keep His commands. Hope is confidence that God will care for us.
- Sins against hope include:
  - despair where one ceases to trust in God's goodness and mercy.
  - presumption where one believes he can save himself or that God is so merciful that individual can do whatever he likes without incurring divine justice.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- By charity we mean to love God in return for His love of us.
- Sins against charity include:
  - indifference where one ignores the goodness of God.
  - ingratitude where one fails to thank God for His gifts.
  - lukewarmness where one neglects to thank God
  - acedia where one is weary of serving God.
  - hatred of God because of the obligations we have towards Him.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- Recall that Virtues are “good habits.” The virtue of religion includes Adoration of God where we acknowledge that He is our Lord and Creator, Prayer where we speak to God, and Sacrifice where we offer to God gifts.

- Sins against religion include:

- tempting God where one puts His goodness to the test.
- sacrilege where one profanes holy things
- simony where one buys or sells spiritual things.
- atheism where one rejects belief in God
- agnosticism where one refrains from belief in God.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- Vows are sacred promises to God.
- We make these in Baptism, Confirmation, Matrimony and Holy Orders and at other times.
- These acts of devotion must be fulfilled. Failure to do so would be the failure to keep one's word which is to lie.

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- The First Commandment forbids the worship of false gods, that is, persons or things or activities that one would love more than God Himself .
- In our times this could include work, sports, games, activities, money, fame, status and so on.
- Note here that some people are reviving pagan gods and offering them prayers and sacrifices.
- Celebrations around the solstice involve pagan practices and rituals.



# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

- Sins in this area also include:
  - superstition where one believes certain practices or things have magical powers,.
  - idolatry where one honors false gods, and this includes satanic worship.
  - divination where one conjures up the dead or seeks knowledge through horoscopes, palm reading seances and so on
  - Finally, magic and sorcery where one uses spells to gain occult powers.

# HOMework

- **Parents at Home:**

- Watch the videos the First Commandment.
- Help your children practice love of God by some form of Adoration.
- Have your children memorize the First Commandment.

# HOMework

- Ask your children if and when they are saying their prayers.
- See that your children complete any homework assignments they have.

# FAMILY PRAYER

