

Queen of Angels School of Religion
Sunday Morning Classes
Grade 2 – Preparation for First Communion

Student Text: Christ Our Life God Cares For Us Level 2 (Loyola Press)

Unit II: Jesus Calls Us to Give Ourselves in Love

A. In this unit the children learn that Catholics show their love for God through

- ❖ *daily prayer*
- ❖ *reverence in speaking the Lord's name*
- ❖ *participation in Sunday Mass*

B. In this unit's scripture passages, Jesus asks the children to

- ❖ *love others as He loves them*
- ❖ *show their love for Jesus by obedience to His commandments*
- ❖ *be kind and honest*
- ❖ *to use truthful and pure words*

Lesson 5: "Jesus Shows Us How to Love God Our Father"

- **This lesson tells the students that only God can truly make them happy. Jesus, by His example of prayer and good deeds shows us how everything can lead us to God.**
- **The students show that they are followers of Jesus by praying, speaking of God with love, and by celebrating the Eucharist every Sunday.**

Scripture: Ephesians 5: 19 – 20 (Praise the Lord every day.)

John 15: 10 – 11 (Keeping the Lord's commandments brings joy.)

Mark 12: 30 (Love the Lord with all your heart.)

Psalm 139: 1 – 5 (God is always with us and watching over us.)

Class Discussion:

- **events that we celebrate (birthdays, Thanksgiving, Christmas)**
- **ways we celebrate (birthday cakes, presents, special foods)**
- **Sunday Mass is the way Catholics celebrate a special day with God**
- **daily prayers at meals, bedtime, often during the day keeps us close to God**
- **Jesus often turned to God in prayer (Mark 1: 35 – Jesus got up early to pray)**

Group Prayer:

Children tell about times they pray alone or with family. We do a silent meditation in which the child is asked to imagine himself/herself sitting next to Jesus and expressing his/her love for Jesus. All say "Jesus, I love You."

Ways Family Can Extend the Lesson:

- **Plan a way to make Sunday special. Be sure to include the celebration of the Eucharist at Sunday Mass.**
- **Write the name Jesus on a card and put it in a special place in your home. Explain that people bow their heads when they pass a church. In your home, members of your family can bow at the name of Jesus prominently displayed there.**
- **Look up Psalm 139 and use a part of it every day this week as part of your evening prayers at bedtime.**
- **pray the Our Father with your child. Help him/her learn it if he/she does not know it.**