

Annotated Lectionary Key

Grade 4

1 Advent

11/28/04 12/02/07

- (A) Isaiah 2:1-5 (God's kingdom of peace)
Romans 13:11-14 (Promise of salvation)
Matthew 24:37-44 (Prepare for the Lord's coming.)
Notes for discussion: In Matthew, Jesus tells us to be ready always for his coming. Ask for practical suggestions about what that might mean to a fourth grader.

12/01/02 11/27/05

- (B) Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8 (The potter and the clay)
1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (God has called us.)
Mark 13:33-37 (Stay awake!)
Notes for discussion: St. Paul says God has joined us to his Son, Jesus Christ. Ask why it is so important to be united with Christ.

11/30/03 12/03/06

- (C) Jeremiah 33:14-16 (God's promise fulfilled)
Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 (Christ will strengthen us.)
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 (Salvation is at hand.)
Notes for discussion: St. Paul asks that God increase our love for one another and for the whole world. Talk about how even love in our hearts is a gift from God.

2 Advent

12/05/04 12/09/07

- (A) Isaiah 11:1-10 (The root of Jesse)
Romans 15:4-9 (Jesus is our hope.)
Matthew 3:1-12 (John the Baptist)
Notes for discussion: John the Baptist told people to be sorry for their sins and prepare for the coming of Christ. Ask: "What can we use from the words of John to prepare ourselves for Christ's coming."

12/08/02 12/04/05

- (B) Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 (Prepare the way of the Lord.)
2 Peter 3:8-14 (New Heavens, new earth)
Mark 1:4-8 (John the Baptist)
Notes for discussion: Compare ways people prepare for special events and ways to prepare for the coming of Jesus.

12/07/03 12/10/06

- (C) Baruch 5:1-9 (The new Jerusalem)
Philippians 1:3-4,8-11 (The day of Christ)
Luke: 3:1-4 (John the Baptist)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "In what ways can 'be prepared' be a good motto for Christians."

3 Advent

12/12/04 12/16/07

- (A) Isaiah 35:1-4,10 (God saves us.)
James 5:7-10 (Be patient.)
Matthew 11:2-11 (Are you the One?)
Notes for discussion: Talk about the value of patience in waiting for things.

12/15/02 12/11/05

- (B) Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11 (The Lord's anointed)
Thessalonians 5:16-24 (Rejoice!)
John 1:68,19-28 (A man called John)

Notes for discussion: Have the students illustrate one of the lines from the second reading.

12/14/03 12/17/06

- (C) Zephaniah 3:14-18 (Shout for joy!)
Philippians 4:4-7 (The Lord is near.)
Luke 3:10-18 (John's preaching)
Notes for discussion: John the Baptist had advice for tax collectors, soldiers and ordinary people. First, ask what advice the students might give to these individuals, then see what John the Baptist said to them.

4 Advent

12/19/04 12/23/07

- (A) Isaiah 7:10-14 (Emmanuel)
Romans 1:1-7 (Son of David)
Matthew 1:18-24 (Joseph's dream)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "If you take a look at the angel's words to Joseph, they remind you of Gabriel's words to Mary. What is similar about the two messages?"

12/22/02 12/18/05

- (B) 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 (The kingdom of David)
Romans 16:25-27 (The Good News)
Luke 1:26-38 (The Annunciation)
Notes for discussion: Ask: In Gabriel's words to Mary, what proof did the angel offer Mary that the message was not a dream? Hint: It concerns Elizabeth."

12/21/03 12/24/06

- (C) Micah 5:1-4 (Out of Bethlehem)
Hebrews 10:5-10 (Here I am!)
Luke 1:39-44 (The Visitation)
Notes for discussion: According to the Gospel of Luke, when Mary visited Elizabeth, she prayed her Magnificat prayer. Pick our one phrase in that prayer that you like the most.

The Feast of the Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 (Honor your parents.)
Colossians 3:12-21 (Put on love.)

12/26/04 12/30/07

- (A) Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 (The flight into Egypt)

12/29/02 12/30/05

- (B) Luke 2:22-40 (The presentation)

12/28/03 12/31/06

- (C) Luke 2:41-52 (The finding in the Temple)
Notes for discussion: For whatever cycle, talk about similar experiences the children have had as those of the Holy Family in the Gospel reading.

The Epiphany of the Lord

(A) 1/02/05 1/06/08

(B) 1/05/03 1/08/06

(C) 1/04/04 1/08/07

Isaiah 60:14 (The glory of the Lord)
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 (The mystery of Christ)
Matthew 2:1-12 (The visit of the Magi)

Notes for discussion: You may wish to have a prayer service blessing the children's family creches.

The Baptism of the Lord

1/09/05 1/13/08
(A) Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 (Here is my servant.)
Acts 10:34-38 (Peter's preaching)
Matthew 3:13-17 (The baptism of Jesus)

1/12/03 Monday 1/09/06
(B) Isaiah 55: 1-11 (Come to the water)
I John 5: 1-9 (Spirit, water, blood)
Mark 1:7-11 (The baptism of Jesus)

1/11/04 Saturday 1/07/07
(C) Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11 (The glory of the Lord)
Titus 2: 11-14; 3:4-7 (The blessed hope)
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 (The baptism of Jesus)
Notes for discussion: Explain that Jesus' baptism was not the same baptism we received.

1 Lent

2/13/05 2/10/08
(A) Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 (Creation and the Fall)
Romans 5:12-19 (God's grace)
Matthew 4:1-11 (The temptation in the desert)
Notes for discussion: *In the first reading, stress the goodness of God's creation. Discuss our responsibility to care for it.*

3/09/03 3/05/06
(B) Genesis 9:8-15 (God's promise to Noah)
I Peter 3:18-22 (A sign of Baptism)
Mark 1:12-15 (The temptation in the desert)
Notes for discussion: After reading Genesis, ask the students why the rainbow would be an appropriate Christian symbol of hope.

2/29/04 2/25/07
(C) Deuteronomy 26:4-10 (The faith of God's People)
Romans 10:8-13 (Our profession of faith)
Luke 4:1-13 (The temptation in the desert)
Notes for discussion: Ask how the students resist temptations. End with a prayer to Jesus for strength.

2 Lent

2/20/05 2/17/08
(A) Genesis 12:1-4 (The call of Abraham)
2 Timothy 1:8-10 (God's call)
Matthew 17:1-9 (The Transfiguration)
Notes for discussion: Read the story of Abraham from a children's Bible. Talk about the journey of faith we take.

3/16/03 3/12/06
(B) Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18 (Abraham's sacrifice)
Romans 8:31-34 (Jesus pleads for us.)
Mark 9:2-10 (The Transfiguration)
Notes for discussion: In the Gospel, the three apostles came to a realization of who Christ was. Ask: "Who do you think Jesus is?"

3/07/04 3/04/07
(C) Genesis 15:5-12,17-18 (The covenant with Abraham)
Philippians 3:17-4:1 (We will be transfigured.)
Luke 9:28-36 (The Transfiguration)
Notes for discussion: Review the idea of covenant. Talk about the covenant God makes with us today.

3 Lent

2/27/05 2/24/08
(A) Exodus 17:3-7 (Water from the rock)

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 (The Holy Spirit)
John 4:5-42 (The Samaritan woman)
Notes for discussion: The readings relate to Baptism through the image of water. Talk about the readings as stories that promise New Life.

3/23/03 3/19/06
(B) Exodus 20:1-17 (The giving of the Law)
1 Corinthians 1:22-25 (The crucified Christ)
John 2:13-25 (Jesus and the Temple)
Notes for discussion: Have the children bring personal crucifixes to share. Point out the significance of the crucifix as a sign of faith.

3/14/04 3/11/07
(C) Exodus 3:1-8,13-15 (The burning bush)
1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12 (Moses)
Luke 13:1-9 (Parable of the fig tree)
Notes for discussion: Use the parables to discuss ways we can "cultivate" our lives so that we may "bear fruit."

4 Lent

3/06/05 3/02/08
(A) 1 Samuel 16:6-7,10-13 (The way God sees)
Ephesians 5:8-14 (The light of Christ)
John 9:1-4 (The man born blind)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "How was the blind man healed on the inside? on the outside?"

3/30/03 3/26/06
(B) 2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23 (Return from exile)
Ephesians 2:4-10 (God gives us life.)
John 3:14-21 (In water and spirit)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students to name one person they know who seems to live by truth and by God's light. How do the students try to do the same?

3/21/04 3/18/07
(C) Joshua 5:9-12 (The Passover)
2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (A new creation)
Luke 15:1-3,11-32 (The prodigal son)
Notes for discussion: First, ask the children to think about a time when someone did something to them that required their forgiveness. How easy or hard was it to forgive that person? Follow up by reading the Gospel.

5 Lent

3/13/05 3/09/08
(A) Ezekiel 37:12-14 (The Spirit of life)
Romans 8:8-11 (God raised Jesus.)
John 11: 1-45 (The raising of Lazarus)
Notes for discussion: Talk about the many ways Jesus celebrated life.

4/06/03 4/02/06
(B) Jeremiah 31:31-34 (A new covenant)
Hebrews 5:7-9 (Christ's obedience)
John 12:20-30 (The grain of wheat)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students what Jesus might have meant when he said "the hour has come for me to be glorified."

3/28/04 3/25/07
(C) Isaiah 43:16-21 (I feed my People)
Philippians 3:8-14 (The prize is Jesus.)
John 8:1-11 (The woman taken in adultery)

Notes for discussion: Have the students discuss: "How easy is it to forgive someone who has hurt you? What factors might affect your forgiving someone?"

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

Isaiah 50:4-7 (The Lord comes to my help.)
Philippians 2:6-11 (Jesus Christ is Lord.)

3/20/05 3/16/08
(A) Matthew 26:14-27:66 (The Passion)

4/13/03 4/09/06
(B) Mark 14:1-15:47 (The Passion)

4/04/04 4/01/07
(C) Luke 22:14-23:56 (The Passion)
Notes for discussion: Talk about why Judas betrayed Jesus. What are ways people betray Jesus every day?

Easter Sunday

(A) 4/27/05 3/23/08
(B) 4/20/03 4/16/06
(C) 4/11/04 4/08/07
Acts 10:34, 37-43 (Peter preaches the resurrection.)
Colossians 3:1-4 (The life of Christ in us)
John 20:1-9 (The empty tomb)
Notes for discussion: Ask why it is important for Jesus' followers to recognize him.

2 Easter

4/03/05 3/30/08
(A) Acts 2:42-47 (The Christian community)
1 Peter 1:3-9 (God raised Jesus to new life.)
John 20:19-31 (Jesus and Thomas)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "What were the first words Jesus said to the disciples when he appeared to them? What do you think he meant?"

4/27/03 4/23/06
(B) Acts 4:32-35 (The Christian community)
1 John 5:1-6 (Love God and believe.)
John 20:19-31 (Jesus and Thomas)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "What did Jesus do to prove Thomas that he was not a ghost? What proofs do you have that Jesus is with you?"

4/18/04 4/15/07
(C) Acts 5:12-16 (Signs and wonders)
Revelation 1:9-13,17-19 (The Alpha and Omega)
John 20:19-31 (Jesus and Thomas)
Notes for discussion: Even after Jesus' Ascension to heaven, the Apostles continued to work miracles, mostly of healing. Ask the students why they think that was so.

3 Easter

4/10/05 4/6/08
(A) Acts 2:14, 22-23 (Peter's preaching)
1 Peter 1:17-21 (The blood of the Lamb)
Luke 24:13-35 (Emmaus)
Notes for discussion: The followers recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Ask for ways that we recognize Jesus with us today.

5/04/03 4/30/06
(B) Acts 3:13-15,17-19 (Peter's preaching)
1 John 2:1-5 (Jesus is our sacrifice)

Luke 24:35-48 (Jesus fulfill the Scriptures.)
Notes for discussion: Ask why the disciples were afraid when Jesus appeared to them.

4/25/04 4/22/07
(C) Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 (We are witnesses.)
Revelation 5:11-14 (Glory to the Lamb)
John 21:1-19 (Jesus and Peter)
Notes for discussion: Ask at what moment did Peter recognize that it was Jesus on shore.

4 Easter

4/17/05 4/13/08
(A) Acts 2:14, 36-41 (Repent and be baptized.)
1 Peter 2:20-25 (Christ died for us.)
John 10:1-10 (The sheepfold)
Notes for discussion: Sheep never follow a stranger. Ask if there is ever a time when a fourth grader might go with a stranger.

5/11/03 5/07/06
(B) Acts 4:8-12 (The cornerstone)
1 John 3:1-2 (We are children of God.)
John 10:11-18 (The Good Shepherd)
Notes for discussion: Have the students read this Gospel and discuss why Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd.

5/02/04 4/29/07
(C) Acts 13:14, 43-52 (Paul and Barnabas)
Revelation 7:9,14-17 (Those who are saved)
John 10:27-30 (I know my sheep.)
Notes for discussion: Compare the love and care Jesus gives us to an appropriate occupation of today.

5 Easter

4/24/05 4/20/08
(A) Acts 6:1-7 (Election of Stephen)
1 Peter 2:4-9 (You are God's People.)
John 14:1-12 (I am the Way.)
Notes for discussion: Have the students discuss the Gospel truth: If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus.

5/18/03 5/14/06
(B) Acts 9:26-31 (Saul's conversion)
1 John 3:18-24 (Love one another.)
John 15:1-8 (I am the Vine.)
Notes for discussion: Talk about why Jesus used the idea of a grapevine rather than an ordinary tree. (An entire vineyard can grow from the stock of a single grapevine. The wine made up from grapes is a traditional drink for celebrating life.)

5/09/04 5/06/07
(C) Acts 14:21-27 (The first missionaries)
Revelation 21:1-5 (New heaven, new earth)
John 13:31-35 (The new commandment)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students what it means to be a disciple of Christ. What does it take to be a disciple?

6 Easter

5/01/05 4/27/08
(A) Acts 8:5-8,14-17 (The Church's mission)
1 Peter 3:15-18 (The meaning of suffering)
John 14:15-21 (The promise of the Spirit)

Notes for discussion: Ask how we know the Spirit is with us.

5/25/03 5/21/06
(B) Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 (Baptism of the Spirit)
1 John 4:7-10 (God is love.)
John 15:9-17 (You are my friends.)
Notes for discussion: Ask why the one commandment Christ urges us to follow is a perfect one.

5/16/04 5/13/07
(C) Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 (Sending missionaries)
Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23 (The new Jerusalem)
John 14:23-29 (I give you peace.)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students to share signs of peace that were recently visible at school, at home, or with their friends.

7 Easter

5/08/05 5/04/08
(A) Acts 1:12-14 (The upper room)
1 Peter 4:13-16 (Called to follow Jesus)
John 17:1-11 (Jesus' prayer)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "In the Gospel, how does Jesus describe the mission he has fulfilled?"

6/01/03 5/28/06
(B) Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 (Choice of Matthias)
1 John 4:11-16 (God's love in us)
John 17:11-19 (Jesus' prayer)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "On the night before he died, Jesus prayed for his followers. What did he ask for?"

5/23/04 5/20/07
(C) Acts 7:55-60 (Martyrdom of Stephen)
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20 (Come, Lord Jesus!)
John 17:20-26 (Jesus' prayer)
Notes for discussion: Christ talks about living in us. Ask what the students think that could mean.

Ascension

5/05/05 5/01/08
(A) Acts 1:1-11 (Jesus was lifted up.)
Ephesians 1:17-23 (Jesus at God's right hand)
Matthew 28:16-20 (All power in heaven and on earth)

5/29/03 5/25/06
(B) Acts 1:1-11 (Jesus was lifted up.)
Ephesians 4:1-13 (The full stature of Christ)
Mark 16: 15-20 (Jesus seated at God's right hand)

5/20/04 5/17/07
(C) Acts 1:1-11 (Jesus was lifted up.)
Hebrews 9:24-28; 10: 19-23 (Christ entered heaven)
Luke 24: 46-53 (Jesus was taken up to heaven.)
Notes for discussion: Ask the children how they visualize heaven. Have them draw pictures of their thoughts.

Pentecost

(A) 5/15/05 5/11/08
(B) 6/08/03 6/04/06
(C) 5/30/04 5/27/07
Acts 2:1-11 (The Pentecost event)
1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13 (Baptized in one Spirit)

John 20:19-23 (Receive the Holy Spirit.)
Notes for discussion: Here Jesus shows us what it is like to have a resurrected body. Read the Gospel and have the students list the things they notice about Jesus' new life.

Trinity Sunday

5/22/05 5/18/08
(A) Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9 (A God of compassion)
2 Corinthians 13:11-13 (Blessing of the Trinity)
John 3:16-18 (Jesus and Nicodemus)
Notes for discussion: According to this Gospel, what gift does God want to give us?

6/15/03 6/11/06
(B) Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39, 40 (The Lord is God.)
Romans 8:14-17 (We are children of God.)
Matthew 28:16-20 (The words of Baptism)
Notes for discussion: Jesus promises to be with us always. Ask the students to share the times they really do sense his presence.

6/06/04 6/03/07
(C) Proverbs 8:22-31 (The song of Wisdom)
Romans 5:1-5 (God's grace and glory)
John 16:12-15 (Father, Son, and Spirit)
Notes for discussion: Discuss the traits and characteristics of a person who is moved by the Holy Spirit.

Body and Blood of Christ

5/29/05 5/25/08
(A) Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a (Not by bread alone)
1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (We are one body.)
John 6: 51-58 (True food and true drink)

6/22/03 6/18/06
(B) Exodus 4: 3-8 (The blood of the covenant)
Hebrews 9: 11-15 (The blood of Christ cleanses us.)
Mark 14: 12-16, 22-26 (The body and blood of Christ)

6/13/04 6/10/07
(C) Genesis 14: 18-20 (Melchizedek)
1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (Proclaim the death of the Lord)
Luke 9: 11b-17 (Loaves and fishes)
Notes for discussion: Ask the children: How is Jesus real spiritual food and drink for you?

Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

(B) 6/29/03
(A) 6/29/08
Acts 12: 1-11 (The angel of the Lord rescues Peter from prison)
2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18 (The crown of righteousness)
Matthew 16: 13-19 ("Upon this rock I will build my church.")
Notes for discussion: Ask the students to dramatize, in their own words, the first reading and/or the Gospel.

2 Ordinary

1/16/05 1/20/08
(A) Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 (A light to the nations)
1 Corinthians 1:1-3 (Doxology)
John 1:29-34 (The Lamb of God)

Notes for discussion: Talk about the ways "light" and a "lamb: are appropriate signs for Jesus.

- 1/19/03 1/15/06
(B) 1 Samuel 3:3-10,19 (The call of Samuel)
1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20 (The Body of Christ)
John 1:35-42 (The call of the first disciples)
Notes for discussion: Why did two disciples of John the Baptist begin to follow Jesus?

- 1/18/04 1/14/07
(C) Isaiah 62:1-5 (God and Zion)
1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (Gifts of the Spirit)
John 2:1-11 (The wedding in Cana)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "How can you share your gifts to make others happy, the way Jesus did at the wedding?"

3 Ordinary

- 1/23/05 1/27/08
(A) Isaiah 8:23-9:3 (A great light)
1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17 (To preach Good News)
Matthew 4:12-23 (Call of the disciples)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "How is sharing the Good News like bringing light to people in darkness?"

- 1/26/03 1/22/06
(B) Jonah 3:1-5,10 (A message of conversion)
1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (Live for the kingdom)
Mark 1:14-20 (Repent and believe.)
Notes for discussion: Jesus' message in the Gospel is very simple. Ask what the students think Jesus means.

- 1/25/04 1/21/07
(C) Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10 (The reading of the Torah)
1 Corinthians 12:12-30 (The Body of Christ)
Luke 1: 1-4; 4:14-21 (Jesus fulfills the Scriptures.)
Notes for discussion: Discuss what Christ meant by the saying: "Man does not live by bread alone."

4 Ordinary

- 1/30/05 2/03/08
(A) Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 (Seek the Lord.)
1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (God has chosen you.)
Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "If all people were peacemakers according to the call of the Beatitudes, would that put an end to all war?"

- (2003 see *Presentation of the Lord*) 1/29/06
(B) Deuteronomy 18:15-20 (The Word of the Lord)
1 Corinthians 7:32-35 (Dedication to ministry)
Mark 1:21-28 (Teaching with authority)
Notes for discussion: After reading this Gospel, ask why the students think Jesus' reputation spread so rapidly.

- 2/01/04 1/28/07
(C) Jeremiah 1:4-5,17-19 (The call of the prophet)
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13 (The gift of love)
Luke 4:21-30 (Jesus, the greatest prophet)
Notes for discussion: Look through Catholic newspapers for accounts of present-day prophets (those who call people back to God).

Presentation of the Lord

2/02/03

- (B) Malachi 3: 1-4 (The Lord you seek)
Hebrews 2: 14-18 (Jesus became like us.)
Luke 2: 22-40 (Simeon's sees salvation in Christ.)
Notes for discussion: Because he was tested through what he suffered, Jesus is able to help us when we are tested. How does Jesus help you in your troubles?

5 Ordinary

- 2/06/05 (not in 2008)
(A) Isaiah 58:7-10 (Your light will shine.)
1 Corinthians 2:1-5 (Proclaim Christ crucified.)
Matthew 5:13-16 (You are the light of the world.)
Notes for discussion: Ask what the students think Christ meant by comparing the life of a Christian to a city built on a hilltop.

- 2/09/03 2/05/06
(B) Job 7:1-4, 6-7 (Ultimate questions)
1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 (For the sake of the Gospel)
Mark 1:29-39 (Miraculous cures)
Notes for discussion: Help the children see Jesus' healing actions as signs of God's love.

- 2/08/04 2/04/07
(C) Isaiah 6:1-8 (Isaiah's vision of heaven)
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (The Christian message)
Luke 5:1-11 (The call of Peter, James, and John)
Notes for discussion: Have the children compare Isaiah's vision with Jesus' description of the kingdom of God.

6 Ordinary

- (not in 2005 or 2008)
(A) Sirach 15:15-20 (Keep the commandments.)
1 Corinthians 2:6-10 (God's wisdom)
Matthew 5:17-37 (The new Law)
Notes for discussion: Have the children draw a picture of what it would be like if all people followed God's commandments.

- 2/16/03 2/12/06
(B) Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 (The unclean)
1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 (Christian models)
Mark 1:40-45 (Cure of the leper)
Notes for discussion: Talk about the unwanted of today's society. What can be done so that they will be accepted?

- 2/15/04 2/11/07
(C) Jeremiah 17:5-8 (Trust in the Lord.)
1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20 (Our faith in Christ)
Luke 6:17, 20-26 (Blessed are the poor.)
Notes for discussion: How do you show trust in God?"

7 Ordinary

- (not in 2005 or 2008)
(A) Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 (Be holy.)
1 Corinthians 3:16-23 (You are temples of the Spirit.)
Matthew 5:38-48 (Be perfect.)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students to try to make sense out of Christ's command to love your enemies and to pray for those who harm you.

- 2/23/03 2/19/06
(B) Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24-25 (God's new deeds)

2 Corinthians 1:18-22 (Christ is always Yes.)
Mark 2:1-12 (Jesus forgives sins.)
Notes for discussion: Ask what Jesus proved by healing the paralytic.

2/22/04 2/18/07
(C) 1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13, 22-23 (David forgives Saul.)
1 Corinthians 15:45-49 (Made in God's image)
Luke 6:27-38 (Be merciful.)
Notes for discussion: Discuss "judging" others. How do we do it and why does Christ ask us not to do it?

8 Ordinary

(not in 2005 or 2008)
(A) Isaiah 49:14-15 (I will not forget you.)
1 Corinthians 4:1-5 (The Lord is my judge.)
Matthew 6:24-34 (God's providence)
Notes for discussion: In our world money is important, yet Christ says we cannot serve both God and money. Ask the students how they think God wants us to serve God.

3/02/03 2/26/06
(B) Hosea 2:16-17, 21-22 (Faithfulness)
2 Corinthians 3:1-6 (You are a letter from Christ.)
Mark 2:18-22 (New wineskins)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students if they ever thought of giving up anger as a kind of "fast."

(not in 2004 or 2007)
(C) Sirach 27:4-7 (Judge by what you see and hear.)
1 Corinthians 15:54-58 (Victory in Christ)
Luke 6:39-45 (Judge the tree by its fruit)
Notes for discussion: Have the students draw themselves as trees whose good fruits are their good actions.

9 Ordinary

(not in 2005) 6/01/08
(A) Deuteronomy 11:18, 26-28,32 (Keep the Law.)
Romans 3:21-25, 28 (Justified by faith)
Matthew 7:21-27 (The house built on rock)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students to discuss verses 21-22 of this Gospel and then describe what it means to do the will of God.

(not in 2003 or 2006)
(B) Deuteronomy 5:12-15 (Observe the Sabbath.)
2 Corinthians 4:6-11 (Treasure in clay)
Mark 2:23-3:6 (Jesus and the Sabbath)
Notes for discussion: Jesus is constantly healing people in the Gospel. Ask the students to talk about what Jesus was trying to say and teach by performing miracles.

(not in 2004 or 2007)
(C) 1 Kings 8:41-43 (All find a home in God's Temple.)
Galatians 1:1-2, 6-10 (Preach the Good News.)
Luke 7:1-10 (The centurion's faith)
Notes for discussion: The centurion was a Roman soldier, yet he was loved by the Jews. Ask how this could have been so.

10 Ordinary

6/05/05 6/08/08
(A) Hosea 6:3-6 (Mercy, not sacrifice)
Romans 4:18-25 (Abraham's faith)

Matthew 9:9-13 (Call of Levi)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "What things have to be given up to follow Jesus?"

(not in 2003 or 2006)
(B) Genesis 3:9-15 (The serpent's punishment)
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 (Our everlasting home)
Mark 3:20-35 (Triumph over Satan)
Notes for discussion: Have the students come up with suggestions for keeping God always in their hearts.

(not in 2004 or 2007)
(C) 1 Kings 17:17-24 (Elijah raises the widow's son.)
Galatians 1:11-19 (Paul's conversion)
Luke 7:11-17 (The widow of Nain)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students to read the Gospel and describe the scene. How many people were with Jesus? How many were with the widow? In relation to the city, where did the miracle happen?

11 Ordinary

6/12/05 6/15/08
(A) Exodus 19:2-6 (A kingdom of priests)
Romans 5:6-11 (Reconciled to God)
Matthew 9:36-10:8 (Commissioning of the Twelve)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students to look at the list of Apostles and note who is mentioned first, who is mentioned last, and who are brothers.

(not in 2003 or 2006)
(B) Ezekiel 17:22-24 (The tree of heaven)
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (We walk by faith.)
Mark 4:26-34 (The seed of the kingdom)
Notes for discussion: First, ask the students to pray to the Holy Spirit to give light to their hearts and minds. Then discuss the meaning of the kingdom parable of the crop seed.

(not in 2004) 6/17/07
(C) 2 Samuel 12:7-10, 13 (God forgives David.)
Galatians 2:16, 19-21 (Christ lives in me.)
Luke 7:36-8:3 (The sinful woman)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "Why did the Pharisee doubt that Jesus was a prophet?" Ask the students to describe Jesus' response to Simon the Pharisee - defensive, loving, critical, or correcting.

12 Ordinary

6/19/05 6/22/08
(A) Jeremiah 20:10-13 (The Lord delivers us.)
Romans 5:12-15 (Salvation in Jesus)
Matthew 10:26-33 (God's saving love)
Notes for discussion: Jesus says that not even one sparrow dies without the Father's consent. Ask what this says about God's care for us.

(not in 2003) 6/25/06
(B) Job 3:1,8-11 (Lord of the sea)
2 Corinthians 5:14-17 (All things made new)
Mark 4:35-41 (Jesus calms the storm.)
Notes for discussion: Jesus asked the disciples in the boat why they had so little faith. Can the students see this is also a message to them to use their faith to weather the storms of life?

6/20/04 (2007 see Birth of St. John the Baptist)
(C) Zechariah 12:10-11,13:1 (God's Spirit poured Out)

Galatians 3:26-29 (All are one in Christ.)
Luke 9:18-24 (The Messiah)
Notes for discussion: Ask which disciple recognized Christ as the Messiah of God. What kind of faith did this take?

Birth of John the Baptist

(C) 6/24/07
Isaiah 49: 1-6 (A light to the nations)
Acts 13: 22-26 (A baptism of repentance)
Luke 1: 57-66, 80 (John is his name.)
Notes for discussion: Ask the children how they think they can be strong in spirit like John the Baptist.

13 Ordinary

6/26/05 (2008 see Peter and Paul, Apostles)
(A) 2 Kings 4:8-11,14-16 (The prophet Elisha)
Romans 6:3-4, 8-11 (Baptized in Christ)
Matthew 10:37-42 (The prophet's reward)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students if they ever notice any people who refuse to carry any cross in life.

(not is 2003) 7/02/06
(B) Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24 (God did not make death.)
2 Corinthians 8:7, 9,13-15 (Share your riches.)
Mark 5:21-43 (The daughter of Jairus)
Notes for discussion: Ask what the students think about Jesus telling the parents to give the little girl that he raised from the dead something to eat.

6/27/04 7/01/07
(C) 1 Kings 19:16b, 19-21 (Elijah and Elisha)
Galatians 5:1,13-18 (Called to liberty)
Luke 9:51-62 (Following Jesus)
Notes for discussion: What did Jesus mean by saying, "the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

14 Ordinary

7/03/05 7/06/08
(A) Zechariah 9:9-10 (Your king comes.)
Romans 8:9, 11-13 (Live in the Spirit.)
Matthew 11:25-30 (My yoke is easy.)
Notes for discussion: Explain what a yoke is and ask the students to discuss how Christ's yoke is easier than the burdens we place on ourselves.

7/06/03 7/09/06
(B) Ezekiel 2:2-5 (I send a prophet.)
2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (God's grace is enough.)
Mark 6:1-6 (Jesus the prophet)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "Why did Jesus say a prophet is despised in his own land?"

7/04/04 7/08/07
(C) Isaiah 66:10-14 (Peace like a river)
Galatians 6:14-18 (The marks of Jesus)
Luke 10:1-12,17-20 (The kingdom is very near.)
Notes for discussion: Read the Gospel and discuss peace, especially how the Gospel suggests it is a gift we prepare for.

15 Ordinary

7/10/05 7/13/08
(A) Isaiah 55:10-11 (The power of God's Word)

Romans 8:18-23 (The promise of a new creation)
Matthew 13:1-23 (The sower and the seed)
Notes for discussion: Have the students discuss why Jesus spoke to the people in parables.

7/13/03 7/16/06
(B) Amos 7:12-15 (Call of the prophet)
Ephesians 1:3-14 (God chose us in Christ.)
Mark 6:7-13 (Jesus commissions the Twelve.)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students what qualities they think we need for our journey through life.

7/11/04 7/15/07
(C) Deuteronomy 30:10-14 (God's law is nearby.)
Colossians 1:15-20 (The image of the unseen God)
Luke 10:25-37 (The Good Samaritan)
Notes for discussion: Have the students do a modern day retelling of the parable.

16 Ordinary

7/17/05 7/20/08
(A) Wisdom 12:13,16-19 (God's mercy)
Romans 8:26-27 (The Spirit pleads for us.)
Matthew 13:24-43 (Parables of the kingdom)
Notes for discussion: Lead the students to appreciate the reality of the Holy Spirit who guides us in all things. It is the same Spirit sent by the Father and Son at Pentecost to be with us always.

7/20/03 7/23/06
(B) Jeremiah 23:1-6 (I will gather my flock.)
Ephesians 2:13-18 (Christ has made us one.)
Mark 6:30-34 (Jesus cares for God's People.)
Notes for discussion: Read the Gospel and then ask the students why Jesus spent time teaching the people, instead of resting some place the way he had planned.

7/18/04 7/22/07
(C) Genesis 18:1-10 (Abraham's hospitality)
Colossians 1:24-28 (The mystery revealed)
Luke 10:38-42 (Martha and Mary)
Notes for discussion: Make sure the students understand that Abraham's hospitality was assertive. He did not wait for anyone to ask for help. This was another way of fulfilling the command to "love your neighbor."

17 Ordinary

7/24/05 7/27/08
(A) 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 (Solomon prays for wisdom.)
Romans 8:28-30 (Called to share God's glory)
Matthew 13:44-52 (Parables of the kingdom)
Notes for discussion: Have the students discuss the parable of the dragnet in verses 47-50 and explain each part in modern day images and language.

7/27/03 7/30/06
(B) 2 Kings 4:42-44 (Elisha feeds the crowds.)
Ephesians 4: 1-6 (There is one body.)
John 6:1-15 (Jesus feeds the crowds.)
Notes for discussion: Be sure the students note the difference between the first reading and the Gospel. Jesus fills our hearts, too.

7/25/04 7/29/07
(C) Genesis 18:20-32 (Sodom and Gomorah)
Colossians 2:12-14 (Alive in Christ)
Luke 11:1-13 (The Lord's Prayer)

Notes for discussion: In the Lord's Prayer we ask that the whole world hold the Father's name holy because God is the source of all blessings for the world, and nothing good can happen unless it comes through the Father.

18 Ordinary

7/31/05

8/03/08

- (A) Isaiah 55:1-3 (Come to the water.)
Romans 8:35, 37-39 (The love of Christ)
Matthew 14:13-21 (Loaves and fish)

Notes for discussion: Point out how abundant God's blessings are. When Jesus feeds the crowds, all eat and there is always much food left over.

8/03/03

(2006 see Transfiguration of the Lord)

- (B) Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15 (Bread from heaven)
Ephesians 4:17, 20-24 (Created in God's image)
John 6:24-35 (I am the Bread of Life.)

Notes for discussion: Ask the students to figure out why the people came looking for Jesus across the lake.

8/01/04

8/05/07

- (C) Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23 (Worldly vanity)
Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 (Seek the kingdom.)
Luke 12:13-21 (True riches)

Notes for discussion: Ask: "If gathering riches for ourselves is a dead end as Jesus so powerfully teaches in this Gospel, what is it that he asks us to do? How do we make ourselves rich in the sight of God?"

The Transfiguration of the Lord

(B) 8/06/06

Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14 (His dominion is everlasting.)
2 Peter 1: 16-19 ("This is my Son, my beloved, in whom I am well pleased.")

- (B) Matthew 9: 2-10 (This is my beloved Son.)

Notes for discussion: Ask the children: "How can we let the light of Jesus shine through in our lives?"

19 Ordinary

8/07/05

8/10/08

- (A) 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13 (Elijah on Mount Carmel)
Romans 9:1-5 (Adopted children of God)
Matthew 14:22-33 (Peter walks on water.)

Notes for discussion: This miracle story is about the power of Christ who is gradually showing himself to be the Son of God and the Messiah, and it is also about trusting God and not losing faith.

8/10/03

8/13/06

- (B) 1 Kings 19:4-8 (Elijah in the wilderness)
Ephesians 4:30-5:2 (Walk in love.)
John 6:41-51 (I am the Living Bread.)

Notes for discussion: Jesus says the Bread of Life - himself in the Eucharist - will give eternal life to anyone who eats it.

8/08/04

8/12/07

- (C) Wisdom 18: 6-9 (God's glorious deeds)
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 (The heavenly city)
Luke 12:32-48 (Heavenly treasure)

Notes for discussion: Explain that the Lord is trying to get us to look beyond the things of this world and be interested in the riches of a loving life, which are a foretaste of heaven. When we see

with Christ's eyes, we will also know how to care for the needy of our world.

20 Ordinary

8/14/05

8/17/08

- (A) Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 (Choose justice.)
Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 (God's mercy)
Matthew 15:21-28 (The Canaanite woman)

Notes for discussion: Notice how persistent the Canaanite woman is in her pleading for help. Look at verse 23 of the Gospel to see how the disciples felt about her.

8/17/03

8/20/06

- (B) Proverbs 9:1-6 (The house of Wisdom)
Ephesians 5:15-20 (Be watchful.)
John 6:51-58 (I will raise you up.)

Notes for discussion: Help the students see that Jesus' words in the Gospel refer to God's promise of new life.

(2004 see Assumption of Mary)

8/19/07

- (C) Jeremiah 38:46, 8-10 (Jeremiah saved from death)
Hebrews 12:1-4 (Persevere in running the race.)
Luke 12:49-53 (The mission of Jesus)

Notes for discussion: Explain that the "cloud of witnesses" refers to all the saints and holy people who show us how to follow Christ.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(C) 8/15/04

Revelation 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab (A woman clothed with the sun)

1 Corinthians 15: 20-27 (In Christ all will be brought to life.)

Luke 1: 39-56 (The magnificat. the song of Mary)

Notes for discussion: Ask the students to tell stories of times in their lives when they were so excited that everything inside them seemed to leap with joy.

21 Ordinary

8/21/05

8/24/08

- (A) Isaiah 22:19-23 (The key of David)
Romans 11:33-36 (God's rich gifts)
Matthew 16:13-20 (The keys of the kingdom)

Notes for discussion: Talk about reasons why Peter was made leader of the Church.

8/24/03

8/27/06

- (B) Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18 (We will serve the Lord.)
Ephesians 5:21-32 (Christian marriage)
John 6:60-69 (The message of eternal life)

Notes for discussion: Ask: "How do our families help us be faithful to God? How do they help us live God's way?"

8/22/04

8/26/07

- (C) Isaiah 66:18-21 (The universal kingdom)
Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13 (Discipline and love)
Luke 13:22-30 (All called to the kingdom)

Notes for discussion: You may wish to have the children make invitations to God's kingdom.

22 Ordinary

8/28/05

8/31/08

- (A) Jeremiah 20:7-9 (The prophet's sufferings)
Romans 12:1-2 (Do God's will.)

Matthew 16:21-27 (Take up the cross.)
Notes for discussion: Talk about how "taking up one's cross" is a true act of love.

8/31/03 9/03/06
(B) Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 (A great nation)
James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27 (Be doers of the Word.)
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (Honor the commandments.)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "How can we 'do' God's Word?"

8/29/04 9/02/07
(C) Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29 (Be humble.)
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24 (The city of God)
Luke 14:1, 7-14 (The last shall be first.)
Notes for discussion: Jesus says our good deeds will be repaid at the resurrection of the dead. Ask which good deeds he is talking about. See Gospel verses 12-14.

23 Ordinary
9/04/05 9/07/08
(A) Ezekiel 33:7-9 (Warn the sinner.)
Romans 13:8-10 (The great commandment)
Matthew 18:15-20 (Give witness.)
Notes for discussion: Notice the Gospel's three-step process for resolving differences. The elements are easy to use and they also help avoid anger and violence.

9/07/03 9/10/06
(B) Isaiah 35:4-7 (The Lord is coming.)
James 2:1-5 (The poor inherit the kingdom.)
Mark 7:31-37 (Jesus heals.)
Notes for discussion: In Mark's Gospel, Jesus often told people not to say anything about the healing he did for them. Ask for possible reasons for Jesus doing this.

9/05/04 9/09/07
(C) Wisdom 9:13-18 (The will of God)
Philemon 9b-10, 12-17 (Not a slave, but a brother)
Luke 14:25-33 (True discipleship)
Notes for discussion: The Gospel is telling us that possessions lead our hearts away from the kingdom of heaven.

24 Ordinary
9/11/05 (2008 see *Triumph of the Cross*)
(A) Sirach 27:30-28:7 (Forgive your neighbor.)
Romans 14:7-9 (We belong to the Lord.)
Matthew 18:21-35 (Forgive from your heart.)
Notes for discussion: God has forgiven each of us for many things that we should not have done. Jesus asks us to return the forgiveness by forgiving others who wrong us.

(2003 see *Triumph of the Cross*) 9/17/06
(B) Isaiah 50:5-9 (The Lord is my help.)
James 2:14-18 (Faith and good deeds)
Mark 8:27-35 (Come, follow me.)
Notes for discussion: Keep in mind that Jesus told his disciples to follow him by taking up the cross and not worrying about themselves.

9/12/04 9/16/07
(C) Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14 (The Lord relents.)
1 Timothy 1:12-17 (Christ saves sinners.)

Luke 15:1-32 (Parables of God's mercy)
Notes for discussion: The parable of the single lost sheep tells us how important each of us is to God.

The Triumph of the Holy Cross

(A) 9/14/08
(B) 9/14/03
Numbers 21: 4b-9 (Moses prayed for the people.)
Philippians 2: 6-11 (Christ did not deem equality with God something to be grasped at.)
John 3: 13-17 (God so loved the world)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students if they have a cross hanging in their home. Have you ever thought about that cross? Why do you think it is their? Does it have special significance in your family or for you?

25 Ordinary

9/18/05 9/21/08
(A) Isaiah 55:6-9 (God's ways)
Philippians 1:20-24, 27 (Life in Christ)
Matthew 20:1-16 (The workers in the vineyard)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students to talk about this Gospel statement: The last shall be first and the first shall be last.

9/21/03 9/24/06
(B) Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 (Testing the virtuous man)
James 3:16-4:3 (Justice and peace)
Mark 9:30-37 (Receiving a child)
Notes for discussion: The disciples failed to understand when Jesus talked about his death and resurrection. The reason was that they were still thinking he would be a powerful earthly Messiah and ruler.

9/19/04 9/23/07
(C) Amos 8:4-7 (Justice to the poor)
1 Timothy 2:1-8 (Pray for everyone.)
Luke 16:1-13 (Be God's servant, not a slave to money.)
Notes for discussion: Ask the students what they think Jesus meant when he said that we cannot be servants of both God and money.

26 Ordinary

9/25/05 9/28/08
(A) Ezekiel 18:25-28 (The sinner is punished.)
Philippians 2:1-11 (Christ's humility)
Matthew 21:28-32 (True repentance)
Notes for discussion: Talk about ways to live meekness and humility in our everyday lives.

9/28/03 10/01/06
(B) Numbers 11:25-29 (All called to be prophets)
James 5:1-6 (Warning the rich)
Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 (Obstacles to the kingdom)
Notes for discussion: We are all called to be prophets. Have the students pretend to be prophets and write short warnings or commentaries to the people of today.

9/26/04 9/30/07
(C) Amos 6:1, 4-7 (Sinners exiled)
1 Timothy 6:11-16 (The coming of the Lord)
Luke 16:19-31 (The rich man and Lazarus)
Notes for discussion: Jesus says if someone won't listen to the message of Scripture about right and

wrong, they won't listen even if someone came back from the dead to tell us.

27 Ordinary

10/02/05 10/05/08
(A) Isaiah 5:1-7 (The song of the vineyard)
Philippians 4:6-9 (The virtuous life)
Matthew 21:33-43 (The vine grower's son)
Notes for discussion: Look at the last verse (43) of the parable and identify whom Jesus is talking about.

10/05/03 10/08/06
(B) Genesis 2:18-24 (The call to relationship)
Hebrews 2:9-11 (Jesus our Brother)
Mark 10:2-16 (Lifelong fidelity)
Notes for discussion: Ask how children can show faithfulness to others and to God.

10/03/04 10/07/07
(C) Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 (How long, O Lord?)
2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 (Witness to the Lord.)
Luke 17:5-19 (Have faith.)
Notes for discussion: Talk about the value of praying to God in difficult times.

28 Ordinary

10/09/05 10/12/08
(A) Isaiah 25:6-10 (The heavenly banquet)
Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 (Rich in Christ)
Matthew 22:1-14 (The wedding feast)
Notes for discussion: The parable suggests that sometimes our own jobs or interests keep us from responding to the invitation to the kingdom of Heaven.

10/12/03 10/15/06
(B) Wisdom 7:7-11 (The gift of Wisdom)
Hebrews 4:12-13 (The Word of God)
Mark 10:17-30 (The rich young man)
Notes for discussion: Ask: "What is the hardest thing for you about being a follower of Jesus?"

10/10/04 10/14/07
(C) 2 Kings 5:14-17 (Naaman the leper)
2 Timothy 2:8-13 (We will reign with Christ.)
Luke 17:11-19 (The ten lepers)
Notes for discussion: Jesus has mercy on every person in need, and he answers all who come to him and ask for help.

29 Ordinary

10/16/05 10/19/08
(A) Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 (I call you by name.)
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 (Faith, hope, and love)
Matthew 22:15-21 (Give God what belongs to God.)
Notes for discussion: Have the students discuss what it is that belongs to God.

10/19/03 10/22/06
(B) Isaiah 53:10-11 (Atonement)
Hebrews 4:14-16 (Jesus, our High Priest)
Mark 10:35-45 (Jesus gives his life for us.)
Notes for discussion: Jesus knew that he would have to "drink the cup," that is, to accept the suffering and death that was part of his mission.

10/17/04 10/21/07
(C) Exodus 17:8-13 (Moses' faith saves Israel.)
2 Timothy 3:14-4:2 (Proclaim the message.)
Luke 18:1-8 (The unjust judge and the persistent widow)
Notes for discussion: A good question to discuss in view of today's world is the last verse of the Gospel reading: "When the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?"

30 Ordinary

10/23/05 10/26/08
(A) Exodus 22:20-26 (True justice)
1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 (Serve God.)
Matthew 22:34-40 (The great commandment)
Notes for discussion: Love of neighbor is a reflection of our love of God. This is the only measure of love in our lives.

10/26/03 10/29/06
(B) Jeremiah 31:7-9 (God gives sight to the blind.)
Hebrews 5:1-6 (The priesthood of Melchizedek)
Mark 10:46-52 (Blind Bartimaeus)
Notes for discussion: Then, as now, people got embarrassed when someone was too pushy about something. The crowd tried to quiet the blind man when he kept shouting out for Jesus to notice him.

10/24/04 10/28/07
(C) Sirach 35:12-14, 16-19 (The power of prayer)
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 (The crown of righteousness)
Luke 18:9-14 (The Pharisee and the tax collector)
Notes for discussion: When we look down on others, we can no longer fulfill Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves.

31 Ordinary

10/30/05 (2008 see All Souls Day)
(A) Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10 (God created us.)
1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13 (Sharing Good News)
Matthew 23:1-12 (Practice what you preach.)
Notes for discussion: Talk about the saying: "Actions speak louder than words." Relate it to the Gospel.

(2003 see All Souls Day) 11/5/06
(B) Deuteronomy 6:2-6 (The Lord is the One God.)
Hebrews 7:23-28 (The eternal priesthood)
Mark 12:28-34 (The Great Commandment)
Notes for discussion: Ask what it would take for each student to commit to making the Great Commandment a part of his or her life.

10/31/04 11/04/07
(C) Wisdom 11:22-12:2 (God's mercy)
2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2 (The name of the Lord)
Luke 19:1-10 (Zacchaeus)
Notes for discussion: Notice the terrific conversion Zacchaeus claimed by saying he would give half his money to the poor. What are the students' reactions to this?

All Souls Day

(A) 11/02/03 11/02/08
See a variety of choices of readings in the lectionary.
Wisdom 3:1-9 (The faithful shall abide with God in love.)

Romans 6:3-9 (Death no longer has power.)

Matthew 5:1-12a (The Beatitudes)

Notes for discussion: Ask the children about their memories of people they know who have died. Do they remember the goodness in that person's life? Does their memory of that person connect with any of the attitudes in the Beatitudes?

32 Ordinary

11/06/05 (2008 see Dedication of St. John Lateran)

(A) Wisdom 6:12-16 (Praise of Wisdom)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (We will be raised.)

Matthew 25:1-13 (The wise bridesmaids)

Notes for discussion: Like the wise bridesmaids, only those who are prepared and ready enter the kingdom of heaven with the Lord. How do we prepare?

(2008 see Dedication of St. John Lateran) 11/12/06

(B) 1 Kings 17:10-16 (Elijah and the widow)

Hebrews 9:24-28 (Christ brings salvation.)

Mark 12:38-44 (The widow's contribution)

Notes for discussion: Jesus says it is wrong to use our authority to increase our own power and status. Ask the children if they agree, and why or why not.

11/07/04 11/11/07

(C) 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14 (Belief in resurrection)

2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5 (May God strengthen you.)

Luke 20:27-38 (Ours is the God of the living.)

Notes for discussion: Jesus makes it clear that there is life after death and that there is a resurrection of the body.

Dedication of St. John Lateran Basilica

(B) 11/09/03

(A) 11/09/08

Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 (The water flowed)

1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17 (You are God's temple.)

John 2:13-22 ("Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.")

Notes for discussion: Ask the children about ways they can think and act that make them aware of their bodies as God's temple.

33 Ordinary

11/13/05 11/16/08

(A) Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 (The good wife)

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 (The Day of the Lord)

Matthew 25:14-30 (The parable of the talents)

Notes for discussion: Jesus teaches there is no reward for the person who fails to use the talents and gifts God gives.

11/16/03 11/19/06

(B) Daniel 12:1-13 (The kingdom comes.)

Hebrews 10:11-14, 18 (Christ's sacrifice)

Mark 13:24-42 (The coming of the Son of Man)

Notes for discussion: Talk about the positive qualities of "sacrifice."

11/14/04 11/18/07

(C) Malachi 3:19-20 (The sun of justice)

2 Thessalonians 3:7-12 (Work for what you need.)

Luke 21:5-19 (The coming of the kingdom)

Notes for discussion: Do not be deceived by those who impersonate Christ. Refuse to join them.

Christ the King

11/20/05 11/23/08

(A) Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-16 (I will shepherd my flock.)

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 (The kingdom of God)

Matthew 25:31-46 (The last judgment)

Notes for discussion: Make a collage of pictures of people's faces cut out of magazines and newspapers. Arrange the faces to form the shape and features of a cross.

11/23/03 11/26/06

(B) Daniel 7:13-14 (The Son of Man)

Revelation 1:5-8 (The Alpha and Omega)

John 18:33-37 (Are you the king?)

Notes for discussion: Ask: "What kind of king is Jesus?"

11/21/04 11/25/07

(C) 2 Samuel 5:1-3 (David anointed king)

Colossians 1:12-20 (The kingdom of God's Son)

Luke 23:35-43 (Remember me in your kingdom.)

Notes for discussion: In the entire account of the crucifixion, the good thief is the only one who did not mock Jesus.