

Faith Lesson Plan and Faith Activity

Chapter 21 - Eternal Life with God

Grades 3 & 4

Resource: Our Sunday Visitor (OSV)

Doctrinal Content:

- Heaven is a state of eternal happiness with God. (CCC, 1024)
- To spend eternity with God, we must grow in friendship with God. Through the Holy Spirit, God helps us respond to his grace and grow in friendship with him. (CCC, 1039-1041)
- At the time of our death, we will be judged by God. This is called the Particular Judgment. (CCC, 1021-1022)
- The Last Judgment refers to Jesus' coming in glory at the end of time to judge all the living and the dead and the coming of God's Kingdom in fullness. (CCC, 1038)

Invite - Let us Pray

Invite the young people to gather in their prayer space and make the sign of the Cross. Read aloud the leader's prayer. Proclaim the verse from Isaiah 34:15 together. Have the children move out of their prayer space and back to their seats.



Let Us Pray

Leader: God, teach us to live so that some day we might share eternal life with you.

“Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.” **Psalm 34:15**

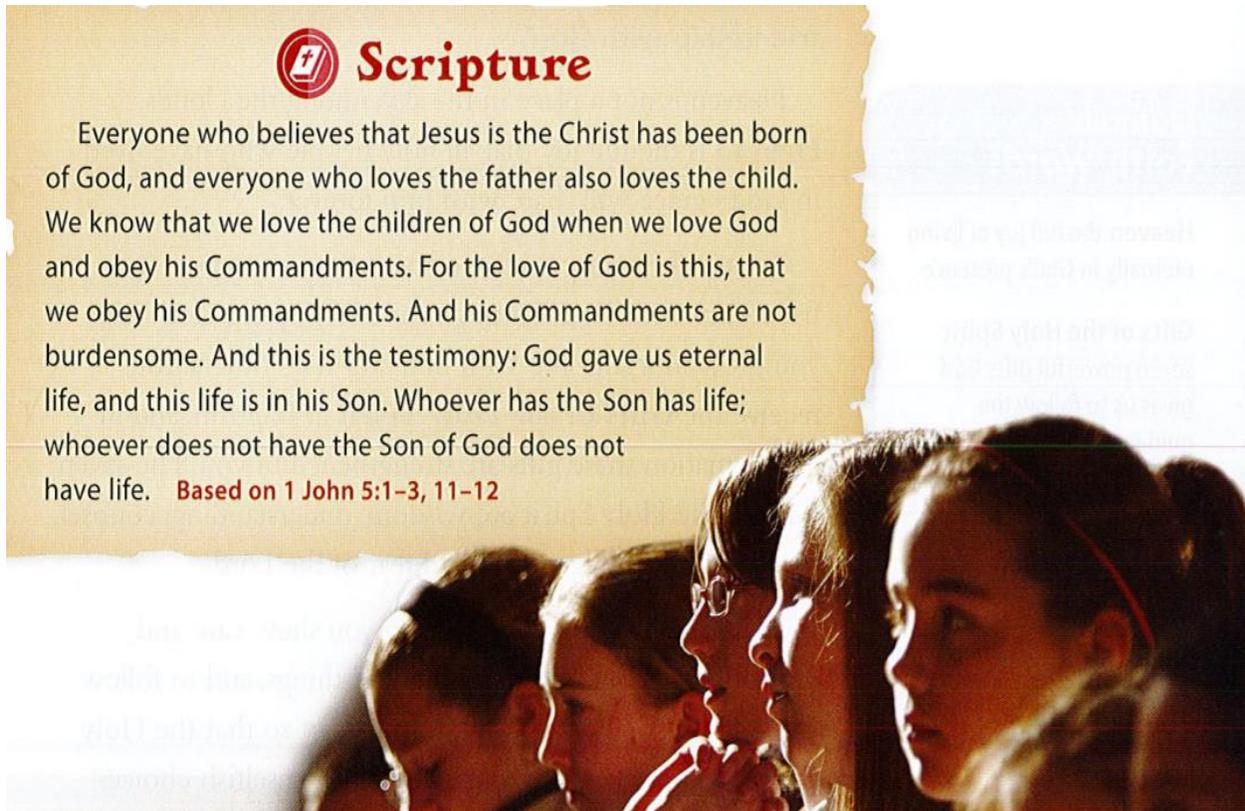
All: Give us gifts to help us see you, love you, and follow you, Lord, until the day your Kingdom comes in fullness. Amen.

Say: Living as disciples of Jesus helps us to prepare for eternal life. As we listen to God's Word today, we will hear how living in this world is connected to eternal life.

Guide the young people through the process of Scripture reflection below.

Invite them to close their eyes, be still, and open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them in this passage.

Display and Proclaim the Scripture.



Maintain several moments of silence.

Ask: What did you hear God say to you today in this Scripture? Engage the children to respond.

Faith Story Time

Say: We at one time of in life will lose a loved one. Let us read the story below and see how Jessie's experience heaven.

With Jesus

Jessie sat with her mother in the car. Her mother wiped away Jessie's tears and said, "I will miss Grandma Ruth too. But she is happy and in Heaven with Jesus." When they arrived at the funeral home, Jessie gazed around the room where the body of her grandmother lay. Sweet-smelling flowers filled the room, and soft music played. With a huge gasp, Jessie declared, "Oh, so this is Heaven!"

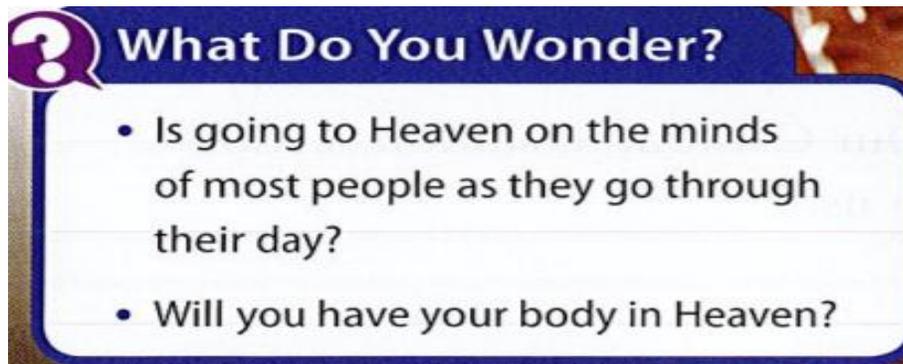
Ask: Why do you think the little girl thought that the funeral home was Heaven?

Ask: Whom would you like to meet in Heaven?

What Do You Wonder?

Say: All choices have consequences. Heaven is the consequence of accepting God's grace and following Jesus. When you live in this world trying to love God above all things and love others as Jesus did, God is preparing a home for you in the next world, a place in the fullness of his Kingdom. Invite the children to respond to the questions.

Ask: the children the following questions. Engage them to respond.



Discover (1)

Objective:

- Define Heaven as the state of eternal happiness with God.
- Recognize that the Holy Spirit helps us respond to God's grace and grow in friendship with him so that we may spend eternity with him.

Display and Read:

"Being With God"

&

"The Gifts of the Holy Spirit"



Being with God

How do the Gifts of the Holy Spirit help you live in friendship with God?

Catholic Faith Words

Heaven the full joy of living eternally in God's presence

Gifts of the Holy Spirit seven powerful gifts God gives us to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit and live the Christian life

Heaven is not a place in the sky among the clouds. **Heaven** is the full joy that all holy people who have lived in God's grace will share with him forever.

To spend eternity with God, you first must grow in friendship with God. Through the Holy Spirit, God helps you grow in friendship with him and with others. You receive the **Gifts of the Holy Spirit** at Baptism, and in Confirmation these gifts are strengthened in you. The seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

These seven powerful gifts help you show care and respect to God and holy persons and things, and to follow Jesus more closely. They open your heart so that the Holy Spirit can guide you to make good and unselfish choices and live the Christian life. When we allow the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, the Fruits of the Holy Spirit (see page 306 in the Our Catholic Tradition section of your book) can be seen in us.



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit	
The Gift of	Helps You
WISDOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• see yourself as God sees you and act as God wants you to act• live in the image and likeness of God
<i>Understanding</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• get to know God, yourself, and other people better• see why you sometimes make wrong choices• learn to make better choices and forgive more freely
COUNSEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• give good advice to others• hear the Holy Spirit, who speaks to you through the good advice and good example of others
FORTITUDE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• stand up for what is right even when doing so is difficult• face and overcome your fear, which sometimes leads to making a bad choice or failing to love
<i>Knowledge</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• be open to God's loving communication• know God in the way that you come to know someone you love and someone who loves you
<i>Piety</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• show faithful love and honor to God• recognize the importance of spending time talking and listening to God in prayer
<i>Fear of the Lord</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• know that God is greater and more wonderful than any created thing• remember to be open to the surprising and powerful goodness of God

© Our Sunday Visitor

Ask: How do the Gifts of the Holy Spirit help you live in friendship with God?

Ask: What is Heaven?

Ask: What do you think will be the best thing about Heaven?

Ask: How might the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Ask: What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit? (Name and describe them.)

Work with Words

Review the Catholic Faith Words with the Children.

Catholic Faith Words

Heaven the full joy of living eternally in God's presence

Gifts of the Holy Spirit seven powerful gifts God gives us to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit and live the Christian life

This graphic has a purple header with the title 'Catholic Faith Words'. Below it, two definitions are provided: 'Heaven' is defined as 'the full joy of living eternally in God's presence', and 'Gifts of the Holy Spirit' are defined as 'seven powerful gifts God gives us to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit and live the Christian life'.

Faith - Activity

Share Your Faith

Reflect Think and write about a time when you used one of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Share With a partner, discuss this time in your life.

The activity is enclosed in a rounded rectangular box with a green border. It features a title 'Share Your Faith' in a bubbly font. Below the title, there is a 'Reflect' section with a prompt and two horizontal lines for writing. At the bottom, there is a 'Share' section with a prompt.

Quick Review

Heaven is not a place; it is eternal life and happiness with God. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit help people make good choices.

Discover (2)

- Recognize that at the time of their death they will be judged by God, called the Particular Judgment.
- Discuss Jesus' coming in glory at the end of time to judge all the living and the dead and the coming of God's Kingdom in fullness, called the Last Judgment.

Display and Read

"The Last Judgment"

&

"Scripture - The Judgement of the Nations"

Catholic Faith Words

Particular Judgment the individual judgment by God at the time of a person's death; when God decides, after a person's death, where that person will spend eternity according to his or her faith and works

Purgatory a state of final cleansing after death and before entering Heaven

Hell being separated from God forever because of a choice to turn away from him and not seek forgiveness

The Last Judgment

How does a person prepare for the Last Judgment?

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit help you turn away from selfish actions and prepare you to be with God forever. All through your life, you have the choice of accepting or rejecting the grace offered through Jesus. At the time of your death, God will judge how well you have accepted and used his gifts. This is called the **Particular Judgment**.

Jesus asks you to love God above all things and your neighbor as yourself. If you have faith in God and are open to the grace he gives you to live his plan for your life, the everlasting happiness of Heaven will eventually be yours. Sometimes people are in friendship with God but need to be purified to be with him in Heaven. This period of final cleansing is called **Purgatory**. Some people sin greatly and reject God's love. They refuse his grace and forgiveness. These sinners will be separated forever from God because of their own choices. That separation is called **Hell**.



Highlight the words *forever* and *everlasting* in the text. Talk about what these words mean to us and in our life with God today.

All Souls Day celebrations remember those who have died and celebrate their lives.



At the end of time, all people who have ever lived will rise again and appear before God for judgment. This **Last Judgment** will not change each person's Particular Judgment. Rather, it will mark the coming of God's Kingdom in its fullness. This is the time when Christ will come again in glory.

Catholic Faith Words

Last Judgment God's final triumph over evil that will occur at the end of time, when Christ returns and judges all the living and the dead

Scripture

The Judgment of the Nations

"Then the king will say to those on his right, '... Inherit the kingdom prepared for you. ... For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'"

Matthew 25:34-40

➔ Who is the king in this story? Who are the righteous?

Say: Everyone has the choice to accept or reject God's grace and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Those who accept God, His teachings, His Commandments, have the hope of eternal salvation (Heaven).

Ask: What is the Last Judgement?

Ask: How does a person prepare for the Last Judgment?

Ask: What is Particular Judgement?

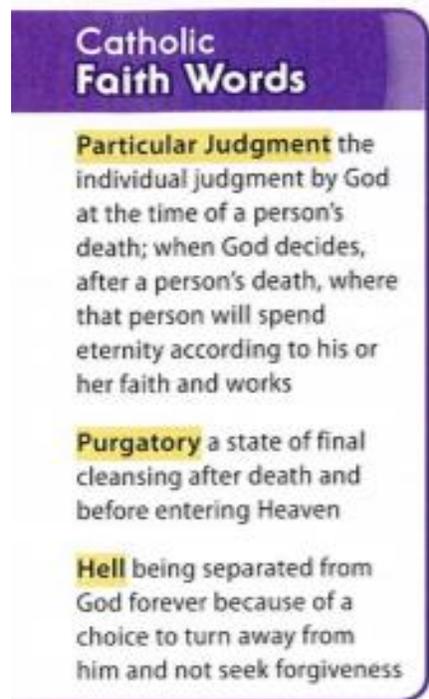
Ask: What is Purgatory?

Ask: What is Hell?

Ask: What did you hear God say in the Scripture passage Matthew 25?

Work with Words

Review the Catholic Faith Words with the Children.

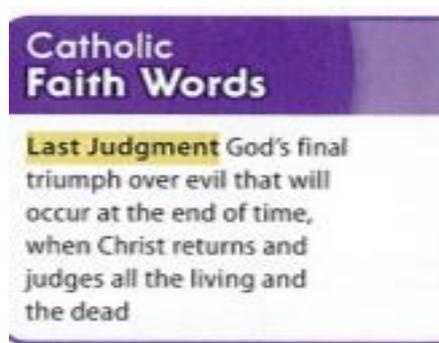


Catholic Faith Words

Particular Judgment the individual judgment by God at the time of a person's death; when God decides, after a person's death, where that person will spend eternity according to his or her faith and works

Purgatory a state of final cleansing after death and before entering Heaven

Hell being separated from God forever because of a choice to turn away from him and not seek forgiveness



Catholic Faith Words

Last Judgment God's final triumph over evil that will occur at the end of time, when Christ returns and judges all the living and the dead

Chapter 21 Activity Master

Name _____ Date _____

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Write each Gift of the Holy Spirit in the first column next to its definition in the middle column. Then, in the third column, write an example of how you use the Gift.

FORTITUDE	WISDOM	KNOWLEDGE	COUNSEL
PIETY	UNDERSTANDING	FEAR OF THE LORD	

Gift	Definition	I use this gift when I...
	Helps you see yourself as God sees you and act as God wants you to act	
	Helps you give good advice	
	Helps you come to know God, yourself, and others	
	Helps you be open to God's loving communication	
	Helps you recognize that God is greater and more wonderful than any created thing	
	Helps you show love and honor to God	
	Helps you stand up for what is right	

© Our Sunday Visitor

Quick Review

People are judged on how well they have allowed God's grace to transform their lives. Particular Judgment occurs after a person dies. The Last Judgment happens at the end of time when Jesus comes in glory.

Video Time

Say: How will we be judged at our Particular Judgement and Last Judgement? Let us watch a video, "Pope Francis - The Last Judgement."

YouTube Link: <http://youtu.be/PHmKOpbgWiE>

Ask: What did you learn from the video?

Ask: What are some other parables that teach us spiritual lessons about how to prepare for the Last Judgment?

Ask: What are some ways that a person your age might use their time, talent, and treasure to show love to others, especially to those in need?

Live

Read and ask the questions below. Engage the Children to Respond.

Complete the activity.

See Below

Our Catholic Life

How can you grow in friendship with God?

God our Father, by the Holy Spirit, has given you seven powerful gifts to help you grow in friendship with him. He is always there to help and encourage you as you use these gifts in your life.

Sometimes you might feel lonely or unsure of what you should do. During these times, you can reach out to God and to others. Here are some examples.



In the spaces below, write about a time when you did these things.

Using the Gifts of the Spirit

Look for Guidance

When you are faced with a difficult choice, remember the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Pray for the Spirit's help.

Reach Out

When you meet a person who is lonely, afraid, or suffering, reach out with words and actions of love.

Stop and Pray

When you are rushed or stressed, stop and pray. Feel God's presence and find comfort.

Notice the Beauty

When you experience sadness, look around at the beauty of God's creation and the blessings you have been given.

Give Thanks

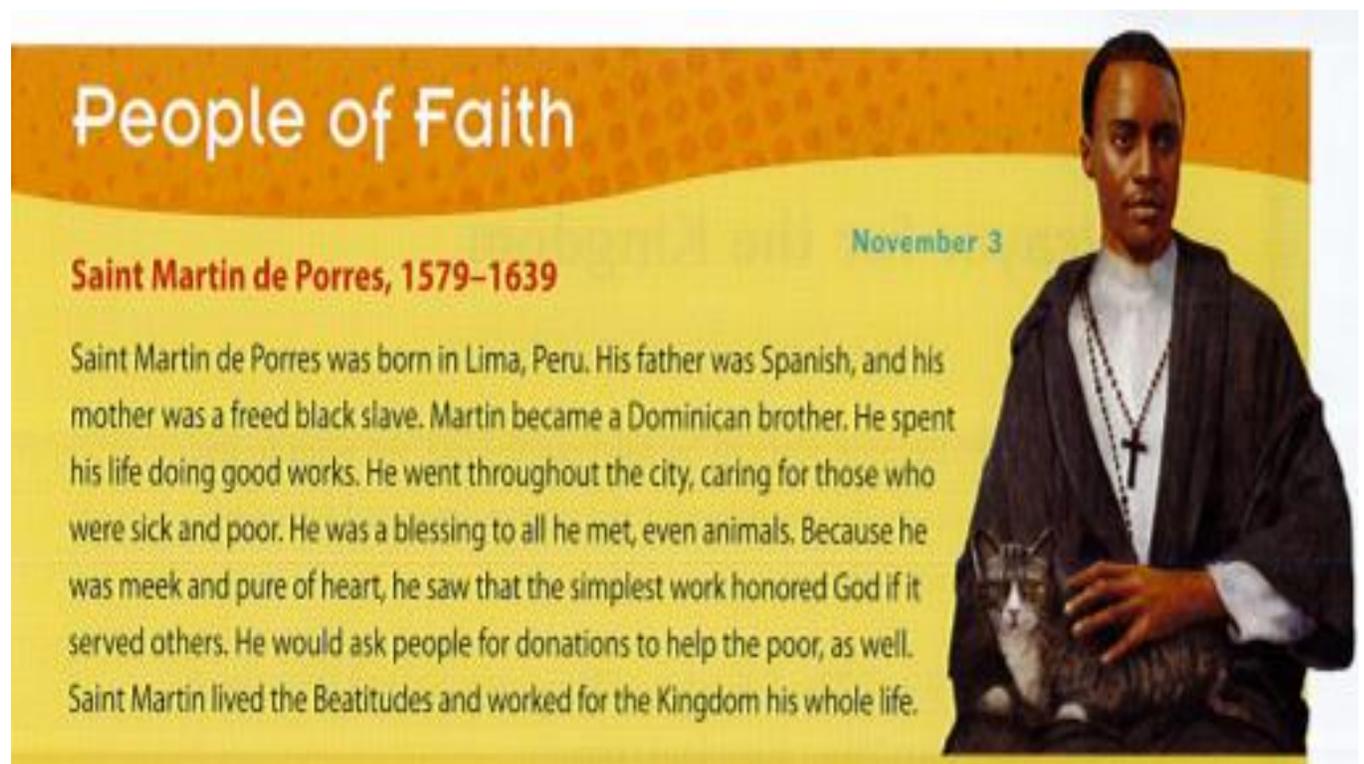
When you feel joy or happiness, thank God, the source of all goodness.



Ask: How can you grow in friendship with God?

Ask: What are other times to reach out to God?

Saint of the Day:



People of Faith

Saint Martin de Porres, 1579–1639

November 3

Saint Martin de Porres was born in Lima, Peru. His father was Spanish, and his mother was a freed black slave. Martin became a Dominican brother. He spent his life doing good works. He went throughout the city, caring for those who were sick and poor. He was a blessing to all he met, even animals. Because he was meek and pure of heart, he saw that the simplest work honored God if it served others. He would ask people for donations to help the poor, as well. Saint Martin lived the Beatitudes and worked for the Kingdom his whole life.

Tell the children about Saint Martin de Porres.

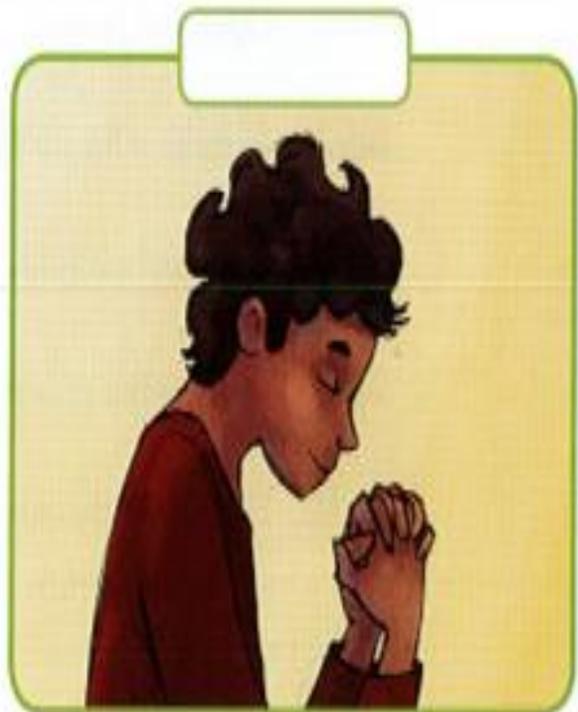
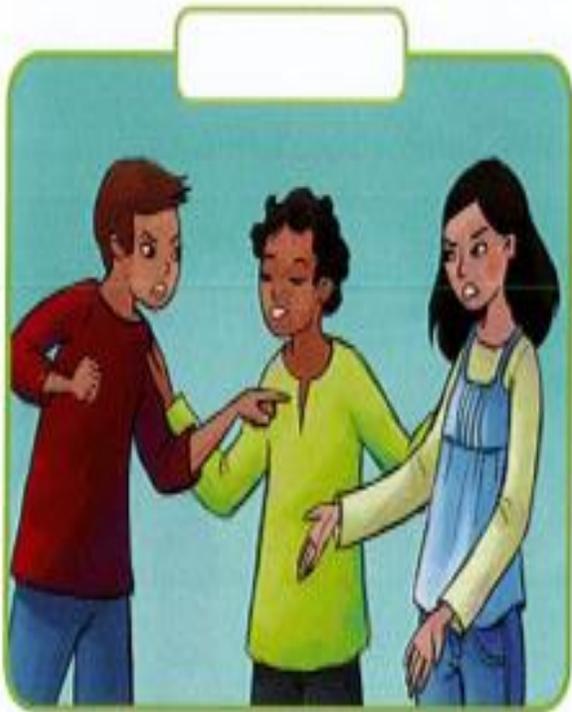
Explain that **Saint Martin** was born in Lima, Peru. His father was Spanish, and his mother was a freed black slave. Martin became a Dominican brother. He spent his life doing good works. He went throughout the city, caring for those who were sick and poor. He was a blessing to all he met, even animals. Because he was meek and pure of heart, he saw that the simplest work honored God if it served others. He would ask people for donations to help the poor, as well. Saint Martin lived the Beatitudes his whole life. Martin is the patron Saint of mixed-race people, interracial justice, innkeepers, and public schools. As well as working as a Dominic brother, he founded an orphanage and ministered to African slaves brought to Lima. His sisters ran a hospice in the country, and Martin often took sick people there for her care. He was a friend of Saint Rose of Lima, and they worked together.

Ask: How will you prepare for eternal life with God?

Faith Activity

Live Your Faith

Name and Describe Look at the pictures and name the Gift of the Holy Spirit represented in each one. Then, in the space below, describe how you could use these gifts in your everyday life.



_____ helps me _____ at home.

_____ helps me _____ at school.

When I feel _____, _____ helps

me _____.

What did the Children Learn?

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the letter of the correct choice.

1. José gives his friend good advice, telling him not to steal. This shows _____.
a. wisdom b. fortitude c. piety d. counsel
2. Sue uses the gift of _____ when she tells the truth about not doing her homework.
a. fortitude b. piety c. fear of the Lord d. counsel
3. Mary was ready to shoplift a DVD from the mall. When she remembered what was discussed in religion class, she put the DVD back, showing the gift of _____.
a. piety b. understanding c. courage d. fortitude
4. Jamal experiences _____ when he thinks about God while looking at the stars.
a. fear of the Lord b. knowledge c. understanding d. fortitude
5. Amy is struggling with a decision about a friendship. She thinks about what Jesus would do. She is using the gift of _____.
a. wisdom b. knowledge c. counsel d. understanding

Circle *True* if a statement is true, and circle *False* if a statement is false. Correct any false statements.

6. The Particular Judgment is individual judgment by God at the time of your death.

True False _____

7. The Particular Judgment will also occur at the end of time when Jesus returns to judge all who have ever lived.

True False _____

8. A separation from God forever is called Hell.

True False _____

9. The state of final cleansing after death and before entering Heaven is called fortitude.

True False _____

Write a brief response to the statement below.

10. Describe how your idea of Heaven has changed since you studied this chapter.

What did the Children Learn? - Answer Key

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the letter of the correct choice.

1. José gives his friend good advice, telling him not to steal. This shows _____.
a. wisdom b. fortitude c. piety **d. counsel**
2. Sue uses the gift of _____ when she tells the truth about not doing her homework.
a. fortitude b. piety c. fear of the Lord d. counsel
3. Mary was ready to shoplift a DVD from the mall. When she remembered what was discussed in religion class, she put the DVD back, showing the gift of _____.
a. piety **b. understanding** c. courage **d. fortitude**
4. Jamal experiences _____ when he thinks about God while looking at the stars.
a. fear of the Lord b. knowledge c. understanding d. fortitude
5. Amy is struggling with a decision about a friendship. She thinks about what Jesus would do. She is using the gift of _____.
a. wisdom b. knowledge c. counsel d. understanding

Circle *True* if a statement is true, and circle *False* if a statement is false. Correct any false statements.

6. The Particular Judgment is individual judgment by God at the time of your death.
True False _____
7. The Particular Judgment will also occur at the end of time when Jesus returns to judge all who have ever lived.
True **False** **This is the Last Judgment.** _____
8. A separation from God forever is called Hell.
True False _____
9. The state of final cleansing after death and before entering Heaven is called fortitude.
True **False** **This is called Purgatory.** _____

Write a brief response to the statement below.

10. Describe how your idea of Heaven has changed since you studied this chapter.
Reponses will vary. _____
