OCTOBER 25, 2026 VOLUME 1 - ISSUE 5

FAITH FORMATION RESOURCE GUIDE

BLESSED TRINITY PARISH, CLEVELAND

GROWING IN FAITH Together



MORE ON WHY THIS TOOL NOW?

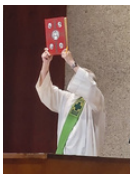
This guide is branded as a faith formation resource. It is a starting point to connect you with solid resources you can use.

It is not all-inclusive. Thousands of options are available to you. A curated list like this gives you a place to start with sites recognized for solid information. If you have others that you would like to share as useful, please send them to Terri for possible inclusion.

Some content on previously referenced sites is updated weekly. New additions are included as well. If you didn't like last week's content, you might still find something exciting this week.

You can tap in anytime. Click on a music link or presentation link as you head out on a drive. Instead of pounding the steering wheel during a sports talk show, take some time to consider the question of the week. Make a prayer corner at home where you can go to God and focus on hearing the message meant for you.

This is GIFT: Growing in Faith Together!



SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26
Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40
https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/101826.cfm

The Perspective of Justice Gerald Darring

"...The implication is that loving our neighbor means more than being kind to our friends and relatives, or to the person who lives next door. Loving one's neighbor means doing right by any widow or orphan: seeing that the hungry are fed and the homeless sheltered, that the poor have their basic needs met, that the unemployed do not suffer from want, that the young are educated and the old are cared for. To do less is to fail in our love for neighbor. To do less is also to keep us from singing with joy: I love you, Lord, my strength.

"The commandments to love God with all one's heart and to love one's neighbor as oneself are the heart and soul of Christian morality.... These commands point out the path toward true human fulfillment and happiness. They are not arbitrary restrictions on human freedom. Only active love of God and neighbor makes the fullness of community happen. Christians look forward in hope to a true communion among all persons with each other and with God."

U.S. Bishops, Economic Justice for All (1986) 64."

Question of the Week

What practice needs adjusting in your life so you can do more for God?

This week's question addresses the practical side of the Gospel message. Loving God and loving neighbor are intentional activities. Improving either one requires a serious review of life's priorities.

Last week, the question asked us if we could grow in our relationship with God this week. Did you make any progress? If not, what stopped you?

We must take care of ourselves. But this question asks whether we always put "me first" when making a choice. Doing more for God is not a qualitative or quantitative question. It comes down to this: Is God part of the equation when you choose?

It is in the mundane... Is what I am about to do helpful or hurtful, or could it make a bigger impact by paving the way for the Lord if I do it differently?

Be more conscientious about being a loving person this week. It will make a difference.

ACTION IDEAS

For individuals:
Consider the article The Call to Put Faith Before Politics or the video Preaching Faithful Citizenship and the Call to Put Faith Before Politics from the USCCB as you prepare to participate in the upcoming voting.

For Couples
When did you realize you were in love? What feeds the spark today?

Family Focus
Look at your neighborhood. Is there something that your family can do to improve conditions or relationships? Do you welcome new people into the area?

Evangelizing
Personally or through a program/donation, stand up for someone who is marginalized. Give your time or your talent.

Make a Change
Show your love in a new way, do something differently, or make an effort you haven't tried before.

Crossing Generations
Loving a hamburger and loving God are two different things. Learn some words from another generation's vocabulary and improve your communication.

Do It!
Tomorrow I am going to....DO IT TODAY!



CONNECT TO PFLAUM GOSPEL WEEKLIES

Please let Terri know if you need help connecting with the publication for the child(ren)'s age(s). It is filled with additional material that engages the child appropriately for the age group.

Future editions will include faith-based resources on topics like prayer, sacraments, sacramentals, participation at Mass, etc. If you have a specific issue you would like addressed, share it with Terri too.

Learn more at https://www.gospelweeklies.com/weeklies-revised-reimagined/ or catch this 15-minute video on YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=973zn4LJUco&t=15s. You can also access many other free resources, like teaching guides and activity suggestions, by subscribing.

This approach to children's faith formation is different from what's typically done. Please give it a chance and help us make it work for you.

Let us Grow in Faith Together (GIFT)!



"**This Sunday's Gospel: Matthew 22:34–40**
In this Sunday's Gospel, the Pharisees are again trying to test Jesus. They were well aware that there are many laws in the first five books of the Bible—the books the Jews call the Torah, or the Law. The Pharisees asked Jesus which law was the greatest. Jesus answered at once: To love God with your whole self and to love your neighbor as yourself. Then Jesus gave the reason these two laws are important— because all the other laws depend on these two commandments. This week is a wonderful opportunity for your family to celebrate your love for God and your love for one another."

SEEDS (Pre-school): "Your child understands that there are family rules everyone must obey. Review some of your family rules. Share how these rules can show love for God and love for one another."

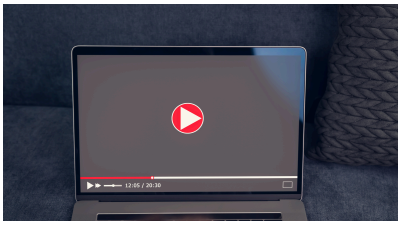
PROMISE (K-grade 1): How does the child know they are loved? How does the child show love?

GOOD NEWS (Grades 2 and 3): Build on last week's discussion of rules. Why is God's rule about love the most important one?

VENTURE (Grades 4 through 6): Discuss what you might do together as a family to show love to your neighbor.

VISIONS (Grades 7 through 9): Watch "The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler" (Available on Netflix, Hallmark+, and Amazon Prime) This story of a member of the Polish underground is a strong lesson in how love makes a difference.

(Citations taken from The Gospel at Home, copyright © 2026 Pflaum Publishing Group, a division of Bayard, Inc.)



KIDS VIDEO LINKS

The Bible Bag (Gospel lesson for young children)
Lesson and Saint of the Week
Holy Heroes Gospel Video
Children's Liturgy | Redemptorist Publications

Greatest Commandment

30th Sunday of Ordinary Time All readings - Diocese of Bridgeport

Lesson and Activities Diocese of Bridgeport
Gospel Weekly Coloring Page
Songs and Fingerplays for Young Children Pflaum Publications
Sunday Connection Loyola Press (Age Groups and Family Activities)
The Kids Bulletin

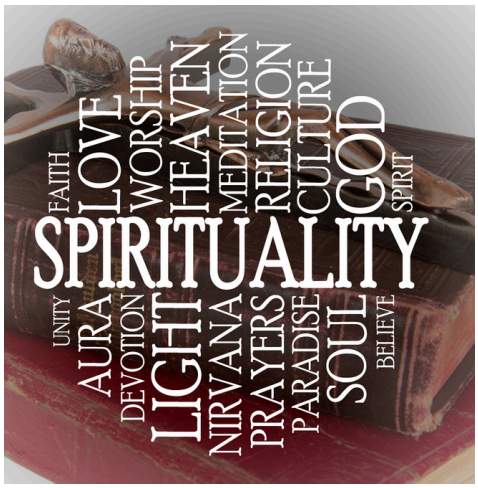
Sunday Reflections St. Louis University Initiatives: Reflections, Challenges, Social Justice from these contributors and more John Foley, S.J., Larry Gillick, S.J., Anne Osdieck, Ron Rohlheiser, OMI, John Pilch, John Kavanaugh, S.J

A Practical Guide to Loving Your Enemies Busted Halo
What Works: Love for One Another Busted Halo

Does God Have a Love Language? Ascension Press Fr. Mike Schmitz
Center for Action and Contemplation Daily Meditations

Vatican Website
Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

QR CODE TO CATHOLIC MOM MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITY AND SPIRITUALITY LINKS



MUSIC AND VIDEO LINKS

Love Thy Neighbor Tuan Van Dang (3:05)
I Love You, Lord, My Strength Tony Alonso (2:15)
Let Us Love One Another MS Music Man (5:48)
Show Up Choose Love TobyMac, Jon Reddick (3:32)
Love Chris Tomlin (3:24)
Love One Another Bob Dufford (4:20)

Three Kinds of Love Blessed Fulton Sheen (36:09)