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# 2021 Easter Season

*Invite your students to learn more about the saints and solemnities of the Easter season. Encourage them to grow as disciples by honoring these saints through the example of their lives and through their prayers. The list under each indicates where you can find their stories in RCL Benziger parish and school textbooks.*

*For even more information on the lives of many of the saints listed here, go to [SaintsResource.com](https://www.saintsresource.com).*

## APRIL 4: EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

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There are excellent lessons on the Easter season found in the liturgical year section of your textbook which can be incorporated into your classroom sessions. Two Easter classroom celebrations can be found by clicking on the resource [Preparing the Easter Prayer Table and Welcoming the Alleluia](#) and [Prayer Collages](#).

Make the fifty days of the Easter season a time of joyful prayer and celebration!

***Christ is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

### ***Be My Disciples and Sean mis Discípulos***

- Grade 1: Chapter 9, WCCY
- Grade 2: WCCY
- Grade 3: Chapter 10, WCCY
- Grade 4: Chapter 10, WCCY
- Grade 5: Chapter 9, WCCY
- Grade 6: Chapter 9, WCCY

### ***Additional Activities and Liturgical Lessons (Be My Disciples Junior High)***

Triduum: Easter Sunday; Ascension of the Lord; Pentecost Sunday

***Blest Are We***

Kindergarten: We Celebrate  
Grade 1: Feasts and Seasons  
Grade 2: Feasts and Seasons  
Grade 3: Feasts and Seasons  
Grade 4: Feasts and Seasons  
Grade 5: Feasts and Seasons  
Grade 6: Feasts and Seasons  
The Story of Jesus: Feasts and Seasons  
The Story of Our Church: Chapter 2, Feasts and Seasons

## APRIL 29: SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Saint Catherine of Siena was the twenty-fourth of twenty-five children. When she was a teenager, she dedicated her life to God despite the fact that her family was not supportive of her choice. A joyful person, she lived in service to the poor and needy, but also advised the leaders of the Church in matters of great importance and concern. She was one of the first women to be named a doctor—or great scholar and teacher—of the Church.

Today pray for all women who serve the Church as scholars and teachers. Remember by name the women who have taught you about discipleship, Scripture, and the teachings of the Church.

***Saint Catherine of Siena, pray for us! Alleluia!***

***Be My Disciples and Sean mis Discípulos***

Grade 1: Chapter 3  
Grade 2: Chapter 11  
Grade 5: Chapter 18  
Christ in the Liturgy: Chapter 1

***Blest Are We***

Grade 2: Chapter 17  
The Story of the Church: Chapter 15

## MAY 1: SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER

On March 19 the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Today's memorial is fairly new to the Church calendar, added in 1955 by Pope Pius XII. It is customary today to celebrate the Blessing of Tools or Other Equipment for Work (see *Book of Blessings*, copyright 1989 by The Order of St. Benedict, Inc., or *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*, copyright 2007 by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops). The following suggestion is an alternative activity and prayer for use in the classroom.

1. If possible, bring to class a small tool kit. Display the various tools and invite students to name the tools and what they are used for. (For the safety of the students, please have adults only display and handle the tools.)
2. Ask the students what tools their parents use in their work at home or at jobs outside of the home.
3. Invite the students to display the tools they use in their work – the work of studying.
4. Invite the students to stand as you offer the following prayer:

Loving God,  
Saint Joseph the Worker  
used many tools  
in his work as a carpenter.

Our parents use many tools  
in their work at home  
and outside of the home.

Bless us  
as we use the many tools  
here before us  
to study  
and to grow in knowledge.

Help us to use  
the tools of our faith –  
your Word in the Bible,  
the prayers of the Church,  
and the teachings in our religion books –  
to grow as disciples of Jesus.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

***Be My Disciples and Sean mis Discípulos***

Grade 3: Chapter 4

***Blest Are We***

The Story of Jesus: Chapter 6

## MAY 3: SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

Saint James, the son of Alphaeus, is also known as Saint James the Lesser, so as not to confuse him with Saint James, the son of Zebedee. Nothing is known about him, except that Jesus chose him to be one of his twelve disciples.

Saint Philip was also one of the twelve disciples called by Jesus. The stories in the Gospel tell us that Philip grew in his realization of who Jesus was. As a Greek, Saint Philip was able to lead Gentiles to Jesus.

Today, we pray for all the leaders in the Church who lead us to know Jesus. We remember especially those local and everyday people who may not be famous, who work in the Church.

***Saint Philip and Saint James, pray for us! Alleluia!******Be My Disciples***

Grade 1: Chapter 1

Grade 2: Chapter 2

## MAY 10: SAINT DAMIEN DE VEUSTER, PRIEST (USA)

Saint Damien de Veuster, also known as Damien of Molokai, was sent to Hawaii and was ordained there in 1864. Once there, he learned of a large colony of lepers who were living on the island of Molokai. He asked permission to live with and to care for the lepers. Damien helped the people of Molokai build homes, and he used his limited resources to provide medical care to the lepers. Eventually, Damien himself contracted leprosy. But he ministered to the other lepers until he was physically unable to do so.

Today, pray for the nearly quarter of a million people who have been diagnosed with leprosy, and for those who care for them.

***Saint Damien de Veuster, pray for us! Alleluia!******Be My Disciples and Sean mis Discípulos***

Grade 2: Chapter 16

Grade 5: Chapter 20

***Blest Are We***

Grade 5: Chapter 1

The Story of Jesus: Unit 2

## THURSDAY, MAY 13 OR SUNDAY, MAY 16: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Refer to the liturgical year lessons in your textbook for resources on the Ascension of the Lord. Thursday, May 13, is also the beginning of the nine-day novena of prayer in preparation for the celebration of Pentecost Sunday.

As a class, pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit found in many of the Catholic Prayers and Practices or prayer sections of your textbooks. Continue to pray the prayer on each of the nine days leading up to Pentecost Sunday. (An alternative would be to sing a Pentecost hymn or refrain each day of the novena.)

### *Be My Disciples and Sean mis Discípulos*

Grade 1: Chapter 6, WCCY

Grade 2: Chapter 7, WCCY

Grade 4: Chapter 6, WCCY

### *Additional Activities and Liturgical Lessons (Be My Disciples Junior High)*

Ascension of the Lord

### *Blest Are We*

Grade 3: Feasts and Seasons

Grade 4: Chapter 5, Feasts and Seasons

Grade 6: Feasts and Seasons

The Story of Jesus: Chapter 15, Feasts and Seasons

The Story of Our Church: Feasts and Seasons

## MAY 14: SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

Read aloud or invite the students to read the story of Saint Matthias (see Acts 1:15-17, 20-26). Saint Matthias was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus. Matthias was both a disciple of Jesus and a witness to Jesus' Resurrection.

Again today, in honor of Saint Matthias and all Apostles, pray together the Apostles' Creed.

***Saint Matthias, pray for us! Alleluia!***

## MAY 23: PENTECOST SUNDAY |

Pentecost Sunday celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. On this day, the disciples boldly were sent out on the mission to proclaim the Good News to all. Take time to read the dramatic story of the first Pentecost found in Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-13. Refer to the liturgical year section of your textbook for resources to highlight this solemnity. Sing a Pentecost hymn or refrain, and pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

***Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful!  
And kindle in them the fire of your love! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Be My Disciples and Sean mis Discípulos***

- Grade 1: WCCY
- Grade 2: Chapter 7, WCCY
- Grade 3: Chapter 6, WCCY
- Grade 4: Chapter 7, WCCY
- Grade 5: WCCY
- Grade 6: Chapters 7 and 11, WCCY

***Additional Activities and Liturgical Lessons (Be My Disciples Junior High)***

Pentecost Sunday

***Blest Are We***

- Grade 2: Feasts and Seasons
- Grade 3: Chapter 12, Feasts and Seasons
- Grade 4: Chapter 9, Feasts and Seasons
- The Story of Jesus: Chapters 16 and 18, Feasts and Seasons
- The Story of Our Church: Chapter 4