
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.

APRIL 12: EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

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 25: SAINT MARK, EVANGELIST

Saint Mark himself was not an Apostle, but was a friend of Peter. He also accompanied Paul on one of his missionary journeys. The Gospel of Mark is both the oldest Gospel and the shortest Gospel. It focuses on the life and ministry of Jesus, and is filled with details that help us come to know Jesus as man. Saint Mark's symbol is a winged lion. In his life, Saint Mark did what every Christian is called to do. He proclaimed the Good News to others.

Today, in honor of Saint Mark the Evangelist, read the story of the Call of the First Disciples (Mark 1:16-20).

Saint Mark, pray for us! Alleluia!***Be My Disciples and Sean mis Discípulos***

Grade 2: Chapter 9

Christ in the New Testament: Chapter 2 and 3

Blest Are We

Grade 1: Chapter 12

The Story of Jesus: Chapter 1, Jesus and His Times

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 on their desks the tools they use in their work – the work of studying.
4. Invite the students to stand at their desks 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 2: SAINT ATHANASIUS, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Saint Athanasius wrote many scholarly works on faith and doctrine, and defended the belief that Jesus was fully human and fully divine. He remained true to this belief in the Incarnation, despite being exiled for it five times.

In celebration of the feast day of Saint Athanasius, pray together the Nicene Creed, the prayer of our faith that states what we believe.

Saint Athanasius, pray for us! Alleluia!

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!

THURSDAY, MAY 21 OR SUNDAY, MAY 24: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Refer to the liturgical year lessons in your textbook for resources on the Ascension of the Lord. Ascension Thursday 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 26: SAINT PHILIP NERI, PRIEST

Saint Philip Neri was known for his spirit of joy. In that spirit he went about doing good for those in need, and encouraged others to consider what good they might do in order to serve their neighbor. He had a special devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, and encouraged others to receive the Eucharist often.

Today, in honor of Saint Philip Neri, look for ways to serve others with joy. If you are able to do so, gather your class before the Blessed Sacrament and pray the Litany of the Holy Eucharist or sing a familiar Eucharistic hymn.

Saint Philip Neri, pray for us! Alleluia!

Be My Disciples and Sean mis Discípulos

Grade 2: Chapter 22

Grade 5: Chapter 15

Blest Are We

Grade 5: Chapter 18

MAY 31: 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