

DUE: Feb. 29, 2012

Name:

Confirmation Mass Assignment
February 5, 2012
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Instructions: Read the gospel and gospel reflection, then answer the questions. Turn in with a signed bulletin.

Gospel Reflection

Mark describes for us how Jesus' day begins and ends with taking care of others. He heals Simon's mother-in-law, he cures others who are sick, he drives out demons from those who are possessed. He comforts the downhearted and discouraged. The crowds follow him wherever he goes. Even when he goes off to a lonely place to pray and be renewed, Jesus is tracked down by his disciples who say, "Everybody is looking for you!" Without complaint, Jesus responds at once by heading for the nearby villages to heal and preach and comfort.

Gospel Questions:

1. When you are busy or tired, how do you respond to family members who want your help or attention?
2. Why is it sometimes hard for us to respond to others' needs?
3. Who or what can remind us to be more loving and patient with others around us?
4. When you hear about people who are sick, lonely, or discouraged, what do you do?
5. How do you think today's gospel story might inspire you to be more like Jesus?

DUE: Feb. 29, 2012

Name:

Confirmation Mass Assignment
February 19th, 2012
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Mark 2:1-12

Instructions: Read the gospel and gospel reflection, then answer the questions. Turn in with a signed bulletin.

Gospel Reflection

Four friends of a paralyzed man in today's gospel story prove that "Perseverance pays off." Jesus is surrounded by such a crowd that the only way to reach him is through the roof. The friends lower the man through a hole in the roof and deposit him on a mat at the feet of Jesus. Their efforts are rewarded when Jesus not only heals the man but also forgives his sins.

The religious authorities accuse Jesus of blasphemy because God alone can forgive sins. But Jesus assures them that he "has authority to forgive sins on earth." They are temporarily silenced. The crowd, however, loudly praises God for Jesus' healing power.

Gospel Questions:

1. How have you sometimes used your skills to help others?
2. Who has helped you in a way that you will always remember?
3. Why is it important for followers of Jesus never to give up on trying to help others?
4. Why do you think Jesus forgave the man's sins before he healed his body? If you had been there, what might you have said to the authorities who criticized Jesus?

DUE: Feb. 29, 2012

Name:

Confirmation Mass Assignment

February 26th, 2012

First Sunday of Lent

Gospel Mark 1:12-15

Instructions: Read the gospel and gospel reflection, then answer the questions. Turn in with a signed bulletin.

Gospel Reflection

Can you imagine a movie scene illustrating the first part of today's gospel story? Jesus is out in the desert where he is put to the test or tempted by Satan. But he is also surrounded by wild beasts and angel attendants. It must have been an interesting forty days Jesus spent preparing to proclaim the good news. "The reign of God is at hand," he announced in Galilee, and he called people to get ready for God's reign by reforming their lives.

Lent can be for us like a new day dawning--just like the one Noah and his family experienced when the flood was over. It is a time for a fresh beginning and a renewal of our covenant to live as God's people.

Gospel Questions:

1. In what ways do you want Lent to be a new beginning in your life as a Christian? What will you do to work towards these goals?
2. Who or what might help you to experience Lent as "a new day dawning"?
3. Jesus stayed in the desert for forty days, praying and preparing himself for his mission. God has a mission for each of us. What can you do to learn what that mission might be? What might help you prepare yourself for that mission?

Name:

4. What might you do during Lent to grow stronger in resisting temptation as did Jesus did in the desert?