

God's Greatest Gift

Dear parents,

Last week the children present at Youth Faith Formation on Wednesday Nights were trained in Safe Environment Training for Children. If you have any questions regarding the training, please feel free to contact me.

I hope you are all have a great time having conversations about faith with you children. If you need anymore resources to continue these conversations, please contact me. Also, there are more resources available in the family prayer section of our website at stjosephkeywest.com. We also have a resource called FORMED.org, and I encourage you all to download the app, or go to the website to register for free with St. Joseph Key West as your parish name. See the bulletin for new content each week.

Thanks,

Darby Callahan

Director of Evangelization



1st Grade

Scripture: Genesis 1:26–31

1. to recall that God created all creatures
2. to state the different ways that creatures help us
3. to identify that we must care for and respect all creatures

Study Questions:

1. God created all creatures; Can you name some creatures that God has created.
2. How do creatures help us? How do we help creatures?
3. Why is it important to respect all God's creatures? What are some ways we can care for and respect God's creation?

2nd Grade

Scripture: Psalm 148:3-13

Core Teachings from the Chapter

1) to state entire universe and all creatures praise God by their very existence

2) explain that God loves everything he has made, so we should take care of it

3) affirm that in caring for the environment, we are caring for ourselves and our earthly home

Family Prayers:

How can we take care of the environment as a family? Ask God to help you through your work today whether it be your work to help provide for your family or your children's work at school, learning how to be a good student and steward of our Earth.

3rd Grade

Scripture – Psalm 104:5-15

Core Teachings of the Chapter

1. The Book of Psalms is a group of songs and poems to God.
2. Some of the psalms are prayers of praise to God.
3. We are entrusted with caring for the world because it was created for us by God.

Family Prayers:

God created the world, review Genesis and discuss the creation story as a family. Then, move to the Psalms and discuss how they all come together and teach us why we should praise God. The Psalms are prayers that unite us to our Jewish brothers and sisters and also to Christ who prayed the Psalms as a child.

5th Grade

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-2:4

Core Teachings of the Chapter:

1. Free Will
2. How Free Will plays into our daily lives.

Family Prayers:

1. Ask your children how free will is applied to their daily life and how they define free will in their own words. .

6/7th Grade

Scripture: Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:31

Core Teachings of the Chapter:

1. Creation
2. Why evil/sin exists?
3. The Lord's Prayer

Family Prayers:

Ask your children why they believe sin exists and what they learned in class about creation, evil, and sin. Pray the Lord's Prayer together and ask your children what it means.

8th Grade

I go into every classroom each week to just see what the students are learning during that particular session, and it is great to see students talking about their faith. As you already know each week the students get a challenge and review a certain saint, these are good ways to get students looking forward to spreading the faith by word and deed when they receive the graces at Confirmation next year. It is not too late to start having conversations with peers though. In addition to this week's challenge, I challenge all eighth graders to discuss their faith with 1. Their Godparent, 2. Two peers from school, and 3. Their grandparents; as well as the continued discussion with you, their parents.