

St. William Parish Community



Walled Lake, Michigan 48390

July 4, 2021

www.stwilliam.com



Today we celebrate the Fourth of July, and I seem to remember that by now the corn is supposed to be knee-high. (“Knee high by the 4th of July!”)

Speaking of remembering, it is also a good time to remember our obligation to pray for our country. Unless you’ve been living on the far side of the moon for the last couple of years, you know well that political controversies are regular fodder for news broadcasts. But it seems that more than ever (at least in my memory), citizens have become intolerant of any viewpoint but their own. Rather than having reasoned debate over issues, showing respect to other persons even while disagreeing with their opinions, the “opposition” is vilified, even demonized. Since, by definition, such persons are evil, their thoughts and actions are—at the least—suspect, or are even rejected automatically. That’s not a healthy attitude in a democracy. Our Archbishop has recently written a very insightful Pastoral Note about “speaking the truth in love” rather than continuing “the uncivil nature of our civil discourse”. (I hope to present other excerpts from his Pastoral Note in next week’s column.)

Violence in our society seems more and more accepted, and is actually *expected* in our “entertainment” whether “news”, sports or “reality” TV. Our tolerance of violence surfaces as “road-rage”, as well as violent acts in our homes, workplaces, and schools—and all of this is not to even mention acts of terrorism. For years now at Mass, during the Prayer of the Faithful, we have been regularly praying for an end to our “culture” of violence, and for a greater respect for all human life. Of special concern these days are the efforts on the part of some to expand access to abortion on demand—and there are even efforts to repeal the

(Continued on page 3)



Deacon Bob, Deacon Mike and Nancy Thomas
for all your years of service.

From the St. William Family

We will see you at the upcoming
Knights of Columbus Picnic.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are

LIFE
LIBERTY AND
the pursuit of Happiness

Parish Mission: *“To live the Good News so joyfully, that we can’t help but proclaim it!”*

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 pm, .
Sunday *10:00 am (*also Live-streamed)
and Sunday 12:30 pm
Tues., Wed. & Thur., 8:00 am



Follow us on Facebook,
@stwilliamparishwalledlake

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Many issues can be taken care of with a phone call, 248-624-1421.

Registration

For many reasons it is important to be formally registered as a parishioner. Contact the rectory for friendly help. Ext. 341

Baptism

To begin the preparation process for Baptism please call 624-1421. Baptisms are normally scheduled the first and third Sundays of the month.

Marriage

To celebrate a valid marriage Catholics must have the help of a priest or deacon. Call at least six months in advance.

Funeral

Please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Ministry To The Sick

We are happy to visit the sick and provide anointing. Please contact the Parish Office at 624-1421.

RECTORY

Email: Rectory1@stwilliam.com
531 Common Street (248) 624-1421

Pastor	Rev. Michael G. Savickas	Ext. 346
Deacons	Rev. Mr. Bob Dreyer	Ext. 345
	Rev. Mr. John Liddle	

Baptisms Ext. 341

Business Office Ext. 341

Business Manager	Mrs. Deborah Diviny	Ext. 349
Administrative Asst.	Mrs. Lisa Geoffrey	Ext. 342

Pastoral Assistant	Mrs. Karen Sommers	Ext. 344
	248-624-8870	

Maintenance:	(248) 669-5522	
Supervisor	Mr. Dave Colby	Ext. 312

EDUCATION CENTER

135 O'Flaherty Street

Office of Faith Formation (248) 624-1371

Dir. of Rel. Ed.		Ext. 307
Dir. Of Initiation	Mrs. Nancy Thomas	Ext. 306
Youth Ministry	Mrs. Karen Trojniak	Ext. 308
Music Ministry Dir.	Mr. Bill Richart	Ext. 310
Administrative Asst.	Mrs. Lisa Geoffrey	Ext. 342

School Office (248) 669-4440

Principal	Mrs. Betsy Gabrish	Ext. 303
Secretary		Ext. 302

CYO Sports

Athletic Director ad@saintwilliam.net

Eucharistic Exposition

Saturday

July 10th

12 to 3:00 pm



Since attendance at Masses have declined due to concerns over COVID, contributions have greatly declined. If you are in a position to help, automatic giving can be easily arranged online. Go to Faithdirect.net, or follow the link from our website,

www.stwilliam.com.



Offertory Report

(The fiscal year begins July 1)

	Collected	Budgeted*	Over/(Under)
As of Apr., 2021	*\$777,827	\$916,663	(\$138,836)

*This does NOT represent *needed* income, but only the amount we expected would actually come in.

Note: For clarity and accuracy, this report now shows reconciled month-end balances.

The "One-Hour Challenge!"

To have a *happy, peaceful life*, it is important that we have our lives in order, with our grateful response to God for his gifts being our top priority. That is how a disciple responds in the areas of *prayer, family, finance, and service*.

If you need help to put balance in your life, take the "one-hour challenge": Each week, spend at least...

- One hour in prayer and worship.
- One hour, special, focused on your family or other important relationship.
- One hour's wage (if you have a job) for the Lord. No job? Then give what seems right for you.
- One hour in service. (Helping another, or working for some cause.)

It's important to be *specific* in what steps to take in order to ensure that each "hour" actually happens!

May God bless you!

(Continued from page 1)

Hyde Amendment, which prohibits the use of Federal tax dollars to pay for abortions.

Then there is the issue of global warming (and debate about what to do with it). There are frustratingly difficult situations like China, Taiwan, and Iran—and let's not forget the rest of the Middle East! Pray for wise decisions by political leaders throughout the world. We have often prayed for that at Mass, asking that leaders be successful in their efforts to bring about peace, through justice.

Of course COVID, and the more recent variant strains are still a matter of concern, along with the controversies over vaccinations and re-opening the country. The media is constantly reporting on accusations of racism, and present stories that give the impression that there is racism everywhere, even in contexts that are arguably unlikely. Some of the rhetoric we hear seems designed to cause division rather than bring the country together, often with little or no appreciation for the progress we've made as a nation.

The threats to our religious freedom should be a concern for us all. (I wrote about this in last week's column.) The erosion of respect for the practice of religion was certainly evidenced by the restrictions imposed by some governors and even mayors in the earlier stages of the pandemic. At least, the pandemic was the excuse given—but there seemed to be an animosity towards religion, since liquor stores and marijuana dispensaries were not given commensurate restrictions.

Then there are the ongoing controversies about immigration, along with the crisis at the southern border. The importation of illegal, dangerous, and deadly drugs has increased dramatically. We continue to struggle with issues arising from same sex marriages and gender dysphoria. There are also controversies about education, health care, pollution, and criminal justice, to name just a few.

Fortunately, our primary citizenship is not "U.S."; it is citizenship of the Kingdom of God, and we're supposed to bring *those* values into our society, for its sanctification. Our identity is to be a "joyful band of missionary disciples", as we seek to "Unleash the Gospel"! As citizens of the Kingdom, all of us have been called by our baptisms to embrace radically different values from the prevailing culture. As St.



Legion of Mary

If you would like to enrich your spiritual life & would like to help others, we need you in Legion of Mary.

Meetings are in the St. Paul room every Tuesday evenings after 6:30 PM rosary. Come join us and say the Rosary and see what we're all about.

Contact Sherri Szeptowski, 248-957-8244, if you have any questions.

Paul said, we must "no longer live as the pagans do—their minds empty, their understanding darkened... [rather], lay aside your former way of life and old self which deteriorates through illusion and desire, and acquire a fresh, spiritual way of thinking." (*Eph. 4*)

Happy Fourth, and keep praying.

Also for the Fourth, some people undoubtedly will try to get away for a few days of vacation. We pray that they return to us safe, healthy, and refreshed.

Getting away for vacation is great, of course, whether it's just for a day or two, or for several weeks later this summer. But I remember something from my earliest seminary days that I share with you now because it applies to us all: "There is no vacation from a vocation!" We all share the vocation of being disciples of the Lord.

When you do get away, relax and have fun. God wants that for you. But always remember your Christian vocation, and make prayer part of your vacation agenda. Now that most of us are able to safely gather for the celebration of the Eucharist, we also need to keep *Mass* on our vacation schedules as well. All Catholics, even those who are not able to physically come to Mass, have the obligation to keep Sunday as a special day of prayer and rest. If you know of persons who are homebound, you might mention to them that a great way of fulfilling their obligation is by tuning into our livestream at 10:00 AM or praying along with the recording afterwards.

Have a great Fourth, and a great summer!

In Jesus,
Fr. Michael



The Respect Life Committee would like to thank the wonderful parishioners of St. William Parish for their support of the Father's Day Candy Bar Sale!

We're proud to announce that we'll be sending
Right to Life-LIFESPAN

\$803.00 for their Education Fund!

Life is Sweet!

Respect Life Baby Shower Summary

The Respect Life Committee hosted a Baby Shower over two weekends in June for Another Way Pregnancy Center in Farmington Hills. By all measures it was huge success. There were so many items



donated that we needed a shoehorn to get it all into an SUV for delivery! Among the items we received was a small mountain of diapers (that was an actual measurement), a boatload of wipes, shampoo, lotions, and enough clothes to outfit an army of babies (we all know how much it takes to outfit an army)! Someone generously donated a gaggle of sweet little stuffed animals! Two new highchairs showed up and the Committee decided to donate the two Pack & Plays that we had in the Tower entrances.

The loaded vehicle was amazing to see! When it arrived at Another Way Pregnancy Center the Staff helped to unload. Staff members were over-whelmed and tears were shed over the generosity shown.

St. William Parish is the BEST! You always outdo yourselves with your support of the babies. Thank you for all you have done!



K of C Picnic/Retirement Celebration!

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Picnic on July 11th after the 12:30PM Mass! This is another of the events the Knights have planned for the Summer for the Parish as we get back to doing NORMAL things! As part of this event, we're going to Celebrate the Retirements of Deacon Bob, Deacon Mike, and Nancy Thomas, and thank them for their many years of service to the Parish!

We'll be set up in the Convent Parking Lot and the area behind the Rectory with tents and tables, so bring a chair. (If you forget a chair, we'll have some available!) The Knights will be providing hamburgers, hot dogs, beverages, and other picnic fare! If you want to bring a dessert – that would be GREAT! Remember, we don't JUST want the folks who attend the 12:30PM Mass to attend but EVERYONE ELSE as well, that INCLUDES our Council members and Families!

Come and see your OLD FRIENDS, meet some NEW ones, and have a good time! We're asking for a Free Will Donation that will go to St. Vincent de Paul to help with their Ministry, so WHY NOT plan to attend?

Right to Life — Lifespan 4th of July

Our country was created because of a desire to be free—free to worship, free to speak, free to assemble and free to seek aid from our government. It was founded on the principle that we all have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. There are times when we struggle to assure these rights, but we know that the Right to Life is fundamental to them all.

A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Today's gospel is so familiar, it hurts! The home town folks couldn't accept the presence of God in Jesus. After all, they had watched him grow up. We can easily make the same mistake if we don't see God present in the ordinary routines of our family. "The Lord be with you" is a statement of fact. Believe it. Live it.



Bottle and Can Drives for Youth Ministry

Let us help you clear out the bin at home! Please **SAVE YOUR BOTTLES AND CANS** for our upcoming Bottle and Can Drives to raise funds for the National Catholic Youth Conference that occurs in November. The NCYC bound youth will be collecting your donations after all masses on the weekends of **July 10-11, August 14-15 and September 11-12**. Please drop off your returnable cans and bottles at the trailer parked in the northeast corner of the main parking lot. The trailer will remain available through Monday of these weekends, too! If you have a large stash of returnables at your home and would like us to come and get them, please call Karen Trojniak at 248-624-1371 ext. 308 to arrange for a pickup.



St. Vincent de Paul Society — 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel the people exclaim: "What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands!" Because of your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul many "mighty deeds" are accomplished for the poor.

This week put a gift in the St. Vincent de Paul poor box, knowing that through your kindness someone who is suffering will be touched by God in a miraculous way.

The Prophecy of You and Me

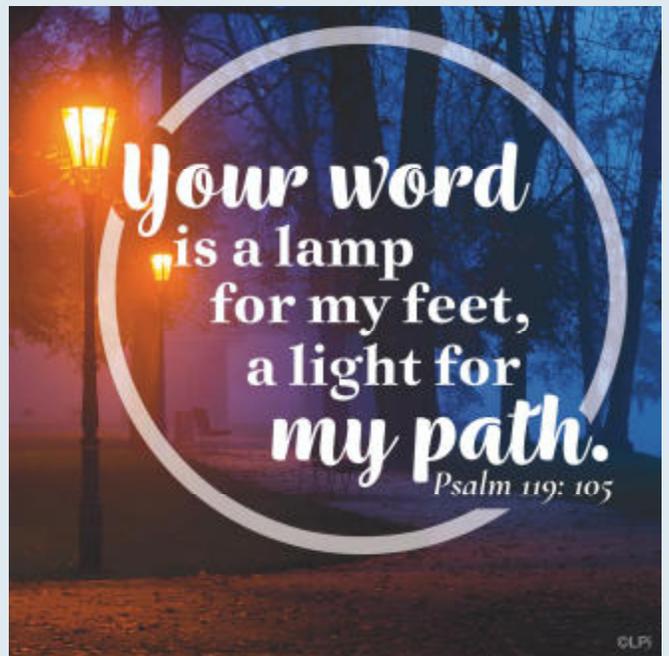
Prophet. There's a heaviness to this word. It's weighted down with meaning. We think of prophets and we think of Charlton Heston with wild hair and a booming voice, reaching out his hand to work wonders of nature by the grace of God. We think of prophets and we think of ancient Biblical history — someone far away, someone so removed from our everyday life. A prophet is someone who knows something we don't.

When I let you in on this secret, it might scare you at first: in a way, God is calling you to be a prophet. He is calling me. He is calling anyone who hears the truth of the Gospel. However, there is no need for the megaphone and the wild locusts. This prophet gig might not be what you're thinking.

What does a prophet do? He hears and testifies to the truth, even when it's uncomfortable, even when it's unpopular, even when it results in, as Paul says, "weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions and constraints." A prophet doesn't have to be smart or rich or ordained; heck, he doesn't even have to be particularly willing.

All a prophet has to do is listen to the truth. The truth we receive from Christ, through the Gospel and the sacraments, is a mighty gift. But it is a gift that we are not meant to simply keep for ourselves. In possessing it, we are compelled to also pass it on, to share it, to let the Spirit set us on our feet.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS, ©LPI



Youth Ministry Picnic and Outdoor Fun

Don't want to miss an opportunity to get together with your friends for a summer picnic loaded with fun? On **Tuesday, July 6, from 7 - 9pm**, St. William Youth Ministry is inviting Middle and High School youth (7-12th graders) to a picnic at Clara Miller Park, (located on Benstein Road, just south of Glengary). We will be grilling up some hot dogs and ask you to bring along something to add to the meal. Everyone can join the fun when we play beach volleyball and kickball. Check your email, or the parish website (www.stwilliam.com) for picnic fliers/permission slips.

Youth Ministry Calendar of Events:

- July 6, 2021 – Summer Fun Picnic at Clara Miller Park, **7-9p**, MS and HS youth
- July 7, 2021 – Teen Topics on ZOOM, **4:30-5:30p**, MS and HS youth
- July 10-12, 2021 – Youth Ministry Bottle Drive
- July 11, 2021 – Gospel Reflection for High School teens, **11:15a-12:25p**
- July 14, 2021 - Teen Topics on ZOOM, **4:30-5:30p**, MS and HS youth
- July 14, 2021 – Summer Service in Hospitality House Garden, **6-8pm**, MS and HS youth
- July 27, 2021 – Field Game Day at St. William, **7-9pm**, MS and HS youth



ST. WILLIAM CRUSADERS 2021 FALL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL SPONSORED BY ST. WILLIAM DADS' CLUB

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
SIGN UP BY July 15, 2021**

Registration Cost:
\$100 for first child,
\$40 discount for each additional child



To Register online, follow the link on our parish website, www.stwilliam.com



E-Mail any questions to St. William Athletics Director, Mark Westemeier at: ad@saintwilliam.net

Week of July 5th through 11th

Monday July 5th

OFFICES CLOSES

7:30pm K of C Business Mtg., Lower Zepf

Tuesday July 6th

8:00am Mass

6:30pm Rosary followed by

Legion of Mary, St. Paul Rm.

Wednesday July 7th

8:00am Mass

7:30pm Ushers Mtg., RGR

Thursday July 8th

8:00am Mass

2:30pm Wedding

7:00pm St. Vincent de Paul Mtg., RGR

Saturday July 10th

12:00pm Adoration

4:30pm Mass

Sunday July 11th

10:00am Mass

12:30pm Mass

1:30pm K of C Picnic, Convent Parking Lot
**If rain Activity Center South*



A Community of Faith, Family, and Learning
 Betsy Gabrish, Principal
 248-669-4440
 www.stwilliam-school.com

OUR MISSION

“We exist to provide a school environment in which Christ is encountered and Discipleship is fostered through the teaching and practice of Catholic Tradition, values and doctrine, while challenging each student to academic excellence.”

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Word of Life

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

“O God our creator... through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society.”

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
 “Prayer for Religious Liberty”

LIVE THE LITURGY - Inspiration for the Week

God never ceases to proclaim His Word. His life-giving presence continues to sustain all things and keep them in being regardless of whether there is the faith to receive or perceive Him. Our personal agendas, preconceived ideas, misconceptions, and expectations can often cause us to be so hard of heart and obstinate that we fail to see what God is trying to do. While God remains ever present, faith is necessary for God's power to bear fruit. As we celebrate our country's independence, let us not forget the difference between liberties and freedom. While the liberties we have are most welcome treasures, only freedom from what blinds, deceives, and weighs us down can bring happiness. God is all about healing, transformation, and hope. In order for God to do what God does best, we have to invite Him in and see Him for who he is. Otherwise, God's will for humanity will be something at which we simply take offense, a common reaction when something challenges or unsettles us.

©LPi



Mass Intentions:

Tuesday, July 6th

8:00 am

Souls in Purgatory (D); Chris Bushaw (SI) Rose Campeau

Wednesday, July 7th

8:00 am

Ronald June (D) St. William Parish

Thursday, July 8th

8:00 am

Doris Golden (D) St. William Parish

Saturday, July 10th

4:30 pm

Katie Goebel (D) family; **Dave Kozora (D)** wife; **Eric Parker (D)** Laurie Brake; **Agnes Bushaw (D)** St. William Parish; **Sharon Godfrey (D)** Rose Campeau

Sunday, July 11th

10:00 am

Members of St. William Parish (L&D)

12:30 pm

Sharon Godfrey (D) Rosary Altar Society; **Lee Elwart (D)** family; **Barb Carducci (D)** Fetz family; **Chuck McKenzie (D)** Marge; **Rev. James Mayworm (SI)** Marge McKenzie; **Muriel Reutter (SI)** Rose Campeau

Readings for the week

Sunday: Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 [2cd]/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15 ab [cf. 2b]/Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15 [15a]/Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19 [22]/Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]/Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7 [cf. Ps 69:33]/Mt 10:24-33

Next Sunday: Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7-13

Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

All-powerful and ever-lasting God, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness, or disease realize that they have been chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| ♦ Andrew Hailo | ♦ Shawn Rodgers |
| ♦ Ann McCarville | ♦ Trevor Monfette |
| ♦ Betty Jo Weaver | |
| ♦ Braeden Breeder | |
| ♦ Carla Podgurski | Residents of: |
| ♦ Cathy Vanderhovel | ♦ Bloomfield Villa |
| ♦ Cheryl DesJardins | ♦ Brookdale |
| ♦ Chris Bushaw | ♦ First & Main |
| ♦ John Shubsda | ♦ Henry Ford |
| ♦ Julianne Lister | ♦ Maple Manor |
| ♦ Muriel Reutter | ♦ Novi Lakes |
| ♦ Robby Spencer | ♦ Serenity |
| ♦ Ryan Mele | ♦ Sunrise Senior Ctr. |
| ♦ Sam Kirk | ♦ Waltonwood |



*Happy are those who have died in the Lord;
let them rest from their labors for their good
deeds go with them—Rev. 14:13*

Sharon Godfrey
Maryse Long
Stephanie Kozlowski
Deacon Andrew Fairbanks
Jeffrey Short
Amanda Mosqueira
Maryse Long

Intercessory Prayers

Intercessory prayer boxes have been placed in the tower entrances. Our Intercessory Prayer Teams will lift your intentions up in prayer for two weeks. You may also email your prayer requests by clicking the link on our website, www.stwilliam.com. All prayer requests are kept confidential.

Gospel Meditation

It's all so ordinary that we can easily miss it. The seagulls hunting and diving for mollusks at the beach offer a display of determination and precision as they gather their food for the day. It's simply what these creatures do. Yet, there's a magical artfulness and skill to their work that speaks volumes about the One who breathed life into their being. This is pretty much the way it is with God's presence. God comes in common ways through common things and ordinary people. Sadly, we are so engulfed in our little worlds of order and ideas to notice the beauty and wonder of it all. Many have numbed themselves to the Divine spark at the essence of all life because that's just the way it is. What's so special about it? A sunset is a sunset and a seagull is a seagull. That's precisely what they thought about Jesus too. After all, isn't he just the carpenter's son? What merit can his words possibly have?

If we're looking for God to come in an event that is so dramatic and intense that it knocks our socks off, then think again. When pondering God's relationship with His people and God's action in our lives, we have to go back to the stable and the recurring, creative, unending power of God's presence. It was a quiet, run of the mill kind of night. There was nothing spectacular or extraordinary. To the naked eye, a woman gave birth to a child and there wasn't anything extraordinary to see. We have a hard time understanding God's ordinary-ness. Jesus grew up in an ordinary town, had neighbors and did normal human things. Perhaps that's why we don't always like the Gospel. It doesn't dazzle us with extraordinary things but simply challenges us to take a different



look at our ordinary stuff. That makes us uncomfortable. We prefer things as they are. Our lack of faith can even cause us to take offense at what Jesus says and does, dismissing it as folly.

God's life-giving presence continues to sustain that seagull in flight and keep all things in being regardless of whether we have the faith to see and understand this. Our personal agendas, preconceived ideas, misconceptions, and expectations can often cause us to be hardened and blinded to what God is doing or desiring to do. While God continues to do what he has done for all eternity, faith is needed for God's presence to bear fruit. The blinders we wear and the expectations we bring to life can often prevent us from seeing graced moments that radiate with God's graceful presence. They also prevent God's transforming, healing, and hope filled vision for our world from being realized. Without faith, God won't be able to do much for us either.

©LPI

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Question: Our Catholic grade school is doing a penance service this Lent. Do young children really need to go to Confession? How much sin can they really have?

Answer:

Ask any mom about her children and see how many would say she has a brood of perfect angels! Parents know that kids do things that are wrong ... and they often know they're doing it! Even toddlers have a sense of right and wrong. The Church recognizes that their minds and consciences are not yet fully developed, however, and typically waits until age seven to offer the sacrament of Confession. Around that age and beyond, most young people, when asked, can easily explain why something is wrong.

Confession for children is an excellent way to help them reflect on their actions and accept responsibility for their behavior. It helps them to grow in their understanding of sin and how it affects others. This helps them to form their consciences and make better choices in the future. Most importantly, they learn the value of forgiveness, both given and received. Rather than singling out what's wrong, Confession offers hope and a new start! Children can grow in understanding God's unconditional love and develop a sense of inner dignity that transcends their failings. Not bad for five minutes and an "Our Father" or two!

Sharing the Gospel

People in his hometown did not believe that Jesus could be smart enough to teach in their temples. They did not believe he could heal. So he went to other towns to teach and heal. If someone says that you are not smart enough or skilled enough, Jesus understands. He will help you. Tell them, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Prayer

Lord, help me say to myself and others, "You can do it. God will help."

Something to Draw

Draw Jesus welcomed by smiling faces as he teaches and heals in your town.

Mission for the Week

If someone is left out of a game, say, "I will play with you."

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