CHILDREN'S PRAYER LEAFLET: SPIRITUAL TRAINING

(*October 2024*)

Jesus came to save us and give us life in abundance (Jn 10:10). To begin his public ministry, he called twelve disciples to train them. At school, we are trained. Parents like to put their children in a disciplined school. Our Christian life also needs training. That's why we are taught to make the sign of the cross, prayers such as the Hail Mary, the Our Father, Glory be to the Father and many others. We also learn Catechism for First Communion and Confirmation. As a result, children in the Word of God groups have their own meetings and retreat days, not to mention picnics. That's why we have to take everything we're taught in church and at the Word of God group very seriously. The aim is for children to love Jesus and serve him, so that they can be holy and go to heaven.



SAINT FRANCIS OF BORGIA ,JESUIT

Once upon a time there was a little boy called Francis of Borgia. He was Spanish and his father was a king. So he was a prince. As soon as he could speak, his mother taught him to pronounce the sacred names of Jesus and Mary. At the age of five, he had a marvellous memory for the sermons, the tone and gestures of the preachers, and repeated them in his family. Although his youth was spent in the world and as a soldier, his life was very pure and entirely Christian.

At the age of twenty-eight, the sight of the disfigured corpse of the Empress Isabella struck him so much that he said to himself: 'Francis, this is what you will soon be... What use will the greatness of the world be to you?' Nevertheless, yielding to the urgings of the emperor, who made him his first adviser, he did not leave the world until the death of his wife, Eleonora de Castro. He was thirty-six years old and still had to spend four years in the world to provide for his eight children.

Francis of Borgia was very humble. On several occasions, the Pope wanted to make him a cardinal; on one occasion he fled; on another, Saint Ignatius showed him the

various dangers if he accepted. One day, while travelling with an old religious, he had to sleep on straw with his companion in a very poor house. All night the old man did nothing but cough and spit; it was not until the next morning that he realised what had happened to him. He had covered the Saint's face and clothes with his spit. As he showed great sorrow, Francis said to him: 'Don't let that bother you, because there was no place in the room where you would rather spit than on me. What a man of heroic virtues.

The more the humble religious lowered himself, the more honours sought him out. He who signed all his letters with the words: Francis, sinner; he who read the letters of his superiors only on his knees, became the third General of the Society of Jesus.



DAILY READINGS AND EXERCISES OF THE WORD TO BE PUT INTO PRACTICE FOR CHILDREN (October 2024)

1. Tuesday: Lk 9, 51-56: Pray the Pope's intention: That the Church continue to support, in every possible way, a

synodal way of life, under the sign of co-responsibility, by fostering participation, communion and solidarity between priests, religious and lay people. Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus. Pray to her for a special intention. Read an extract from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)

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2. Wednesday: Job 9, 1-12: Ask your guardian angel to protect you

3. Thursday: Lk 10, 1-12: Pray for your brother, sister or parents
4. Friday: Job 38, 1. 12- Ask God for forgiveness for your sins

21.40.3-5:

5. Saturday: Lk 10, 17-24: Tell someone about something good you have done to love Jesus.

6. Sunday: Mk 10, 2-16: Take time to talk and ask someone if they are all right, so that you can do as Jesus did who

cared for everyone.

7. Monday: Ga1, 6-12: Our Lady of the Rosary: Make a rosary or a 'Ave Maria' so that God will allow you to love

him even if you have to die a martyr's death like the saints.

8. Tuesday: Lk 10, 38-40: Don't spend the day without praying Make the sign of the cross three times a day.

9. Wednesday: Lk 11, 1-4: Pray the 'Our Father

10. Thursday: Lk 11, 5-13: Ask God for something that matters to you

11. Friday: Ga 3, 6-14: Do not lie or steal today. Pray also for thieves, that they may be converted.

12. Saturday: Lk 11, 27-28: Read the Bible or ask someone to read you a gospel story.

13. Sunday: Mk **10, 17-30:** Help someone

14. Monday: Lk 11, 29-32: Properly make your bed 15. Tuesday: Lk 11, 37-41: Give someone some food

16. Wednesday: Ga 5, 18-25: Do not get angry and ask God to help you avoid anger.

17. Thursday: Eph2, 1-10: Pray to be a saint

18. Friday: Lk 10, 1-9: Offer a gift to your father, mother or another family member

19. Saturday: Eph 1, 15-23: Praying for someone who is wicked

20. Sunday: Mk 10-35-45: Mission Sunday. Pray for evangelisation in the world.
21. Monday: Eph 2, 1-10: Forgive someone or be very gentle with them today.

22. Tuesday: Lk 12, 35-38: Day of prayer for the Word of God Retreat Centre. Pray for the Word of God Retreat

Centre

23. Wednesday: Eph 3, 2-12: Read another Bible verse than today's Word.

24. Thursday: Eph 3, 14-21: Sing a song to the Holy Spirit, remind your mother or father not to forget to register for the

couples' retreat or single people's retreat.

25. Friday: Eph 4, 1-6: Offer a flower or a drawing to your mother or father.

26. Saturday: Lk 13, 1-9: Help someone to do their work

27. Sunday: Mk 10, 46b- 52: Pray that Jesus will help you grow in your love for him.

28. Monday: Eph 2, 19-22: Remind your elders, father or mother to bring you to the children's meeting at the Word of God

group

29. Tuesday: Lk 13, 18-21. Pray that God will give you much faith.

30. Wednesday: Eph 6, 1-9: Tell your father, mother or guardian that you love them

31. Jeudi: Eph 6, 10-20: Avoid sin and pray not to sin

Henri Bayemi

Prayer leaflet of the Incarnation Movement (Movement of the Roman Catholic Church)

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