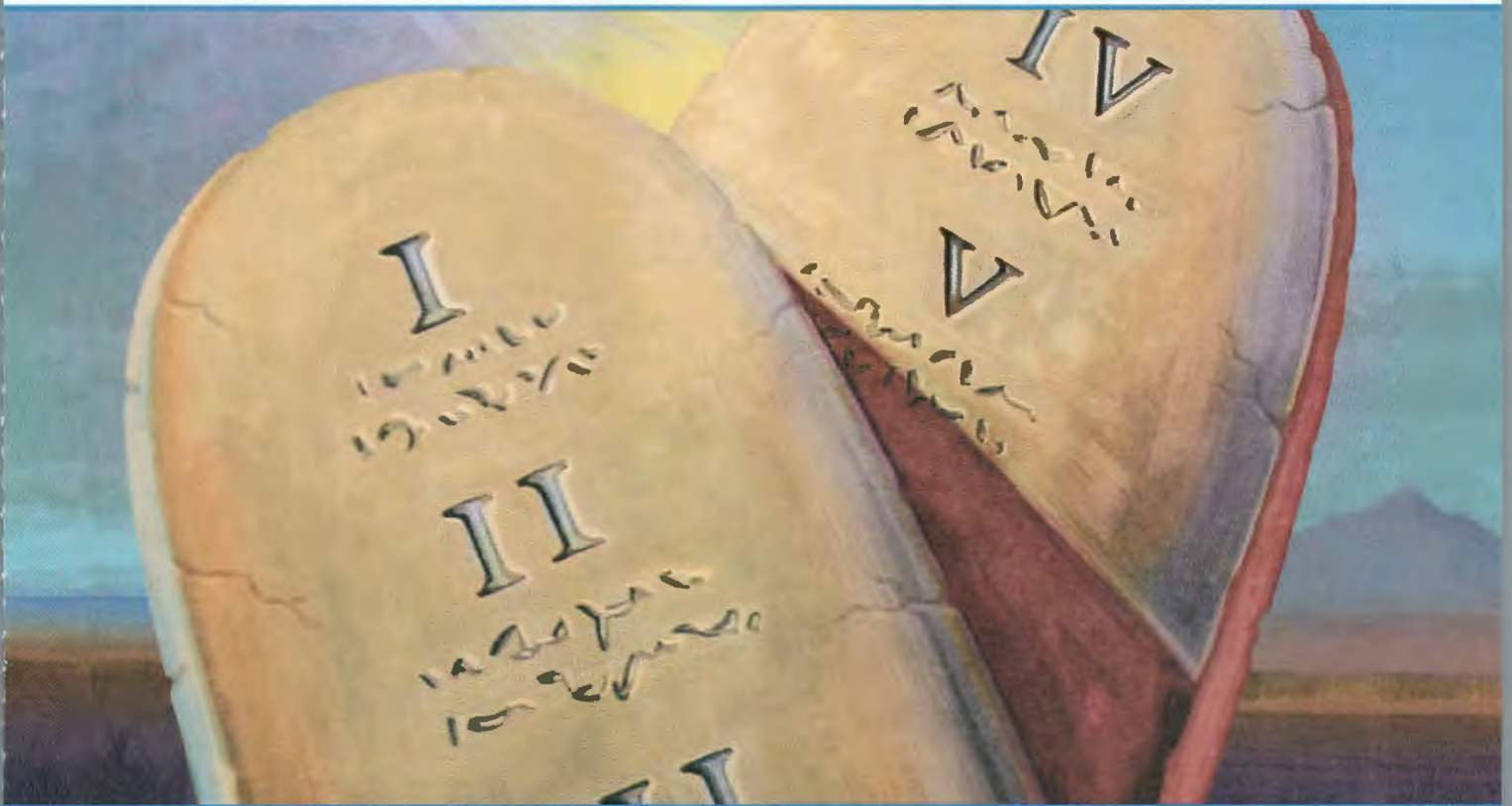


ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 4

The Moral Life

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OurSundayVisitor

Honoring God

Let Us Pray

Leader: All glory, praise, and honor to you, great God of grace.

“I will proclaim your name to all I know;
in the assembly I will praise you:
You who fear the LORD, give praise!
All descendants of Jacob, give honor.”

Based on Psalm 22:23–24a

All: We honor and respect you, Lord, and give to you first place in our lives. Amen.

Scripture

“Worthy are you, Lord our God,
to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things;
because of your will they came to be
and were created.

Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving,
honor, power, and might
be to our God forever and ever. Amen.”

Revelation 4:11; 7:12

What Do You Wonder?

- What can help you honor and worship God?
- Does putting God first mean your family and friends aren't important?

Putting God First

What does it mean to praise and honor God?

God created each person to be unique, but also alike in a most important way. He created everyone in his own image. Once, the Hebrew people forgot to show God the honor and respect due to the giver of such a gift.

Scripture

The Golden Calf

Moses was with God on Mount Sinai for forty days and nights. When the people learned of Moses' delay, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us a god who will be our leader; as for the man Moses who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him." Aaron collected and melted all their gold, forming it into a golden calf. Then Aaron built an altar before the calf and declared a feast. The people brought sacrifices and worshipped the calf.

God then told Moses to return to the people and tell them how angry he was. Moses returned to the camp and destroyed the calf, turning it to powder. **Based on Exodus 32:1-20**

➔ Why did it not show respect to God to worship the golden calf?



Astrology contradicts the honor we owe God.



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The First Commandment

The sin of worshipping the golden calf occurred while Moses was receiving the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments from God. The First Commandment says, “I am the Lord your God. You shall not have strange gods before me.”

The First Commandment requires you to honor and worship only God. **Worship** is the adoration and praise that is due to God. You worship God when you celebrate Mass, when you pray, and when you live a life that puts God first. Worshipping an object or a person instead of God, as the people worshipped the golden calf, is called **idolatry**.

When you worship God, you show your belief in him as the source of creation and salvation. You show that you, and all creatures, rely on him for life. You show your trust and hope in him. This is why fortune-telling, or thinking that we can control nature and know the things that God knows, is against the First Commandment.

➔ **What are some things that people sometimes place ahead of God?**

Catholic Faith Words

worship to adore and praise God, especially in the liturgy and in prayer

idolatry the sin of worshipping an object or a person instead of God. It is letting anything or anyone become more important than God.

Share Your Faith

Reflect Think about the ways you worship God. Write a sentence that explains why God is deserving of praise.

Share Share your responses with a partner.

Respecting God

What do the Second and Third Commandments tell you to do?

The Second Commandment is connected to the First Commandment: “You shall not take the name of the Lord in vain.” God’s name is sacred, or holy, because God is sacred. When God called Moses to be the leader of his People, God revealed his name to Moses. God shared his name with his People because he loved and trusted them. In return, God’s People are to bless and praise God’s holy name.

This Commandment calls you to always use the name of God with reverence and respect. Respecting God’s name is a sign of the respect God deserves. It is a sin against God’s name to curse or to use God’s name to swear to a lie. To seriously dishonor the name of God, Jesus Christ, Mary, or the Saints in words or actions is called **blasphemy**.

You probably use God’s name most often in prayer. Calling on God’s name strengthens you to live as a child of God and a follower of Christ. The Second Commandment also reminds us that God calls each person by name. A name is a sign of a person’s human dignity. You are to use the names of others with respect.

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Catholic Faith Words

blasphemy the sin of showing disrespect for the name of God, Jesus Christ, Mary, or the Saints in words or action

Resurrection the event of Jesus being raised from Death to new life by God the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit



Fill in the missing letters in the words below.

The Name of God

Every time you make the Sign of the Cross, you call on the name of

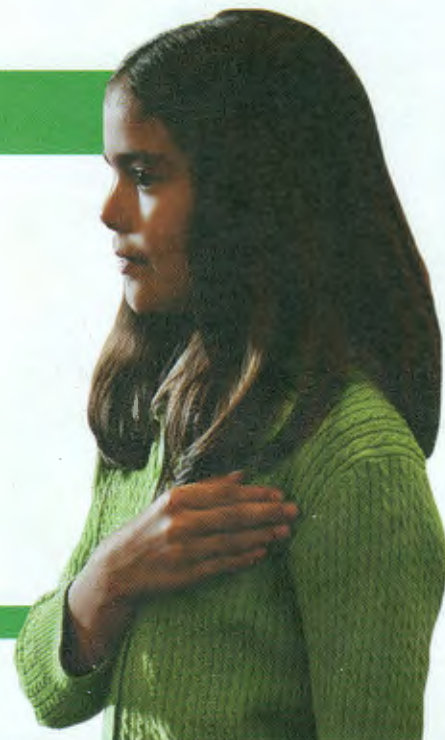
the F r,

of the Son, and of the

H y Sp t.

This is a reminder of your

B t m.



Keeping the Lord's Day

Following the First, Second, and Third Commandments helps you love God and grow closer to him. The Third Commandment teaches you to honor God by celebrating Sunday, the greatest and most special day of the week for Christians. The Third Commandment is this: Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.

Sunday is the first day of the week. Jesus' rose to new life on the first day of the week. This is why Sunday is known as the Lord's Day. Gathering on Sunday for the Eucharist has been the center of the Church's life since the time of the Apostles. This is because Sunday is the day of the Lord's **Resurrection**.

The Lord's Day

Participate in the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. This is the most important way to observe the Third Commandment.

Rest and enjoy time with your family. Share a meal, read the Bible together, or visit a relative you do not often see.

Take part in parish activities, visit a retirement center, visit people in the community who are sick, or perform a work of service as a family.

Respect the rights of others to rest and observe Sunday.

Connect Your Faith

Sunday Suggestions Circle the actions you could take to remember the Lord's Day.



Our Catholic Life

Why are the First, Second, and Third Commandments important?

The first three Commandments are about how you act toward, think about, and worship God. They give you a guide for how you can praise God and show him respect.



Unscramble the letters in the boldfaced words to find some ways to show your respect for God.

Commandments of Respect

God has given you many blessings. In return, he asks that you follow the first three Commandments in worship of him.

Attend Mass Participate in Mass every Sunday or Saturday evening.

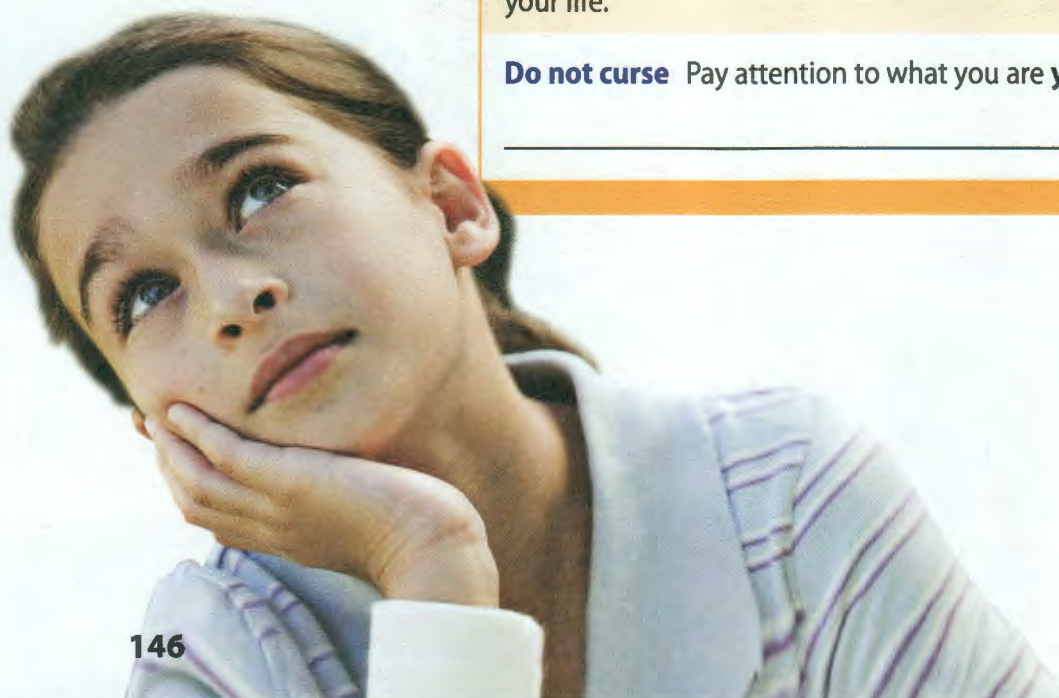
Say grace Give thanks to God and ask for his **lbigssen** before you eat.

Remember the meaning of religious holidays During the holidays, stop and think about why you are celebrating.

Love others Show kindness and love to people around you. They are made in God's **emgia**.

Say a prayer of thanks Thank God for the many blessings in your life.

Do not curse Pay attention to what you are **ysinga**.



People of Faith

May 26

Saint Mary Ann of Quito, 1618–1645

Saint Mary Ann of Quito was born in Quito, a city in Ecuador, South America. She was from a noble family. At an early age, she promised to live a holy life in poverty. She spent much time in prayer and doing penance. At first her name was Mariana de Paredes. Because she wanted to be sure she always showed her respect for the Name of Jesus, she added his name to hers. When earthquakes and disease came to her city, she prayed. The city was saved. She is considered a national hero of Ecuador.



Discuss: How do you show respect for the name of God?



Learn more about Saint Mary Ann at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Describe how the student in the picture is following one of the Commandments.

Illustrate one way you could love God by following one of the first three Commandments.



 Let Us Pray

Prayer of Praise

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: Respond to each name of God by praying:
We praise your name, O God.

Reader: God, our Father,

All: We praise your name, O God.

Reader: All merciful and gracious God,

All: We praise your name, O God.

Reader: God, our Creator,

All: We praise your name, O God.

Reader: Compassionate God,

All: We praise your name, O God.

Reader: God, source of all life,

All: We praise your name, O God.

Leader: Let us pray.

Bow your heads as the leader prays.

All: Amen.



Sing "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"



YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explains how the First, Second, and Third Commandments help us keep God first in our lives and teach us to worship God and honor his name.

Scripture



Read **Revelation 4:11; 7:12** to find out why and how to honor God.

Catholics Believe

- The first three Commandments teach you to honor God above all else, respect his name, and worship him on Sunday.
- These Commandments tell you to believe in, trust, and love God.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #2063–2065 at uscgb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Mary Ann of Quito, one of the national heroes of Ecuador.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Honoring God It can be a challenge for many fourth-graders to honor God above everything. Children this age are practical and concrete, so they are usually very focused on material things. Understanding that they should seek God more than they want the newest video game system or other high-tech device can pose a conflict for them. They need to know that if they ask him, God will help them form the desires of their heart so that they are in line with his will.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

What would your calendar indicate are the top priorities in your family's life?

Most of our calendars are filled with work, children's activities, and chores to keep the household running. Yet, the Commandments call us to prioritize with God in mind. As Catholics, we understand that "the first three Commandments treat our relationship to God. . . . The First Commandment calls us to have faith in the true God, to hope in him, and to love him fully with mind, heart, and will. . . . The First Commandment fosters the virtue of religion that moves us to adore God alone because he alone is holy and worthy of our praise" (*USCCA, p. 341*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to tell you one way we honor God in our lives.
- Talk about how your family keeps the Lord's Day.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Dear God, may we always respect and honor your name and never use it as a swear word. Amen.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Chapter 9 Review

A Work with Words Fill in the circle next to the word that best completes each statement.

1. Calling on God's name in _____ helps you live as a child of God and follower of Christ.
 anger
 prayer
 an oath
2. _____ the name of God, Jesus Christ, Mary, or the Saints in words or actions is called blasphemy.
 Dishonoring
 Explaining
 Honoring
3. When you adore and praise God, _____ in the liturgy and in prayer, you are worshipping him.
 except
 only
 especially
4. Fortune-telling is against the _____ Commandment.
 First
 Second
 Third

5. When you worship God, you show your _____ in him as the source of creation and salvation.
 disbelief
 belief
 indifference

B Check Understanding Respond briefly to the following questions.

6. Who or what should you worship?

7. What did God create in his own image?

8. How can you show respect for God's name?

9. Who is called to worship at Sunday Mass?

10. What do the first three Commandments tell you to do?

