

For St. James Sunday School Students – 11/15/2020

Sunday School continues with 1 p.m. Zoom connection

Your Sunday School teachers hope you can join us and your classmates for a Zoom connection this Sunday. As the school year unfolds, our No. 1 priority is to keep you and your families safe and healthy. For our tenth session, please join us on Zoom at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 15, for a half-hour virtual get-together to talk about the blessed Mary and keep each other up to date on how things are going in these challenging times!

ZOOM DETAILS
876 1082 4012

Also, please view this [video](#) by Diocese official Arpi Nakashian about Mary, the Mother of God.

November 21 is the Feast of the Presentation of St. Mary to the Temple



The early life of St. Mary does not appear in the Gospels. According to Holy Tradition, however, we know that her parents Sts. Joachim and Anna had prayed that they might have a child and made a solemn promise that if God were to bless them with one, they would dedicate this precious gift to His service. At the birth of their beloved daughter, they did not forget their vow. When Mary

was three years old, they took her to the Temple where she was dedicated and where she stayed in the care of devoted women until she was betrothed at about the age of fourteen. *Reflection: Sadly, people rarely think of their children today as gifts from God. And yet, if we were to receive them in true joyful gratitude, how might we dedicate them to God today?*

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Bible Readings for Sunday, Nov. 15

From Today's Readings

Luke 9:44-50 Urging his disciples to *listen carefully*, Jesus predicts His betrayal and then witnesses them blithely argue about who among them would be the greatest. He derails their

misguided debate by bringing a child to his side and challenging them to welcome him. A true disciple sees the face of Christ in these who are “least” in the world’s eyes (but the first and greatest in God’s). In the same egocentricity, they boast of trying to stop a man in an act of healing because “he is not one of us.” (v.49) *Discuss/reflect: Does your believing community practice inclusivity, welcoming all in His name? Have you ever experienced the phrase “he is not one of us” – in any variation, spoken or unspoken – in your congregation? What would Jesus have to say?*

Philippians 1:1-11 St. Paul joyfully remembers the Philippians as deeply faithful and thinks of them as his fellow travelers, sharing in God’s grace. He affirms that because of their dedication and faith, God will continue to work in their lives and make them “pure and blameless” for when they see Christ again. *Discuss/reflect: Personalize vv 3-11 by thinking of a specific person who journeys with you on your walk of faith; read it, using their name. Pray together on these verses.*

Isaiah 25: 9-26:7 The reading begins with an oracle against Moab, a neighbor of Judea, and ends, in Chapter 26, with a beautiful psalm-like prayer of trust in God. *Discuss/reflect: In these stressful times of pandemic, political turmoil, civil unrest, and climate change, what alone can bring you peace? Read 26:3 again. What two things can help you bring this about? (Hint: focus on and trust in God)*



[For a video from Arpi Nakashian about Mary, the Mother of God, please click this link](#)