

Good-bye!

Allelu!

Growing and Celebrating with Jesus

Lesson 28, ages 3-4

Lesson 28 Goal

- Your child will have an opportunity to review what he or she has learned this year.

Key Points

- Sometimes good friends have to say good-bye.
- We can still be friends, even when we can't be together.



Parent Reflection

In a very real way the Church and the Communion of Saints are one in the same. For the Church is the people of God, both the living and those who have died in Christ. The “oneness” of the Church is so powerful that even time and death do not separate its members. We are forever united to those who have come before us and those who will come after us in the faith.

In a certain sense, we are a community that never has to say good-bye to one another. “But if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another” (1 John 1:7).

Reflection Question

What have been some of the most difficult “good-byes” for me?
What has made those good-byes easier to bear?

Lesson Preparation

Before inviting your child to sit with you for lesson time, prepare all materials.

Materials

- Family Activity Sheet
- crayons or colored pencils
- two polished, clean rocks (from craft or garden store)
- tempera paint
- paint brushes
- newspaper or other covering for painting

surface

- Lesson 28 Activity Master – Saint Page (included with this lesson)

(Keep the saint page from each lesson to gather together a Communion of Saints Book created by your child.)

Preparation Steps

- Prepare a work area where you and you can complete a painting activity.

Gathering

Create a prayerful space. You might place a candle on the table, or set a cross in front of you. Invite your child to join you in quietly preparing for prayer.

Begin in prayer:

Make the Sign of the Cross together or bless your child by tracing a cross on his or her forehead: “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

Pray together: *“Thank you, God, for blessing us with your Son, Jesus. We adore you, we love you, and we thank you for all the blessings you have given us this year. Amen.”*

Discovering

Bless You! Turn to the first page of the Activity Sheet and read about what your child has learned throughout the year.

Ask your child, “What do you remember learning about Jesus this year?”

Turn to the second page of the Activity Sheet. Ask your child the “Ask Me!” questions and review the answers.

Exploring

Use the following activities to enrich your child’s understanding of the lesson and of our Catholic faith.

1. What Have You Learned This Year? Turn to the drawing in the main activity of the Activity Sheet (center pages) and invite your child to describe what he or she sees. Give your child crayons or colored pencils. Explain the activity and have your child complete it.

2. Prayer Rock. With your child, paint and decorate rocks with a special symbol or design that will serve as a reminder of all you have learned together this year. Exchange the rocks as a special remembrance of the year you shared learning about Jesus. Explain to your child that the rock you decorated is a special rock to remind him or her of your love and God’s love.

3. The Communion of Saints: Saint Mary MacKillop. Show your child the picture of Saint Mary MacKillop on the Family Activity page and read about her. Then read more about Saint Mary MacKillop to your child (see page 3).

Ask your child, “What would you try to teach other children about God?”

Have your child write and draw about Saint Mary MacKillop using the Lesson 28 Activity Master.

Sending

Pray with your child. Begin by making the Sign of the Cross together, or bless your child by tracing a cross on his or her forehead. Pray aloud

with your child:

“May God bless and keep us. May God’s face shine on us and be kind to us. May the grace of Jesus be with all of us! Amen.”

Saint Mary MacKillop

Bringing Learning to All Kinds of Children

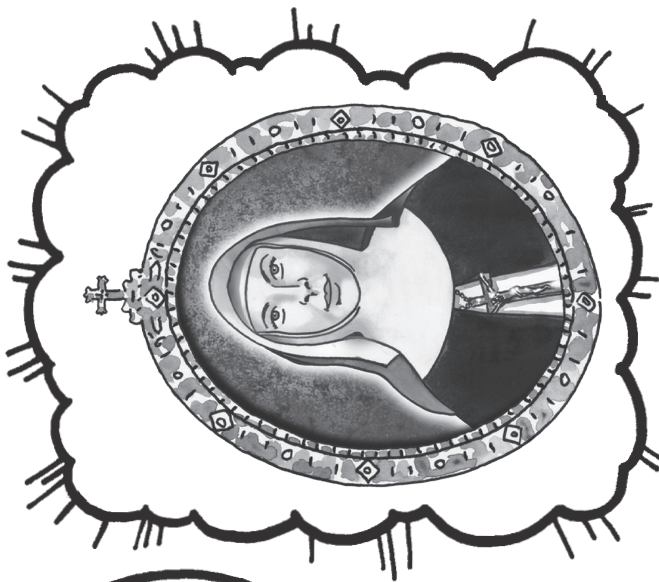
Mary was born in Australia about one hundred and fifty years ago. Australia is an island country that has cities along the shore, and a large, open area in the middle called the bushland. At the time that Mary lived, it was hard for children in these rural areas to learn about God. So she decided to open schools in the cities and in the bushland. She had a dream that she could help all kinds of children learn to love Our Heavenly Father.

Mary had learned about God from her own father. He had gone to school to learn as much as he could about religion. When Mary became

a young adult, she decided that it was important to do the same thing. She opened a school in her house to help young girls study to become religious sisters. Religious sisters are women who promise to love God first. They work hard to help other people understand God’s love.

A few years later, Mary moved to a different city. She opened a free Catholic school. She also worked with other people to create the very first religious order in Australia. There are still women in Australia today who do good work for the same religious order!

DRAW



**Saint
Mary MacKillop,
pray for us!**