



1 Opening Prayer

Scripture: The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. (Wisdom 3:1-3)

Together: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

2 Opening

Today's focus will be about the Communion of Saints. Before class, find some information about the saint whose feast day class will be held on, and share it with the class. Or, you can choose a story about one of your favorite saints to share with them. Be sure to ask, as a class, for that saint's prayers today.

The class can also look up, and learn about, students' patron Saints using Catholic Brain. If students don't have a patron Saint with whom they share a name, look up a Saint whose name is close to that of the student, or whose feast day is on a student's birthday.

Another option is for the students to do the Recent Saint memory match on Catholic Brain. See if they can identify any of these recent saints:

<https://www.catholicbrain.com/edu-memorymatch/6521/1/recent-saints>

3 Video

Watch the Lesson 36 Adventure Catechism Video

4 Comprehension Questions

- 1) Where are the Saints?
In Heaven
(Note: it is important to distinguish between the Saints, in Heaven, and the Communion of Saints. It is also important to make sure students know that every person in Heaven is a saint. The Church only canonizes a few of them, when we can know for sure that they are in Heaven, by miracles occurring through their intercession after their death, for example.)
- 2) What is the Communion of Saints?
The union between all of God's people – those who are already saints in Heaven, those being purified in Purgatory, and those on earth, still on their journey toward Heaven.

5 Discussion Questions

- 1) How is the Communion of Saints a family?
Through Baptism, we were all adopted into God's family, as His children. The Saints are like our older brothers and sisters. They love us and pray for us.

2) Why is it important to learn about Saints?

Answers will vary, but the Saints can inspire us and pray for us. The Saints have successfully completed the journey that we are on. They have gotten where we are trying to go – Heaven. Learning about how they succeeded can teach us. There are Saints from every type of background, with many different interests and talents, so we can all find Saints whom we relate to and connect with.

3) Allow students to share a little about their favorite Saints.

Answers will vary.

6 Activity

Students can do the worksheet about the Church Militant (on earth), the Church Suffering (in Purgatory), and the Church Triumphant (in Heaven). (The terminology will probably need a little explaining.) You can make it more artistic by having students divide a piece of copy paper into three sections and add drawings for each.

<https://d1kv7s9g8y3npv.cloudfront.net/cbrain-app/files/doc-lib/2018/10/24/09/05/45/729/head/Communion%20of%20Saints%20Worksheet.pdf>

Or students can do the Saints Always Point Us to Jesus maze on Catholic Brain:

<https://d1kv7s9g8y3npv.cloudfront.net/cbrain-app/files/doc-lib/2017/08/16/12/54/12/119/head/Saints-Always%20point-us-to-Jesus.pdf>

Finally, the class can pray a Litany of Saints. You can find one online, or make one using the students' patron Saints. If you have access to the Internet and a projector, the class can pray along with Matt Maher's Litany of Saints.

7

Closing Prayer

Together: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.