Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

Psalm 16:1

Saturday June 13

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

What happens when you lose something important? St. Anthony had a special book filled with his notes. He used it every day in his job teaching men who were becoming priests and brothers. One day, the book went missing. A student had secretly left the monastery, taking the book with him. St. Anthony didn’t panic. He simply prayed to Jesus. At the moment of his prayer, it’s said that the young novice had a change of heart and returned to the monastery, bringing the book with him. Many people pray to St. Anthony for help finding lost things. They have faith that St. Anthony brings their prayers to Jesus. You can too!

St. Anthony, help me stay close to God.

1 Kings 19:19-21 • Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-10 • Matthew 5:33-37
Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

1 Corinthians 10:17

Sunday June 14

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Today at Mass, take a look around you. How many people would you say are there? A hundred? Five hundred? Now think of that number multiplied by all the people taking part in the Mass all over the world right now, from Anchorage and Boston to the Yukon and Zimbabwe. Then multiply it by all the people who have ever received the Eucharist, in the whole history of the world. What a huge number that would be! But all of those billions of people in heaven and earth are all one. We are one body in Christ. How amazing is that? And you’re part of it—think of that!

Jesus, help me care for all of your people!

Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a • Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20
1 Corinthians 10:16-17 • John 6:51-58
When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one to him as well.

Matthew 5:39

When someone hurts us, it can be tempting to hurt them back. However, when Jesus tells us to turn the other cheek, he’s asking us to walk away from situations like this. That can be really hard to do because, in those moments, we might let our anger control us instead of allowing God’s love to shine through. If someone ever hurts you physically, don’t try to hurt them back. Find an adult you trust and tell them what happened. Tell God about it too. God loves you and does not want you, his precious child, to be hurt or afraid.

God, give me courage to love you always.

1 Kings 21:1-16
Psalm 5:2-7
Matthew 5:38-42
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.

Psalm 51:4

**Tuesday June 16**

Do summer days make you feel hot and sweaty? That sticky feeling doesn’t go away until it’s washed off. Running through a sprinkler or going for a swim helps. But a bath at the end of a hot day is what really cleans us up, even though it’s not as much fun!

All year long, Jesus invites us to wash away our sins in the sacrament of reconciliation. When we are sorry for doing something wrong, we can confess our sins to Jesus, who is present in the person of the priest. Jesus himself forgives us and washes away those sins forever.

Please cleanse me from my sins, Lord.

1 Kings 21:17-29 • Psalm 51:3-6, 11, 16 • Matthew 5:43-48
But when you pray, go to your inner room...

Matthew 6:6

Wednesday June 17

Even on a bright summer day, the world can seem dark.

Someone you love might be ill.

One of your parents might have lost a job.

Your best friend might be moving far away.

When you are sad or worried about anything, find a quiet place and open your heart to the Lord. Tell God how you feel. God is listening. God cares.

Lord, I am sad and worried. Please, help me.

2 Kings 2:1, 6-14 • Psalm 31:20-21, 24 • Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
His lightnings illumine the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord...

Psalm 97:4-5

The psalm writer has chosen powerful images of God’s power and majesty here: lightning flashing and volcanoes melting. Close your eyes and imagine the most amazing thing you’ve ever seen in the natural world. Is it the ocean’s rolling waves? A thunderous summer storm? A dolphin swimming up to touch your hand? A garden overflowing with sunflowers? Draw it here and make the work of your hands your prayer.

Thursday June 18

Sirach 48:1-14 • Psalm 97:1-7 • Matthew 6:7-15
...although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones.

Matthew 11:25

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Do you love to laugh and play? God has given you the gift of joy! Does it bother you to see someone treated unfairly? That’s the gift of working for justice! During tough times, do you keep your chin up and carry on? That’s the gift of courage! What other gifts has God given you? You don’t have to wait until you grow up to use them. Share them today.

Dear God, thank you for your gifts. Help me share them with others.

Deuteronomy 7:6-11 • Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10
1 John 4:7-16 • Matthew 11:25-30
Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?

Luke 2:49

What makes you feel safe? Maybe it’s a cozy room in the middle of a rainstorm. Maybe it’s the sound of someone nearby washing dishes while you’re falling asleep. When Jesus was about twelve years old, he got separated from his parents on a trip to Jerusalem. He spent three days in the temple. He felt safe there. Jesus knew his Father was with him. God is with us too. Whether we are lonely or afraid, joyful or at peace, God is by our side.

Keep me safe, Lord. I put my trust in you.

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