

# Religious Education



**CCD Family Newsletter**  
**September 25 - October 2, 2024**

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*Goodbye*  
September  
**HELLO!**  
*October*

## **CCD Continues This Week**

**Next Monday Class:**

**September 30th**

Lesson 2

**Next Tuesday Class:**

**October 1st**

Lesson 2

**Homeschooling Program:**

**Week of September 29th**

Lesson 2

[CCD Calendar](#)

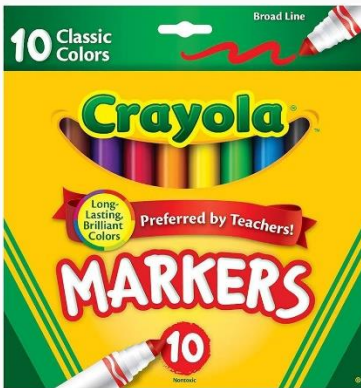
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## Homeschooling Connection

**CCD workbooks will be available for pick up through Sunday, September 29th.** If you need to make special arrangements for picking up your book, please contact Jen Noll.

As a reminder, **assignments for the week are posted on Sunday mornings.** This is our first year administering the homeschooling program through the *Christ in Us* portal, so we may experience a few bumps together in the early days of the transition. If you are experiencing any difficulty or do not see assignments posted for your child, please reach out to Jen Noll.



## Gospel Reflection Stickers for the Week

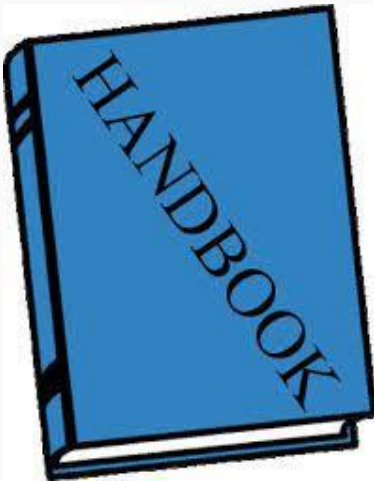
Ask your child if they can tell you why Mrs. Noll gave out stickers with a package of markers on them at CCD yesterday. What do markers have to do with the disciples arguing amongst themselves who is the greatest? (Basically, just like there is no "better" color to use when coloring a picture, we are ALL important and at our best when we are using our gifts to serve others.)



## Essential Question for Lesson 2: *Who is God?*

Thanks to the structure of our new curriculum, students in ALL grades will be working with their classes to answer the SAME essential faith question. This week's essential question is "*Who is God?*"

After CCD, ask your kids what their class came up with as an answer to this week's essential question. Spoiler alert: This lesson focuses on the Three Divine Persons of the Blessed Trinity. God always existed and always will. He is our Creator and has a loving plan for all of creation. God's love is so great that even when humanity turned away from God through sin, he sent Jesus Christ as the Messiah to be our Savior. After the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, God sent the Holy Spirit to guide us and help us follow Jesus.



## 2024-2025 Family Handbooks

Copies of our 2024-2025 Family Handbooks were distributed at check in on Monday and Tuesday for our in-person families. Homeschooling families will receive copies of the Homeschooling Handbook when they come in to get their children's workbooks. Our handbook is always available on the OLS website. If you would like to view a copy of either handbook in advance, you can also do so here:

[2024-2025 Family Handbook](#)  
[2024-2025 Homeschooling Handbook](#)

**Families are asked to sign and return an Acknowledgement indicating that they have read this year's handbook by October 8th.**

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## **Archdiocese of Newark Digital Communications Form**

If you did not complete the digital version of the Archdiocese of Newark Digital Communications Form via the Adobe link sent by Mrs. McDonald, a hard copy of the form was added to your first day packet. Please complete and return along with your Handbook Acknowledgement Form. Once we have this form, your child will be able to access the Christ in Us workbook through the digital portal and submit make-up work online. Thank you!

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## **Sacramental Preparation Program Parent Meeting** Reminder and Zoom Links

Our Sacramental Preparation Program for First Reconciliation kicks off this week with our Parent Meeting Zooms. Please plan on attending one of our following meetings:

**Thursday, September 26th**

1:00 pm

[1:00 PM Zoom Meeting Link](#)

**OR**

**Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm

[7:00 PM Zoom Meeting Link](#)

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## CCD Dismissal Reminders

### CCD Ends at 5:15

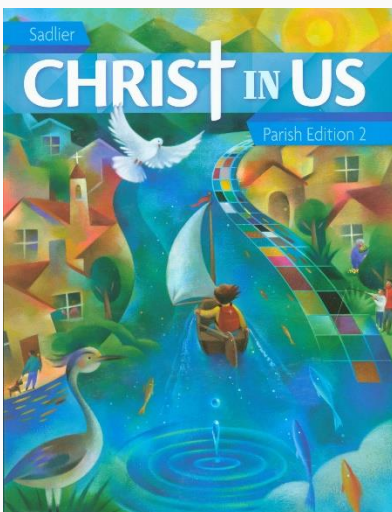
Dismissal is from the OLS School

**Grades K-3:** Cafeteria

**Grades 4&5:** Double Cafeteria Doors

**Grades 6-8:** 4th Street Exit to School

Please make eye-contact with your child's catechist or tell them which child you are picking up for the first few weeks so that your child's catechist knows who has left and who hasn't.



## Wait a Second! Where's My Kid's Book?

Fear not! There are CCD workbooks for everyone! Each child received a copy of their book at CCD this week. Unlike the last few post-pandemic years, workbooks will NOT be going home between classes. They will be kept in the OLS School from week to week.

But what if my child is sick and needs to make up work? Or we have to move to virtual learning for a week because of a weather emergency? Again, fear not! Our *Christ in Us* curriculum comes with a license to the online version of the workbook, so even if we need to move to remote learning or you need to make up a class here or there you can still access the workbook from home. (That's also why it is critical that you complete and return the Digital Communications form.) One less thing to worry about remembering in life!



## Welcome New Families!

Once again, welcome to all of our new CCD families. We hope your children had a positive first experience this week at CCD. If you missed our new family orientation Zooms last Sunday and want to review the slide presentation used, please click on one of the links below.

[New In-Person Program Overview](#)

[New Homeschooling Family Overview](#)

[2024 Letter to New Families with Program Specifics](#)

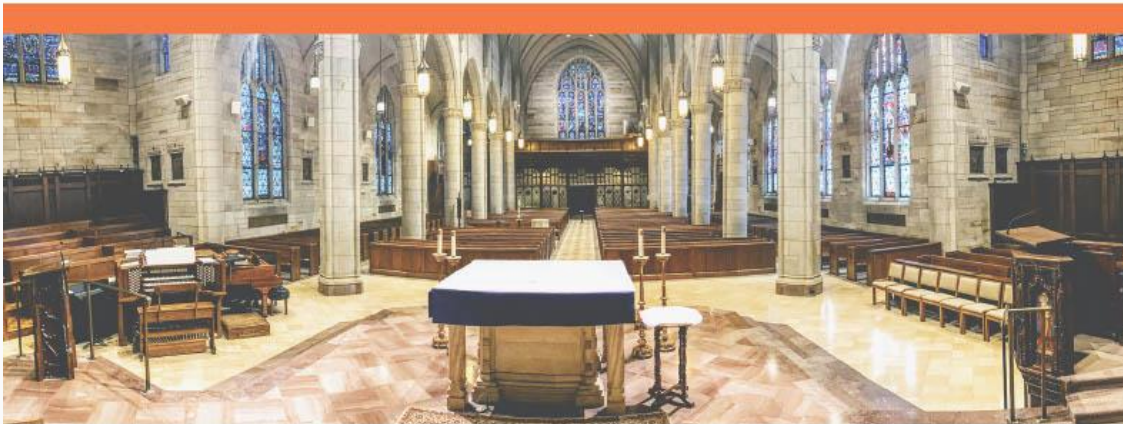


## CYO Basketball Registration ends October 10th

Boys and Girls in Grades K – 8 who are registered students in the OLS CCD program are invited to play CYO Basketball as part of a shared parish ministry with St. Joseph's in Maplewood. Teams will practice and play games at St. Joseph's Parish Gym from October to March. Additional information and the registration form can be found on the St. Joseph's CYO Basketball web site at [www.stjosephscyob.org](http://www.stjosephscyob.org). Contact Gerry O'Connor, St. Joseph's Athletic Director, at [stjosephcyobb@aol.com](mailto:stjosephcyobb@aol.com), with any questions or to volunteer.

Please note - Students participating in CYO, must be enrolled in a Catholic School or religious education program. They are also expected to attend classes regularly. Attendance for homeschooling program students is tracked through the submission of online lesson tests.





## OUR LADY OF SORROWS



## FAMILY MASS

Every Sunday at 10:00 am

What to expect: family-focused preaching, kid's bulletins, music led by our youth choirs, and family members of all ages serving in the liturgy as gift-bearers, ushers, greeters, and proclaimers.

**Coffee & Donuts and Catholic kid's craft downstairs after Mass on 2nd and 4th Sunday!**

**Serve at this Mass as a family:**

For more information & to sign up to serve, contact a staff member below or scan here:

Colleen McDonald: [sorrowschurch@gmail.com](mailto:sorrowschurch@gmail.com)

Stephanie Sonnick: [olschurchministries@gmail.com](mailto:olschurchministries@gmail.com)





## SAINT / FEAST OF THE WEEK

### St. Jerome

**Feast Day:** September 30th

**Patron of:** Librarians, Scholars, Translators

**Attributes in Art:** Lion, cardinal attire, cross, skull, trumpet, owl, books and writing material

Most of the saints are remembered for some outstanding virtue or devotion which they practiced, but Jerome is frequently remembered for his bad temper! It is true that he had a very bad temper and could use a vitriolic pen, but his love for God and his son Jesus Christ was extraordinarily intense; anyone who taught error was an enemy of God and truth, and Saint Jerome went after him or her with his mighty and sometimes sarcastic pen.



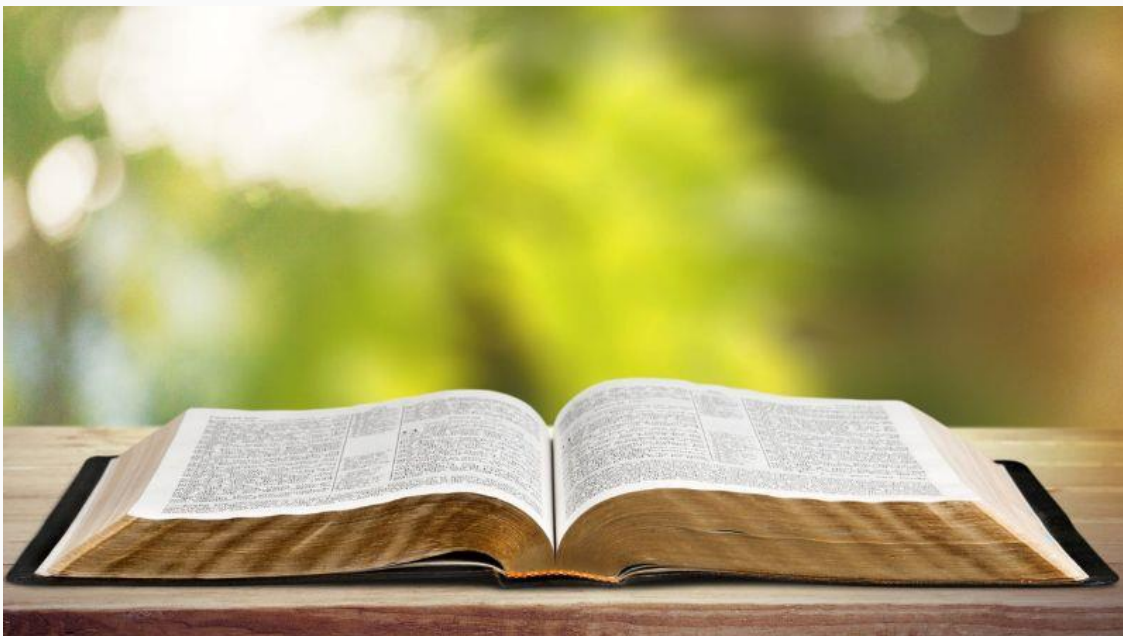
He was above all a Scripture scholar, translating most of the Old Testament from the Hebrew. Jerome also wrote commentaries which are a great source of scriptural inspiration for us today. He was an avid student, a thorough scholar, a prodigious letter-writer and a consultant to monk, bishop, and pope. Saint Augustine said of him, "What Jerome is ignorant of, no mortal has ever known."

Saint Jerome is particularly important for having made a translation of the Bible which came to be called the Vulgate. It is not the most critical edition of the Bible, but its acceptance by the Church was fortunate. As a modern scholar says, "No man before Jerome or among his contemporaries and very few men for many centuries afterwards were so well qualified to do the work." The Council of Trent called for a new and corrected edition of the Vulgate, and declared it the authentic text to be used in the Church.

In order to be able to do such work, Jerome prepared himself well. He was a master of Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and Chaldaic. He began his studies at his birthplace, Stridon in Dalmatia. After his preliminary education, he went to Rome, the center of learning at that time, and thence to Trier, Germany, where the scholar was very much in evidence. He spent several years in each place, always trying to find the very best teachers. He once served as private secretary to Pope Damasus.

After these preparatory studies, he traveled extensively in Palestine, marking each spot of Christ's life with an outpouring of devotion. Mystic that he was, he spent five years in the desert of Chalcis so that he might give himself up to prayer, penance, and study. Finally, he settled in Bethlehem, where he lived in the cave believed to have been the birthplace of Christ. Jerome died in Bethlehem, and the remains of his body now lie buried in the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome.

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In the Liturgy of the Word, the Church feeds the people of God from the table of his Word. Previewing the readings before Mass then is then a bit like looking over the menu before you get to a restaurant: you have a better idea of what you can expect so that you can enter into the experience more fully prepared. And like a good discussion during a meal, discussing the readings and how they can be applied to your family's daily life helps your family to truly go out and proclaim the gospel after leaving the church.

Here are a few resources to help your family delve deeper into the Liturgy of the Word:

[Readings for the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

[Loyola Press: Sunday Connection](#)

[Sadlier: This Week's Liturgy](#)

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# KIDSCALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p><b>Q</b> What did the Pharisees question Jesus about? (SEE SEPTEMBER 7)</p> <p>● Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23</p> <p><b>1</b></p>	<p>LABOR DAY</p> <p><b>2</b></p>	<p>SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT, POPE AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH</p> <p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>A</b> Unwashed hands before eating.</p> <p><b>7</b></p>
<p>TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p><b>Q</b> Whom did Jesus heal? (SEE SEPTEMBER 10)</p> <p>● Mark 7:31-37</p> <p><b>8</b></p>	<p>SAINT PETER CLAVER, PRIEST</p> <p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>A</b> A deaf man with speech impediment.</p> <p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p>THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY</p> <p><b>12</b></p>	<p>SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH</p> <p><b>13</b></p>	<p>THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</p> <p><b>14</b></p>
<p>TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p><b>Q</b> Who did Peter say Jesus was? (SEE SEPTEMBER 18)</p> <p>● Mark 8:27-35</p> <p><b>15</b></p>	<p>SAINTS CORNELIUS, POPE, AND CYPRIAN, BISHOP, MARTYRS</p> <p><b>16</b></p>	<p>SAINT ROBERT BELLARMINI, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH</p> <p>SAINT HILDEGARD OF BINGEN, VIRGIN AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH</p> <p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>A</b> the Christ.</p> <p><b>18</b></p>	<p>SAINT JANUARIUS, BISHOP AND MARTYR</p> <p><b>19</b></p>	<p>SAINTS ANDREW KIM TAE-GON, PRIEST, AND PAUL CHONG HA-SANG AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS</p> <p><b>20</b></p>	<p>SAINT MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST</p> <p><b>21</b></p>
<p>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p><b>Q</b> What were the disciples arguing about? (SEE SEPTEMBER 24)</p> <p>● Mark 9:30-37</p> <p><b>22</b></p>	<p>SAINT PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST</p> <p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>A</b> who was the greatest.</p> <p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p>SAINTS COSMAS AND DAMIAN, MARTYRS</p> <p><b>26</b></p>	<p>SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST</p> <p><b>27</b></p>	<p>SAINT WENCESLAUS, MARTYR</p> <p>SAINT LAWRENCE RUZ AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS</p> <p><b>28</b></p>
<p>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p><b>Q</b> Jesus said, "Whoever is not against us is..." (SEE SEPTEMBER 30)</p> <p>● Mk 9:38-43, 47-48</p> <p><b>29</b></p>	<p>SAINT JEROME, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH</p> <p><b>A</b> for us.</p> <p><b>30</b></p>	<p>Word of the month:</p> <p><b>BIBLE</b> The holy book that tells us about God's love for us.</p>				

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[Download the September Catechist Magazine Calendar HERE](#)

## Catholic Trivia

**Question:** St. Jerome, whose feast day the Church celebrates on September 30th, is often depicted in art with a skull. What is the skull in paintings of St. Jerome meant to symbolize?

- a) the well-trained mind of a scholar - which St. Jerome was known as being
- b) mortality and the hope of salvation - two of St. Jerome's biggest concerns
- c) the placement of a wound St. Jerome received in battle
- d) the location of St. Jerome's study above Jerusalem's oldest burial ground

**Answer: b**

*Memento mori* (Latin for "remember (that you have) to die") is an artistic or symbolic trope acting as a reminder of the inevitability of death. The concept has its roots in the philosophers of classical antiquity and Christianity, and often appeared in funerary art and architecture from the medieval period onwards.

The most common motif is a skull, often accompanied by bones. Often this alone is enough to evoke the trope, but other motifs include a coffin, hourglass, or wilting flowers to signify the impermanence of life.

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## **Joke of the Week**

**Question** - *How do you surprise a pile of pumpkins?*

**Answer** - You catch them off-gourd!

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**Jen Noll**  
**Catechetical Coordinator**  
jennollols@gmail.com  
973-763-5454 x235

**Colleen McDonald**  
**Religious Education Assistant**  
sorrowschurch@gmail.com  
973-763-5454 x285

[\*\*Our Lady of Sorrows Website\*\*](#)