Ordinary Time: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday October 31, 2021

Lead Story Headline:
The Most Important Commandment

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Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

"One of the teachers of the Jewish law came to Jesus and asked him, 'Which one of the commandments is the most important?' Jesus said, 'The most important commandment is this: you must love God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. And the second most important is this: you must love your neighbour the same as you love yourself.' The man who asked Jesus the question said, 'Teacher, you are right. We have only one God. And we must love God with all our heart, all our mind, and all our strength. And we must love our neighbour as we love ourselves. Doing this is more important than anything else we could do for God.' Jesus was pleased with what the man said, and he told him, 'You are very close to the reign of God.'"

This is the Good News of the Lord.


"...You are very close to the reign of God."

Mark 12:34

What Do You Think?

1. What is the law of Moses? Ask a friend or family member if you are unsure.

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2. How does Jesus’ teaching of the Great Commandment connect to the Ten Commandments?

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Activity: A Wonderful Truth

Long ago, people offered sacrifices to God for the forgiveness of sins. But when Jesus died, he was the perfect sacrifice for all time. Now he intercedes for us forever! The puzzle below contains "all our sin." There are eight points around the puzzle, each with a word or phrase next to it. As you connect the points in the following order, say the words for that point. Then go and tell someone this wonderful truth! Connect points 1 to 5, 3 to 7, 2 to 6 and 8 to 4.


Now Act:

Ask your parents if you can go to a nature reserve or watch a nature show. When you do this, marvel at God’s work (all of creation!) and in your heart thank God for the wonders of the world. Show a friend or family member what you have found in nature.


"I love you, God, for you are my strength. You are my God. I give you my praise. You are my God."

Psalm 18
Kingdom Builders: Catholic Social Teachings

Have you ever heard of the Catholic Social Teachings (CST)? These are 7 teachings that the Catholic Church teaches to promote social justice. There are many injustices in the world that the Church works to overcome - much like Jesus did when he was on earth. Social justice works to overcome these injustices and is at the heart and reason for the creation of the Catholic Social Teachings. The Catholic Social Teachings can help guide you through making a positive change in your own everyday life! Check out the list below and then read more about each teaching on the next page!

- 1. Life & dignity of the human person.
- 2. Call to family & community participation.
- 3. Rights & responsibilities.
- 4. Option for the poor & vulnerable.
- 5. Dignity of work.
- 6. Solidarity.
- 7. Care for God’s creation.

"Moses said to the people: 'People of Israel, listen! We hae only one God. And you must love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. This is God's commandment. Keep these words in your heart!" Deuteronomy 6:4–6
the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching for children

1. God made each person, so every life is important and should be protected.

2. God made us to be part of communities, families and countries, so all people can share and help each other.

3. God wants us to help make sure everyone is safe and healthy and can have a good life.

4. God wants us to help people who are poor, who don’t have enough food, a safe place to live, or a community.

5. Work is important in God’s plan for adults and their families, so jobs and pay should be fair.

6. God made everyone, so we are all brothers and sisters in God’s family wherever we live.

7. The world was made by God, so we take care of all creation.

These themes are based on United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions. © Copyright 2017, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services. All rights reserved. Photos courtesy of Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS.