# **IDEAL FOR DISTANCE LEARNING**

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## Introducing Your Partners in Faith—the Saints in Christ In Us

In *Christ In Us*, children are introduced to seven strands of spirituality by some of the giants of the Catholic mystical tradition. Each of these saints becomes a spiritual guide, taking children by the hand and leading them through prayers and practices that increase in depth and dimension with each grade level.

Catechists and parents are also given a fuller view of the prayers, reflections, and daily practices that make for a full and active spiritual life. Various forms, expressions, and language of prayer, as defined in the fourth pillar of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, are woven into *Christ In Us*.

Each grade also features a saint that helps guide children and families to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Now Grades K-8!

### **Meet the Saints**

#### Kindergarten: Saint Hildegard of Bingen

You understand so little of what is around you because you do not use what is within you.
-Saint Hildegard of Bingen

Saint Hildegard of Bingen wove together her talent as an artist, musician, writer, and healer with her great love for God. Throughout the year, kindergarteners will learn about Saint Hildegard's life and how she used her talents to deepen and share her love of God.

#### Grade One: Saint Francis of Assisi

While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.
—Saint Francis of Assisi

While often associated with his love for animals and the gifts of God's creation, Saint Francis of Assisi was equally dedicated to helping those who were poor and shunned by society. Throughout the year, Grade 1 children will learn about the life and work of Saint Francis of Assisi and his model of holiness, simplicity, and service to the poor. As first graders grow in a deeper awareness of God's love for themselves and their families, they start to expand that circle of love to include others.





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#### **Grade Two: Saint Thérèse of Lisieux**

GWhat matters in life is not great deeds but great love.

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux is one of the world's most beloved saints. Her practice of what she called "the little way" is a simple and yet profound way to grow more loving, kind, and attentive to God's presence each day. As such, she is a wonderful source of inspiration for children who are able to put her little way into practice in ageappropriate ways. Throughout Grade 2, children will learn about Saint Thérèse's life and her example of holiness.

#### **Grade Three: Venerable Pierre Toussaint**

Jesus can give you nothing
 so precious as himself.
 Venerable Pierre Toussaint

Venerable Pierre Toussaint exemplifies what it means to live generously and compassionately. While he might easily have focused solely on his own needs, he consistently shared what he had with others. Throughout the year, third graders will learn about the way in which Venerable Pierre Toussaint showed love and concern for those in need.





#### Grade Four: Saint Teresa of Ávila

The important thing is not to think
 much but to love much.
 Saint Teresa of Ávila

Saint Teresa of Ávila shows us how saintliness need not be a solemn or joyless experience. Her love of life and sense of humor, coupled with her desire to enter into deep communion with God, makes her one of our most revered saints and a Doctor of the Church. Throughout this year, fourth graders will learn more about Saint Teresa of Ávila and discover a preliminary understanding of the meaning and practice of contemplative prayer.



#### **Grade Five: Saint Ignatius of Loyola**

**Mever say or do anything until you have asked** yourself whether it will be pleasing to God, good for yourself, and edifying to your neighbor. -Saint Ignatius Loyola

Saint Ignatius recognized the power of religious imagination to awaken us to the presence of Christ in our midst. Through his spiritual practices and the Examen, he provides a pathway towards the wonders of the Divine all around us. As fifth graders learn about Saint Ignatius Loyola and Ignatian practices throughout the year, they will also open themselves to the ever-present love of God in their lives.

#### Grade Six: Saint Dominic de Guzman

**G** We must sow the seed, not hoard it. **J** -Saint Dominic de Guzman

Saint Dominic's spirituality is based on four pillars: prayer, study, preaching, and community. These encapsulate how, as disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to increase our knowledge and understanding of our faith, expand our hearts in love, and serve others through acts of charity and justice. Throughout this year, sixth graders will learn more about Saint Dominic de Guzman and use their preliminary experiences of these pillars to share the Good News of Christ with others.





# Your Spiritual Journey

# Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

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Saint Thérèse was born in 1873 into a Kind and loving Catholic family. Thérèse was a happy little girl. She loved to laugh. She wanted to do great things in life. She was known as the "Little Flower." Gradually, Thérèse's love of Jesus grew and

grew. She wanted to be a nun. She wanted to do great things as a nun.

Thérèse entered the convent. She was not happ i nerese enterea the convent. She was not inappy at first. Where were the "great things" to do in life? But gradually Thérèse felt a simple love and devotion to God. She saw in every little action in life a way to love God. She saw in every little action in me a way to love God. She saw in every person a way to show love for God.

Doing great things might be fine. But finding God's love in all the ordinary moments in the day fills the heart. We call this Thérèse's "little way."

Where will you find God's love today?

#### Telcome to Christ In Us, an exciting way to grow Catholic faith! in your

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Why is it important to have Christ live

How does your faith, the Chura and your famil ana you help bring you closer to

"It is Christ in you;

the hope for glory."

Colossians 1:27

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#### **Grade Seven: Saint John Bosco**

I All for God and for his glory. In whatever you do, think of the glory of God as your main goal.
John Bosco

An outstanding model of joyful faith and hard work, Saint John Bosco will inspire seventh graders throughout and beyond this school year. This passionate priest ministered to the youth of his day, especially those overlooked by society. He cared for them and educated them, and led them closer to Christ with gentleness, compassion, and a firm belief in their goodness as children of God. Saint John Bosco will be a joyful, holy companion and guide for the students—a vibrant example of generosity, selflessness, and respect for all people.



#### **Grade Eight: Servant of God Thea Bowman**

Control Remember who you are and whose you are.
—Thea Bowman

Sister Thea Bowman appreciated the beauty of her God-given identity. She knew that regardless of how the world defined her, she was a child of God, loved and blessed by him. She used the many gifts God had given her to work for a more just society. As eighth graders learn about this Servant of God throughout the year, they will grow to recognize the face of Christ in everyone they meet, respect the inherent dignity of all people, and be moved to promote justice for the vulnerable and oppressed.



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