

Go Forth

Growing in faith is a life-long process. God continually invites believers into a deeper relationship. Our GO FORTH opportunities will challenge you to dig deeper into your Catholic faith in a variety of ways and put your faith into action.

He remembers forever His covenant, the word He commanded for a thousand generations. –Psalm 105:8

[Past Months](#) –Link to activities and replays from previous months

Live Your Faith

We each have a vocation and state of life. We are young, old, and somewhere in between. We are single, married, parents. We are consecrated religious, others are ordained. We all know the lyrics of the old familiar song, “They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love.” How we live touches the lives of others, whether or not we take notice. How do we live our Catholic faith out in the world? Here we offer some ideas and suggestions to influence our world or make a difference in the lives within our community by simply living our faith.

Resources for Adults

- [Swear to God, by Scott Hahn](#) a book exploring the richness of Christ’s seven sacraments-their doctrine, history, symbols, and rituals.
 - [Books take different approaches to study of Catholic sacraments](#), a review of three books on the sacraments
 - [Practice Virtues of Faith, Hope & Love](#)
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Meet the Saints

One of the beautiful things about our faith is the saints. As Catholics we respect and honor the saints and consider them to be heroes of the Church. The saints are timeless examples of how to live a Christian life, providing endless hope. Not only were they sinners who kept trying to grow closer to God, but they also exemplify ways a person can serve God. The Church emphasizes that they were ordinary people from ordinary families and they were totally human. We will highlight a different saint each month of Together in Faith.

Saints Zélie & Louis Martin

Most of us have heard about St. Thérèse of Lisieux, but few of us have heard about her parents, St. Zélie and Louis Martin. Louis Martin and Zélie Guerin both sought vocations to the religious life, but were denied acceptance. It seemed as though God had other plans. They married in 1858 and made a promise to “serve God first” in their lives, because it always helped them live with love. Like all married couples, they faced sadness and disappointments. Four of their nine children died at a very young age. During difficult and joyful times, they would always turn to God to grow more deeply in love. Zélie died when Thérèse was four years old. Louis took care of his daughters with the help of relatives, until he himself became ill. Eventually all five of his daughters joined the convent. Louis saw this as a sign that God was pleased he and his wife shared their love and faith with their children. The Martin’s show us that when we live with love, we grow in holiness. St. Zélie and St. Louis Martin are the first married couple to be canonized together.

Prayers

- [Saints Zélie and Louis Martin Novena](#)
- [Prayer for the intercession of Saints Louis & Zélie Martin](#)

Learn more about these saints

- [Saints Louis & Zélie Martin](#), a website biography & road to canonization
 - [Married Saints and Blesseds through the Centuries by Ferdinand Holbock](#), a book on FORMED
 - [A Family of Saints: The Martins of Lisieux–Saints Thérèse, Louis, and Zélie by Stéphane-Joseph Piat](#), a book on FORMED
 - [Louis and Zélie Martin: Saints of Matrimony](#), a book for kids
 - [Call to a Deeper Love: The Family Correspondence of the Parents of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus](#), a book
 - [The Extraordinary Parents of St. Thérèse of Lisieux: Sts. Louis and Zélie Martin](#), a book
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Serve the Lord

The Church is known for its emphasis on social justice and the importance of service to express the love of Jesus Christ to the world. Our faith teaches us that we should serve others, showing love and kindness to everyone. Those who learn how to serve others grow in many ways: empathy, awareness, concern, and closeness to Christ. There are many ways to serve Jesus by serving others and the Church. Below is one opportunity

Lenten Crosses

Beginning Ash Wednesday and continuing throughout Lent, the Lenten crosses will again be set up in the Gathering Space. Please take some time to look at the cross cards and see how you can inspire yourself, those around you, and those in the community. Opportunities for prayer and reflection, volunteering and also providing items for those in need are included on the cards. All items are due by March 28th.

Let the Works of Mercy inspire your Lenten journey this year.

Sing His Praises

Music is a beautiful way to elevate our prayer and express our faith in God. Enjoy and pray with these resources:

- [Music with Miss Emmy and Fr. Mark](#), (for the young and the young at heart)
- Music as Prayer-Kari singing the [Via Dolorosa](#) with Karen as accompanist
- February Spotify Playlist