

THE  
*Creative*

CATECHIST  
PLANNER



2018-2019



*Blessed  
are you!*

Matthew 5:11



# Week of Sept. 30-Oct. 6

## 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Sunday's Readings

Numbers 11:25-29  
Psalm 19

James 5:1-6  
Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

*[Jesus said,] "For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward."*  
Mark 9:40-41

### Spread Sunday's News

One of the most difficult things to teach children (*adults, too*) is to strive to do what is right BECAUSE is it right and not because a reward is needed or expected. Overcoming the attitude of "What's in it for me?" is hard because we witness so many individuals who succeed at getting what they want despite having no strong moral or ethical values.

The idea of a future reward in heaven is also very difficult to convey because it seems very abstract and far away. But it is also something that gives us hope if we learn to look for it through the eyes of our faith.

Everyone needs to receive a reward now and then, but as we reach adulthood we must learn to do the right thing(s) because it is right and not because we want or expect a reward. Many times the positive feeling we get from doing the right thing is a more-than-sufficient reward.

- What kinds of things do children like to receive as rewards?
- What actions deserve rewards?
- What reward is Jesus offering through his words in the Gospels?



### Just Wondering ...

In Sunday's **Gospel**, "tattletale" John wants Jesus to know there are outsiders acting in Jesus' name. What did John expect Jesus to say about these people? He probably expected him to be angry because someone was using his name without permission. Yet Jesus did the opposite. The most important thing to Jesus is always ACTION, not the actor.

As for John the tattletale, one wonders whether he was ever going to try the same tactics again! Surely he did not expect Jesus to praise the people he targeted for reprimand. (*Will this work on your classroom tattletales?*)

Actually, learning what and whom to tell adults about is a great topic for discussion. When do we need to draw a line between loyalty to friends and telling about someone or something that needs to be reported?



### Who Knew?

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ of good \_\_\_\_\_.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth PEACE to PEOPLE of good WILL.

### Gather

- A piece of drawing paper for each student
- OR
- One very large piece of paper suitable for one big picture or lots of small ones
- Colored markers, pencils, crayons, etc.

### Go to Work!

- Invite students to draw a picture of what they imagine their Guardian Angel looks like.
- If possible, display all the pictures and/or save them for a parents' night.

### Challenge



Sunday, October 7, is Respect Life Sunday. Pray for all life, especially human life. What will YOU do to help protect all God's creation?

### Be a Blessing...



The most valuable reward I can receive from Jesus is ...

I think it is valuable because ...

**Catechist, please enjoy this complimentary lesson planner from Creative Communications for the Parish.**

**To learn more about the Creative Catechist Planner, visit us: [www.goodnewsplanners.com/teacher-planners/catechist-planner](http://www.goodnewsplanners.com/teacher-planners/catechist-planner)**

**Or call: 1-855-238-3088**

**For All the Saints**

Tuesday, October 2

**The Holy Guardian Angels**



The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us, “From infancy to death human life is surrounded by [the angels’] watchful care and intercession. ‘Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life.’ Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and human beings united in God” [336].

“The whole life of the Church benefits from the mysterious and powerful help of angels” [CCC 334].

Most of us take comfort in knowing we are being watched and protected by our own special angel.

An angel is a messenger from God, a liaison between God and his creatures. There are numerous stories of angels throughout Scripture, yet only **three are mentioned by name: Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.**

How many Bible stories can children remember where an angel delivers such a message? (*Annunciation, Joseph’s message about Mary and directive to flee, birth of John the Baptist, etc.*)

Angels are important in the Church’s liturgical prayer.

During the Eucharist we join our voices with the choirs of angels in heaven when we sing, “Holy, Holy, Holy.”

After the Consecration, Eucharistic Prayer I (*the Roman Canon*) asks God to send an angel to take our sacrifice up to heaven.

Before your class attends Mass this week, ask the priest to pray Eucharistic Prayer I. Prepare students to listen for the words of the priest to send the angel. Alert them also to listen to the ending of the Preface before they sing, “Holy, Holy, Holy.”

Angel of God, my Guardian dear,  
to whom God’s love commits me here,  
ever this day be at my side,  
to light and guard,  
to rule and guide. Amen.

**The Comfort Zone**



- Gather in your **Prayer Space**. Review last week’s discussion about serving others like St. Vincent de Paul and others did.
- Are there any organizations in your parish or in your community who help/serve others? (*Meals on Wheels, shelters for abuse victims, free daycare, foodbanks, etc.*)
- Discuss people who volunteer for these and other charities. Why do they do it? Do they receive any immediate rewards?
- What can students do to help in this important work?
- After a few moments of silence, pray that all who serve others will continue to have the strength and courage to persevere. Pray also that more volunteers will come forward to help.

*Lord Jesus, please help me do the right thing, not because I need a reward, but because it pleases you. Amen.*

**Next Sunday’s Good News**

*When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to the [disciples], “Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”*



*Mark 10:14*

**Think about ...**

Children were special to Jesus because ...