

This book belongs to

[NAME]

(And I belong to God!)

Finally! It's summer!

You can play outside for hours.
Maybe you'll go on a vacation.
Whatever you do, have fun!
Remember to thank God for this time.
Thank him for his beautiful creation—
green grass, blue oceans, orange
sunsets, and good old brown dirt.
Thank him for FUN!

Praise the Lord, my soul!



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Loving God's Creation: The Sun



Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.
Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all shining stars.

PSALM 148:1, 3

Sunny facts what do you know about the sun? Shine some light on these facts by filling in the missing words.

beach star eyes light heat

The sun is a at the center of our solar system.
The sun is so far away, it takes 8 minutes for its to reach us.
The temperature on the sun's surface is 9,941° Fahrenheit. Now that's!
The sun is so big that if it were a giant ball, you could fit almost a million earths inside it!
Don't look directly at the sun or you'll hurt your Scientists use special telescopes and filters to study the sun.

Here's a "bright" idea.

Try memorizing some Bible verses. Here are a few to try. Color in the words to help you remember.

And [Jesus] was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun. MATTHEW 17:2

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John 8:12

"Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father."

MATTHEW 13:43



SAINT DAYS IN JUNE

Here are some holy days and holy people we celebrate this month.

JUNE 1

When **Justin** was on trial back in Roman days, the judge asked, "If you are killed, do you suppose you'll go to heaven?" Justin answered, "I don't suppose. I know it!"

JUNE 3

Charles Lwanga and his companions were servants of an African king. They gave their lives for their faith in Jesus.

JUNE 5

Boniface is known for bringing the gospel to Germany. Some say he also invented the Christmas tree.

JUNE 11

Barnabas was a disciple of Jesus and traveled with Paul on his missionary journeys.

JUNE 13

Most of us know him as the patron of lost objects, but

Anthony of Padua was a powerful preacher. When no one listened to his homily,

Anthony is said to have gone to a river and preached to the fish!

JUNE 21

While he was a student,

Aloysius Gonzaga [Al-oo-ISH-us Gun-ZAG-uh] cared for plague victims, but soon became ill and died. He is the patron of young students and Christian youth.

JUNE 29

We remember **Saint Peter** and **Saint Paul** on the same day because they worked together as leaders to spread the faith.

Anthony is the patron saint of lost things. See if you can find the June saints who are "lost" in this puzzle! (It's okay to ask Saint Anthony for help!)

Н Ε S Н R S Α G N T Н В Т E M Q X F Т Α Υ G Ε Τ 0 4E U C S M В Ğ Ν Ν Τ W Н C F K Υ R O L S Α Ε D C S Т R Ζ Ε G N DO Ζ P N Н N Ρ Α Τ A N S B В Ν Χ U S F Ζ R Ε ΝН Τ S W U Z Χ Ζ Ν S D D S K Χ Α M В P

ALOYSIUS GONZAGA ANTHONY OF PADUA BARNABAS BONIFACE CHARLES LWANGA IRENAEUS
JOHN THE BAPTIST
JUSTIN
PAUL
PETER

Loving God's Creation: The Earth



9

Praise the Lord from the earth...

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

Animals wild and tame, creatures that crawl and birds
that fly. PSALM 148:7, 9, 10

God created the whole world, and everything God created is good. That means mountains, oceans, and seashells, elephants, pandas, and kittens. Rocks, dirt, and sand. It even means...bugs! (Ew!) Everything God creates has a special purpose.

If you can, go outside today and look at God's creation. (Or look out a window.) Fill up the earth with everything you see that God has created for you.

I am thankful for:



Creature Creations

The Bible is full of creatures that crawl, slither, fly, and climb. See if you can match the Bible quote with the animal picture.

Look at the	in the sky; they do	
not sow or reap, ye	et your heavenly	
Father feeds them	. Are not you more	
important than the	ey? MATTHEW 6:26	
Then thes	shall be a guest	
of the	Isaiah 11:6	CARON I
Now thew	as the most cunning	
of all the wild anin	nals that the Lord Go	d January
had made. GENESIS	3:1	(;)
	Y .	
The Nile will teem	with	
Exodus 8:3) (t
		4.5
Jesus said, "Cast th	ne net over the	\ \\
right side of the bo	oat and you will find	3 ~
something." So the	ey cast it, and were	
not able to pull it i	n because of the	
number of	Јони 21:6	

Seeing God's World: Summer Travel

9

He guides me along right paths for the sake of his name. PSALM 23:3



There are lots of fun and interesting Catholic places to visit in the U.S. and Canada. Ask your parents about making them part of your trip! Put a check mark near the sites you'd like to see. *

WEST

Stay in a family cabin and visit the beautiful stone church at the **Shrine of St. Therese**, Juneau, Alaska.

www.shrineofsainttherese.org

Visit any of California's **21 historic missions**.

www.missionscalifornia.com

Get breakfast or lunch at **Homegirl Café** in downtown Los Angeles.

www.homeboyindustries.org

Learn Bible stories from the famous murals at St. Benedict's Painted Church, on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Visit a cave carved into a 110-foot cliff with a replica



www.thegrotto.org

SOUTHWEST

Visit the "White Dove of the Desert" historic Spanish mission, near Tucson, Arizona.

www.sanxaviermission.org

Pray at the miraculous
"el pocito" dirt pit at **El Sanctuario de Chimayo**,
New Mexico.

www.holychimayo.us

Visit a replica of the Lourdes Shrine at **Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto**, San Antonio, Texas.

www.oblatemissions.org

^{*}You can visit most of the Catholic places on this map for free; but many appreciate donations.

MOUNTAIN STATES

Climb the stairway of prayer at the **Mother Cabrini shrine**, in Golden, Colorado.

■ www.mothercabrinishrine.org

See the gargoyles and stained glass at **St. John's Cathedral** in Boise, Idaho.

www.boisecathedral.org

MIDWEST

See how **Therese the Little Flowe**r lived, at the National Shrine of St.
Therese in Darien, Illinois,

www.saint-therese.org

See one of the largest outdoor shrines in North America, the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville, Illinois. 2 www.snows.org

Take pictures of the grotto, Basilica, Golden Dome, and of course, "Touchdown Jesus" at the **University of Notre Dame**, South Bend, Indiana.

2 www.nd.edu

See hundreds of precious stones, and scenes from Jesus' life at the "miracle

in stone," the **Grotto of the Redemption**, in West Bend, Iowa.

www.westbendgrotto.com

Visit Michigan's bestknown shrine, the **Cross in the Woods**.

www.crossinthewoods.com

Take a guided tour of the National Shrine of the Apostle Paul, a historical landmark in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Pray at the Altar of Answered Prayers at the **Shrine of St. Joseph**, in St. Louis, Missouri.

www.shrineofstjoseph.org

Hike on the Ice Age
National Scenic Trail and
climb to the top of the
Basilica of the National
Shrine of Mary Help of
Christians at Holy Hill,
Wisconsin. 20 www.holyhill.com

SOUTHEAST

Watch a TV show taping at EWTN and visit the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Irondale, Alabama.

www.ewtn.com

Learn about the Benedictine life at **St. Scholastica Monastery** in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

www.stscho.org

Visit an outdoor chapel, a 2,000-seat church, and an 8-foot-tall marble statue of Mary at the National Shrine of Mary Queen of the Universe, in Orlando, Florida.



Visit real monasteries: the Abbey of Gethsemane in Trappist, Kentucky www.monks.org; or the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers, Georgia. www.trappist.net.

In New Orleans, see **St. Louis Cathedral**, the oldest continuously operating cathedral in the United States.

NORTHEAST

Visit the **Knights of Columbus Museum** in
New Haven, Connecticut.

www.kofcmuseum.org

Visit the **largest Roman Catholic church** in the
U.S. in Washington, D.C.

www.nationalshrine.com

Pray at the **National Shrine of the Divine Mercy**, Stockbridge,
Massachusetts.

www.thedivinemercv.org

Visit the Mohawk village site where Jesuit missionaries were martyred, and where Kateri Tekakwitha was born, in Auriesville, New York.

■ www.martyrshrine.org

Every tree is an Our Father on this rosary nature trail at the **Shrine of Our Lady of the Island,** Long Island, New York.

■ www.ourladyoftheisland.org.



By some counts, there are as many as **95 Catholic churches in Manhattan,** New York City. Try visiting at least one.

See the largest collection of saints' relics in the world at **St. Anthony's Chapel** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Attend an open-air Mass at the place where the first Mass was celebrated in Vermont in the 1600s.

www.saintannesshrine.org

CANADA

Pray to St. Joseph in the largest church in the world dedicated to him, **St. Joseph's Oratory** in Montreal, Quebec. www.saint-joseph.org

Climb the lookout tower and learn about the Jesuit martyrs at the **Martyrs' Shrine** in Midland, Ontario.

See colorful stained-glass windows made from NASA glass at the **Cathedral of Holy Family**, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

■ www.holyfamilycathedral.ca

Try this!

Say a prayer today for all people who are traveling for work or vacation.

Seeing God's World: Get Ready! •

You will show me the path to life. PSALM 16:11

When Jesus was a boy, his family traveled to Jerusalem for holy days every year. How do you think Jesus got ready for the trip? He probably started by praying to his Father in heaven.

My trip prayer:

Here's what I hope to see on my trip:

You can do the same before you go on a trip. Ask for Jesus' help so you don't forget anything. Ask him to keep your family safe. Ask him for whatever you need.

Here's what I'm bringing on my trip:



Here's a game to play on a long trip.

Write down a holy person or word for each letter of the alphabet. See how many you can come up with. (We've given you a few freebies.)

A	Abraham	Ν.	
В		0	
C		P .	5
D		Q	
Ε.		R _	rosary
E .		K _	Todairy
F .	forgiveness	S	
G		T /	
н	40, °C	Ú.	
l ⊴	10 11	٧.	10
J		W	wisdom
ĸ.		X	
L.	0	Υ.	>
M		Z _	

Try this!

Many families carry medals of saints in their cars to remind them to pray for God's protection. Why not draw a picture of your favorite saint to keep in the back seat of your car?

Loving God's Church o

I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." PSALM 122:1

Even if you don't go on a trip, you can find lots of things to do near your home this summer.
You can:

- See a movie (some theaters offer free kids' movies on certain days in summer)
- Go to a friend's house(or invite a friend over)
- **※ Take a family walk**
- Have your own car (or bike) wash
- Wisit someone in the hospital
- Make a fort out of a cardboard box

Wolunteer at a soup kitchen or food pantry

Don't forget to go to church.

It doesn't cost anything! And it isn't just for Sunday. You can go to church any time during the week. Here are some things to do at church this summer:

- Bless yourself with holy water
- Light a candle and say a prayer

- ※ Go to vacation Bible school

And best of all, you can go to Mass and receive Jesus in Holy Communion!

Here are some things you'll see at church. Match each object with its name.



SAINT DAYS IN JULY

Here are some holy days and holy people we celebrate this month.

JULY 3

Thomas is sometimes called Doubting Thomas because he didn't believe Jesus had risen.
But when Thomas saw Jesus and his wounds, he showed his faith by saying to Jesus, "My Lord and My God!"

JULY 11

Benedict came up with rules for monks to live by. He is the patron of students.

JULY 14

Kateri Tekakwitha, the Lily of the Mohawks, was shunned by her people for being baptized a Christian.

JULY 16

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is a title we give to Mary for her love of the Carmelite order of sisters and brothers. Today we remember that Mary promised special graces to those who wear a garment called a brown scapular.

JULY 22

Mary Magdalene was a follower of Jesus who bravely stood by him when he died on the cross.

JULY 25

James was one of Jesus' first apostles.

JULY 26

Anne and Joachim were Mary's parents. We don't know much about them except that they were very good parents.

JULY 29

Martha was a friend of Jesus who sometimes got frustrated with her sister Mary.

JULY 31

Ignatius of Loyola founded the Society of Jesus. He is the patron of soldiers.

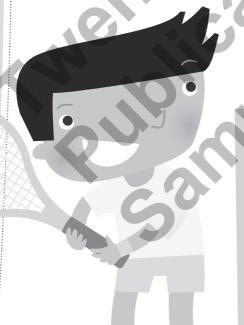
Scrambled Saints

These saint names are mixed up, but Thomas believes you can put them back together again. After you've unscrambled the letters, put the letters in the boxes on the lines below to finish the prayer of Saint Ignatius.

Loving God's Creation: Summer Sports

They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar on eagles' wings; they will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint. ISAIAH 40:31

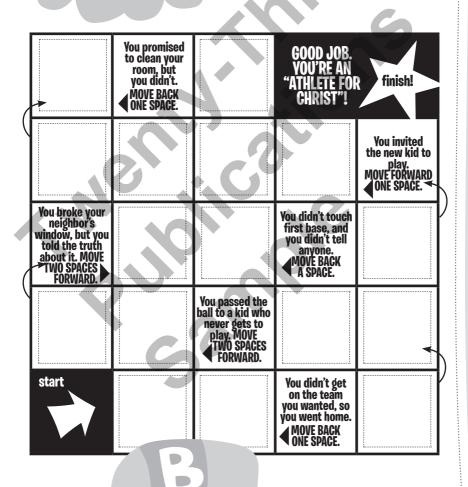
What are your favorite summer sports? Baseball? The World Cup? Hopscotch? Pope Francis tells kids to be "athletes for Christ." What do you think he means?



Try this!

Can you remember who taught you to play your favorite sport?
Why not pass on your knowledge and skills to others? This summer, take some time to teach a younger kid how to play a sport.
Spend time practicing with them.
You'll both learn something!

Play the Athletes for Christ game. Toss a penny to move around the running track. Move one space for heads, two spaces for tails. Play with a friend or play by yourself.



Loving God's Creation: Water

He changed the desert into pools of water, dry land into springs of water. PSALM 107:35

Jesus was tired. He'd been walking in a place called Samaria. Jesus sat down at the well in the center of a town.

A woman came to draw water and Jesus asked her for a drink. The woman was shocked.

Jesus' people wouldn't even touch things that Samaritans used. "How can you ask me for a drink?" she asked. Jesus answered, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he

would have given you living water." The woman asked where a person could get this living water. Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will give will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." Everyone on earth needs water. But Jesus gives us living water. What do you think that means? (Here's a hint: Think about your baptism.)



"After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and the heavens were opened [for him], and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove [and] coming upon him. Then a voice came from the heavens, saying..."

Uh oh. The scripture passage sank in the water. Dive in and use the code to figure out what the voice from heaven says.

A	B	C	D	E	FG	H		J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	_										
N	0	P	Q	R	S I	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19 20	21	22	23	24	25	26

20	8	9	19	9	19	4	13	25			
2	5	12	15	22 5	4		19	15	14	•	
23	9	20	8	23	8	15	13	9	-	1	13
23	5	12	12	16	12	5	1	19	5	4	•

Do you know who said these words? Write your answer below:

Loving God's Creation: Summer Food

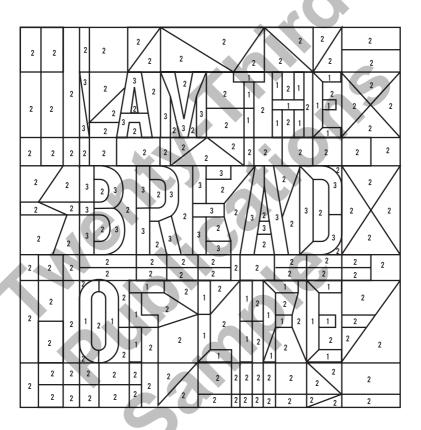
I shall not die but live.

During summer, we have barbecues, feasts, and parties with family and friends. Our good times can remind us that we are part of God's happy family and that someday we will celebrate a huge feast in heaven! Did you know that when you go to Mass, you're taking part in a family meal? Sure you are! At every Mass, we repeat Jesus' Last Supper with his friends. During the consecration, through the power of the Holy Spirit, the priest changes bread and wine into Jesus' body and blood—really and truly.

When we receive the Eucharist, we are made strong. We gain the courage to avoid sin. Best of all, Holy Communion helps us love God and our neighbor even more.



This "secret" message isn't really a secret. God wants us to know it. Find out what it is by coloring in the shapes.



Color the spaces marked 1 **Blue**Color the spaces marked 2 **Yellow**Color the spaces marked 3 **Red**

SAINT DAYS IN AUGUST

Here are some holy days and holy people we celebrate this month.

AUGUST 1

Alphonsus Ligouri said, "Speak to God often of your plans, your troubles, your fears."

AUGUST 4

John Mary Vianney spent 16 hours a day in the confessional listening to people.

AUGUST 8

Dominic is the patron saint of astronomers.

AUGUST 10

Deacon Lawrence said poor people are the church's crown.

AUGUST 11

Clare is the patron of television because when she was too sick to attend Mass, she could see and hear it on the wall of her room!

AUGUST 14

Maximilian Mary Kolbe was a Franciscan friar who died when he took another man's place in a prison camp.

AUGUST 15

The **Assumption** celebrates how Mary was taken up into heaven.

AUGUST 24

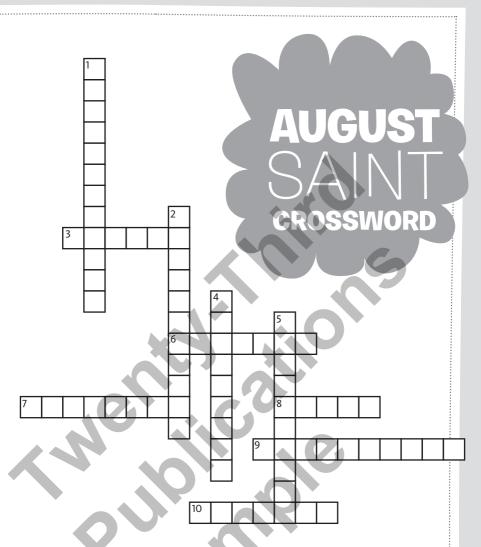
Bartholomew was one of Jesus' apostles.

AUGUST 27

Monica prayed for her son Augustine's conversion.

AUGUST 28

Augustine once said, "Lord make me holy, but not yet."
He is one of the church's great thinkers.



ACROSS

- **3** She prayed for her son.
- **6** Alphonsus ____ tells us to speak to God often.
- **7** He said poor people were the crown of the church.
- **8** You might pray to her before watching TV.
- **9** This means Mary went to heaven body and soul.
- 10 He watches over astronomers.

DOWN

- 1 Vianney listened here for hours.
- **2** He was one of Jesus' apostles.
- 4 Great thinker of the church.
- 5 Maximilian Kolbe was
 - a _____ friar.

∞We Love Jesus' Mom!

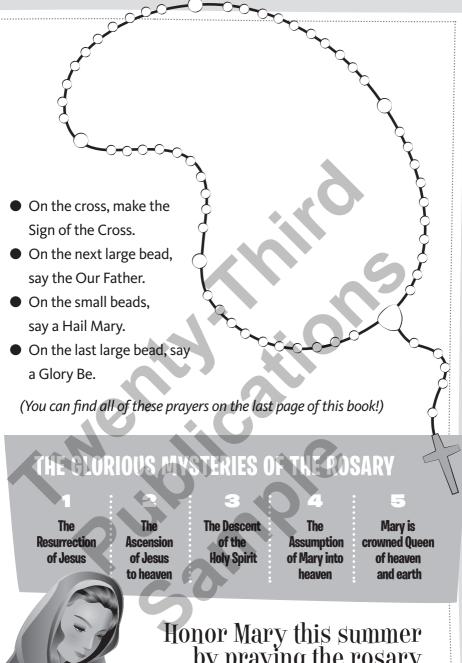
O Lord, our Lord, how awesome is your name through all the earth! PSALM 8:10

Jesus loved his mom, and so do we. It makes Mary happy when we follow her Son, Jesus. We do that by praying the rosary. Do you know how? This special devotion isn't just about saying prayers over and over. The rosary helps us think—really think—about Jesus, and how we can follow him in our lives.

As we say the rosary prayers, we think about what's called a mystery—an event in Jesus' life that shows us that Jesus is both God and a human person.

These mysteries are sometimes hard to fully understand, even for adults! So we say prayers to see how God wants them to fit into our lives.

Try it. We'll just work on one rosary decade—that's ten beads. As you color the rosary beads on the opposite page, think about the Glorious Mysteries and pray. That's a lot to do all at once—color, think, and pray! Are you ready? Let's go!



Honor Mary this summer by praying the rosary and doing acts of kindness.

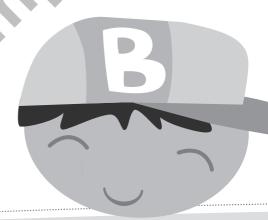
Loving God's Creation: Imagination

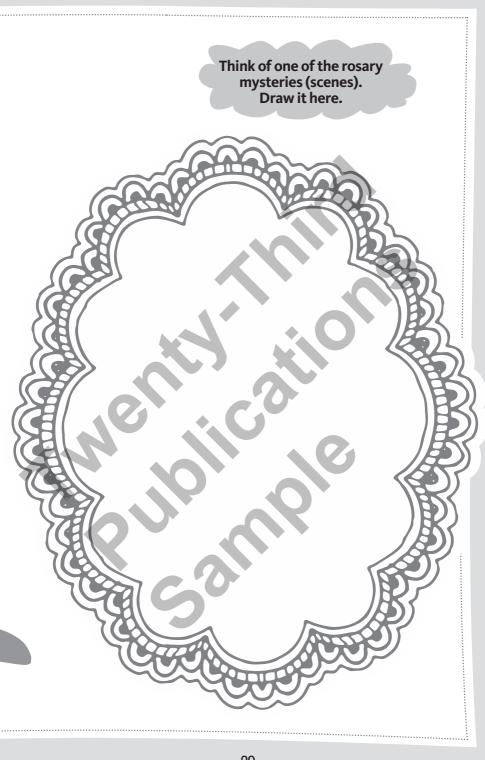
I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. PSALM 27:13

"I'm bored. There's nothing to do." Okay, it happens. Especially toward the end of summer. But God has given you an incredible gift for times like this. It's your imagination. With your imagination, you can:

- make a movie
- turn a cardboard box into a fort or a castle
- put on a puppet show for younger kids
- make up a new game

With your imagination, you can also pray. Here's how: Think of one of the mysteries of the rosary on the previous page. Think of it as a movie. Picture it in your mind. What does Jesus look like? What's he wearing? What do his friends and Mary look like? What time of day is it? What might Jesus be saying to you? Spend a few minutes just imagining the whole scene. That's a prayer!





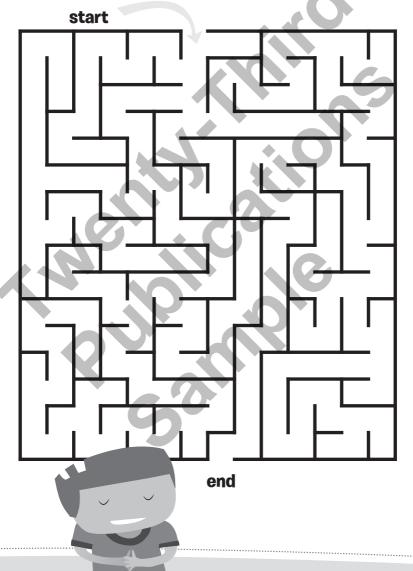
Loving God's Creation: Me!

I praise you, because I am wonderfully made.

PSALM 139:14

Remember when we said that	most awesome creation (you)
everything God created is	strong?
good? Well, God created you,	
didn't he? That means you are	Write or draw them here:
very, very good!	
Saint Paul says, "Do you not	<u>O'</u>
know that your body is a	
temple of the Holy Spirit within	
you?" So protect that temple.	
Keep your soul strong by	
praying and going to Mass.	
Live in God's love and share it	
with others. Avoid sin. Keep	
your body strong by exercising,	
eating healthy foods, and	
working hard at school and	
at home. Can you think of	
other ways you'll keep God's	

Trust in God to follow the right paths in your life, and you'll keep your body and soul strong. And follow the right path below to reach the end.



Prayers I Know

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Our Father

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.