

# St. Thomas Aquinas Faith Formation

## Sacramental Preparation

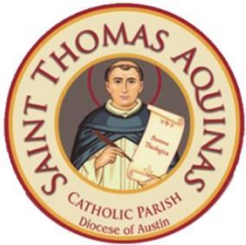
*Packet #2*      October 19-25, 2014

**EVERY ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS CHANGES OUR LIVES FOREVER**

After Faith Formation this week, stop by the Adoration Chapel and ask Jesus to show you how to love others more.

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED THIS WEEK**

- A modern, Catholic translation of the Holy Bible (such as RSV, NAB)
- Crayons/markers/pen/pencil, glue, index cards
- **Photo from child's baptism**



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- **Briefly review** the story of Creation with the provided sheet (the one with the numbers: On the 1<sup>st</sup> day, God created light & dark...water & sky...land & sea...sun & moon,...fish & birds...animals & people...on the 7<sup>th</sup> day, God rested.).
- **Have your child proclaim aloud** Genesis chapter 1 while pointing to each number (on the Creation sheet) as it matches up with each day of Creation. Allow your child to point out the numbers as he/she realizes the connection. (Continue through the seventh day, **Gen 2:1-4.**)
- **Emphasize** the creation of man:
  - Did you notice what's happening here? (Point out & repeat verses **26-27.**)
  - Instead of just saying, "Let there be man," God is showing us here that His decision to create man was a special decision, for a special reason.
  - Did you notice that each day, God creates something and sees that it's a good thing...but on the 6<sup>th</sup> day, *after* He has created man, He sees *everything*: man, plus all these other things *together*...and it's not just good. It's *very good* (v. 31). I wonder why *everything together* is *very good*...
- **Connect:** The story of creation can always remind us that **every person is so important to God**. He created each of us for a reason: out of love. Even if you were the only person in the world, He would have still created everything out of love for you. And even if you were the only person to sin in the whole world, Jesus would have still chosen to die and rise again just for you. (Continue→)

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## Sunday, October 19, 2014, cont.

10-15 mins

- *Continue*: What this means is that God wants us to know just how important and loved we are,
- And He also wants *us* to love everyone else and recognize that *they're* important, too:
  - Like all the people that we know,
  - and even all the people that we don't know,
  - babies who are still living in their mommies' tummies,
  - people who are very sick or elderly,
  - especially if they don't have many visitors,
  - and even people who aren't always very nice to us.
  - God wants us to all be one family. Being one family, one with God, is what will actually make us happier than anything else.
  - That's why God gives us Holy Communion. It makes us one with God.
- **Now let's think**: What are some ways to show people that we love them and that we understand how important they are to God? *[TIP: Great opportunity for journaling!]*



## Sunday, October 19, 2014, cont.

10-15 mins

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# Monday, October 20, 2014

10-30 mins

- Mini-project (see envelope): *What did the Garden of Eden look like?* [TIP: Try cutting out various shapes of construction paper to “build” a Garden of Eden!]
- When complete, **explain**:
  - So when God had created everything, life was easy and perfect.
  - Adam and Eve were very close with God, and very happy.
  - They got to talk to God all day and spend time with Him.
  - They had free time *all day long*, and they never got bored!
  - They were friends with all the animals,
  - they didn’t have to work hard to find food,
  - they never got sick or tired or upset or cranky,
  - and there was no suffering or pain.
  - All they had to do was not eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.
- **Ask:** But then what happened? (Right, they ate the fruit/disobeyed God.)
- **Ask:** So what happened to all those good things? (Right, things ended up changing!)
- We’ll talk about that more tomorrow.
- [OPTIONAL: Now, I want to hear about some good things! Tell me something funny that happened today. How did you help someone out today? How did someone else help you? What is one thing you learned today?...]
- **Closing prayer.**



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Tuesday, October 21, 2014

10-15 mins

- **NOTE: If possible, we recommend using two Bibles for this session:** one for you, one for your child.
- **Open with prayer.**
- **Review:** What do you remember about the Garden of Eden? What was it like to live there?  
[Review yesterday's list.]
- **Ask:** What was the only requirement for Adam and Eve to keep living there in friendship with God?  
...but what happened?
- **Ask your child to help you find Genesis 3 in the Bible,** while you get Tuesday's "Closer Look" sheet from the Sac Prep envelope (this folded sheet will fit nicely in your Bible as you teach, step by step).
- **Walk through the assigned parts of Genesis 3** one at a time, as described in "Closer Look" sheet.
- **Close with prayer.**

PARENT TIP: <http://tinyurl.com/SacPrep-HolyWater1>

<http://tinyurl.com/SacPrep-HolyWater2>



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## Wednesday, October 22, 2014

10-15 mins

- **Note:** It might be helpful to bookmark Revelation 2:7 and 22:14 before you begin.
- **Open with prayer.**
- **Review** yesterday's flashcards, and find Wednesday's "Closer Look" sheet.
- **Intro:** Yesterday, we looked at how Original Sin entered the world. Today we'll look the results of Original Sin and God's plan to help us out of this mess.
- **Walk through the assigned parts of Genesis 3** one at a time, as described in "Closer Look" sheet.
- **Close with prayer.**

TIP: Ask lots of open-ended questions! How would you feel if you were Adam? Eve? ...



## Thursday, October 23, 2014

10-15 mins

- **Go over the Mass Readings** for this upcoming Sunday.
  - [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) or Laudate app are encouraged.



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Friday, October 24, 2014

7-10 mins

- **Review** flashcards.
- **Jesus established a sacrament** that washes away Original Sin from our souls and makes us sons and daughters of God again. Do you know what that sacrament is?
- **Show your child a photograph** from his/her baptism, and tell the story of that day.

TIP: Mark your children's baptism days on the calendar, and celebrate them!

"It is important to know the day on which I was immersed in that current of Jesus' salvation. And I will allow myself to give you some advice... but, more than advice, a task for today. Today, at home, go look, ask about the date of your Baptism and that way you can bear in mind that most beautiful day of Baptism. To know the date of our Baptism is to know a blessed day.... Indeed, we must reawaken the memory of our Baptism. We are called to live our Baptism every day, as the current reality of our lives. If we manage to follow Jesus and to remain in the Church, despite our limitations and with our weaknesses and with our sins, it is precisely through the Sacrament that we have become new creatures and are clothed in Christ. It is by the power of Baptism, in fact, that, freed of original sin, we are inserted into Jesus' relation to God the Father; that we are bearers of a new hope, for Baptism gives us this new hope: the hope of going on the path of salvation our whole life long." --Pope Francis *General Audience, January 8, 2014*

TIP: <http://tinyurl.com/SacPrep-BaptismAnniversary>



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# Saturday, October 25, 2014

3-10 mins

- **Review** flashcards and this week's content.
- **Pray** an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.
  - If your child does not know these prayers, practice 5x through.



## **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.  
Amen.

## **Hail Mary**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among 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, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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