

Activity Details

Title:	Prayer and Sacrifice (P & S)
Submitted by:	Molloy & Taylor
Subject:	Meatless Friday penance
Grades appropriate:	Third - Fifth
Activity time:	Forty-five minutes
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To see the power of P & S2. To see the need for P & S3. To make a commitment of P & S
Description:	<p>Begin by reading the story of Saints Monica and Augustine. This is a wonderful example of the power of prayer and sacrifice.</p> <p>There are two skits “At the Cafeteria” and “At Home” for the students to work together on and perform for the class.</p> <p>These will help not only convey the Church’s message on the power of prayer and sacrifice, but also equip students to spread the word about this mission of “Prayer and Sacrifice.”</p>
Additional Materials:	Crossword puzzle Word Search

Saint Monica



Saint Monica lived a long time ago. She was raised in a Christian home and had a great love for Jesus.

Saint Monica's husband and his family were not Christian. But through Saint Monica's prayer and good example, her husband and his mother both fell in love with Jesus and became Christian.

Even though Saint Monica did her best to raise her

children to be good Christians, her son Augustine would not listen. He chased after things that were bad, which brought Saint Monica much pain and many tears.

However, Saint Monica would not give up on her son. She followed him to all the cities to which he went. Through it all, she never stopped praying and offering up sacrifices for Augustine. She would offer little sacrifices, give money to the poor, and go to Church twice every day to pray. She did all this for her son so that he would one day become Christian.

Finally, after sacrificing and praying for many, many years, Saint Monica's prayers were answered, and Augustine was baptized. Augustine grew and grew in his love for Jesus and the Catholic Church. He went on to become a priest, and then a bishop. He is now better known as Saint Augustine.

At the Cafeteria

Characters: Gus, Mona, Cafeteria workers, other students in line at the cafeteria

Setting: It is Friday. Gus and Mona are in line at the school cafeteria to get their lunch. Mona is next in line to get some food and Gus is right behind her.

GUS: I am *so* hungry! I can't wait to eat! I love chicken nugget day! How about you, Mona?

MONA: I guess I'm pretty hungry, too. The food does smell good.

GUS: I think I'm going to eat some of everything!

Mona is now at the front of the line. It is her turn to get her lunch.

MONA (*speaking to the Cafeteria Worker*): I think I'll have some of the macaroni and cheese, a piece of bread, and some vegetables.

GUS (*shocked*): What!? No chicken nuggets!? Those things are the *best*! Don't you like them?

MONA (*turning to Gus*): I love chicken nuggets. But today is Friday. I don't eat meat on Friday.

GUS: Why not? Didn't Lent end three weeks ago? You don't have to do that anymore.

MONA: Bishop Conlon asked us to not eat meat on *any* Friday. He wants us to give up meat to help others respect life and to help protect people through all stages of life.

GUS: That doesn't make sense. Why would that help?

MONA: Friday has always been a special day of fasting and sacrifice for Christians because it was on a Friday that Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us. (*Mona points to the crucifix on the wall.*)

GUS: Oh.

MONA: So when I don't eat meat on Friday, I remember Jesus' sacrifice and I offer one of my own. It's a prayer that God hears.

GUS: Does that actually work?

MONA: Yes, it does! Saint Monica was a Christian who offered many prayers and sacrifices like this so that her son would turn his life around. And even though it seemed hopeless, God heard Saint Monica's prayers and answered them. Her son then became a great Saint, too. His name is Saint Augustine.

GUS: Wow! That's a lot to think about, Mona.

CAFETERIA WORKER (*to Gus*): What can I get you for lunch, young man?

GUS: Um, I think I'll have what she's having! (*Gus points to Mona.*)

THE END

At Home

Characters: Daniel (older brother), Theresa (younger sister), Mom, and Dad

Setting: It is Friday. Daniel and Theresa, have returned home from school, and they are in the living room. Mom and Dad have not yet entered the room.

THERESA (*sitting down with relief*): I sure am glad that the school week is over! I don't even have any homework this weekend!

DANIEL: Lucky! I have Math *and* Science homework.

THERESA: I guess that means I'll just have to have fun without you for a while! Maybe I'll call Catherine and see if I can go over to her house. (*Calling out*) Mom!

Mom enters the room.

MOM: Hey, you two. What's going on?

THERESA: Can I go to Catherine's house? I don't have any homework to do! Please?

MOM: Well, I'm just about to get dinner started. Maybe after dinner.

DANIEL: Ooh, dinner! What are we having?

MOM: Sloppy Joes.

DANIEL & THERESA (*sadly*): Oh.

MOM: Oh? What does that mean? You both love Sloppy Joes.

DANIEL: Yes, but it's Friday. We're not supposed to eat any meat.

MOM: Daniel, that's only during Lent. It's not Lent anymore.

DANIEL: At Church, we learned that Bishop Conlon wants us to not eat meat on *any* Friday, even after Lent. It's a sacrifice.

THERESA: Yeah. Every Friday has always been a good day for offering sacrifices because it was on a Friday that Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

MOM: Why does he want to do that?

DANIEL: It's to pray for everyone to respect life. This way we can help protect human life in all stages.

THERESA: We also learned about Saint Monica who prayed and offered little sacrifices for her son, Augustine, to become Christian. And it worked! Now he's a Saint, too!

MOM: I see. Well, thanks for letting me know, Daniel and Theresa. I know you don't like them as much, but I do have some fish sticks in the freezer that we can have instead.

DANIEL & THERESA: That sounds great, Mom!

Dad enters the room.

MOM: Then fish sticks it is!

DAD (*sounding disappointed*): Fish sticks? I thought we were having hamburgers!

MOM: It's called a sacrifice, Dear! I'll let Daniel and Theresa explain it to you!

THE END

People of Prayer and Sacrifice

Word Search

ABSTINENCE
CHURCH
COMMUNITY
CONVERSION
FASTING
GRACE
MEATLESS

MERCY
PRAYER
PROLIFE
SACRIFICE
SAINT AUGUSTINE
SAINT MONICA

E E B L K S U N O I X N R S Z C C A T T
M N E V R G E T G S M V G I Z L O I T A
R E I Y D L Z R I M C W S F K B M S Q I
X P R T C O N V E R S I O N E L M S A K
H V X C S I D A P Z E T S A D Q U T A W
J C T S Y U T F H Y L K B P W F N Q D P
Y S G O O L G C W E F R R K F A I S K D
Y A D C E V R U C J A T U M M D T O O G
B G N S U U N N A T C H W N I Y Y R U V
X T S A H F E Z E T I E N Y C I T K H H
M S G C Y N D G I N N Z B F J F J P R F
U S D E I T E P S R O I G N I T S A F H
Y D A T F U F A R E M F A I Z I B O Y K
Z M S C O I Y N Q Y T Y K S W G R A C E
V B A Q R V L W E A N J B G D M J S T V
A Q A T L I P O H R I X L C E F Z Q R R
P V A W N S F R R P A J V P W Q Y T C C
M A E K C U H I D P S Y E J N E M T P N
Z C M M R M X N C T W E Q V Q E B T O P
H N X T L N W F O E Z C W R Q T M M Q N

People of Prayer and Sacrifice

Word Search

Solution

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E + + + + + + + + + + + + + + C + + +
M N + + + + + + + + + + + + + O + + +
+ E I + + + + + + M + + + + + + M + + +
+ + R T C O N V E R S I O N + + M + + +
+ + + C S + + A + + + + + + + U + + +
+ + + + Y U T + H + + + + + + + N + + +
+ + + + + L G C + E + + + + + + I + + +
+ + + + E + R U C + A + + + + + T + + +
+ + + S + U + N A + C + + + + + Y + + +
+ + S + H + E + + T I + + + + + + + +
+ + + C + N + + + + N + + + + + + + +
+ S + E I + + + + R O I G N I T S A F +
+ + A T F + + + + E M + A + + + + + +
+ + S C + I + + + Y T + + S + G R A C E
+ B + + R + L + + A N + + + + + + + +
A + + + + I + O + R I + + + + + + + +
+ + + + + + F + R P A + + + + + + + +
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(Over,Down,Direction)

ABSTINENCE(1,16,NE)

CHURCH(4,11,NE)

COMMUNITY(17,1,S)

CONVERSION(5,4,E)

FASTING(19,12,W)

GRACE(16,14,E)

MEATLESS(10,3,SW)

MERCY(1,2,SE)

PRAYER(10,17,N)

PROLIFE(10,18,NW)

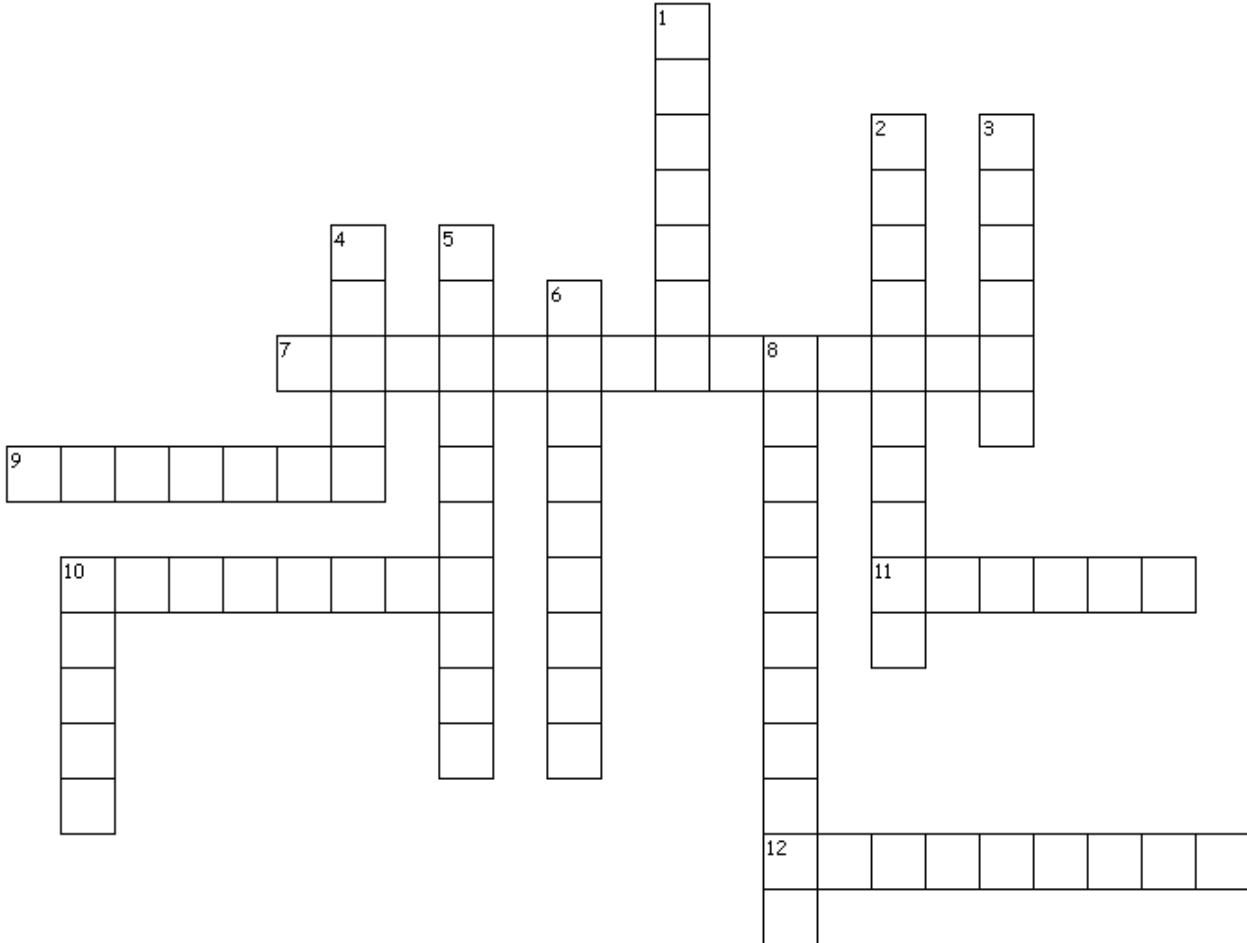
SACRIFICE(2,12,SE)

SAINTAUGUSTINE(14,14,NW)

SAINTMONICA(11,18,N)

People of Prayer and Sacrifice

Cross Word Puzzle



Across

7. The man who experienced a great conversion after his mother prayed and sacrificed for him for many years
9. What we are called to be in order to protect all people
10. What our meals should be on every Friday
11. God's family
12. The People of God

Down

1. We do this on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and on any day that we want to offer something up to God
2. Word meaning to refrain from doing something
3. What we call the time we spend with God
4. Another word for the life of God that He gives to us
5. What we experience when we turn to God
6. What we can offer to God as we pray for the conversion of ourselves and all people
8. The woman who prayed and sacrificed for her son's conversion for many years
10. What God has on us when we repent after we sin