

SECOND GRADE SUGGESTIONS: WHEN TO TEACH THE THEMES



ST. GEORGE & THE DRAGON By Margaret Hodges



Theme:	When to Teach:	Explanation of Theme:
<p>ORIGINAL SOLITUDE</p>	<p>All Saints Day (November 1st)</p> <p>Feast of St. Louis Ibaraki, Anthony Deynan, & Thomas Kozaki (Feb. 6th) These teenage boys were martyred in 1597 during a time when Catholicism was outlawed. The boys were known for their courage.</p> <p>Feast of St. Dominic Savio (March 6th See p. 33 of the Teacher Companion Guide)</p> <p>Feast of St. Bernadette (April 16th See p. 35 of the Teacher Companion Guide)</p> <p>Feast of St. George (April 23rd)</p>	<p>Adam was alone in the garden with God before original sin. His experience of being alone or “solitude” is called ORIGINAL SOLITUDE.</p> <p>Through ORIGINAL SOLITUDE, Man learns he is created for a unique relationship with God:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam is given the task of tilling and keeping the garden. This bodily work is made possible by the fact that Adam has a body different from the animals. • By naming the animals Adam learns he is different from the rest of creation. • God commands man to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Only man is given the ability to choose between good and evil. <p>Adam learns he is set apart from the rest of creation because he is a person created in the image and likeness of God. He is not made to be alone. He is created for a relationship with God and other humans.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">ORIGINAL UNITY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Beginning of School Year</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Feast of Christ the King (Sunday before Advent)</p>	<p>We learn more about ourselves through our relationships with others. We can enter into their experience and see the world from their point of view.</p> <p>God presented Adam and Eve to one another in the garden before original sin. Their experience of being created for each other, to be a true communion of persons is called ORIGINAL UNITY.</p> <p>Through ORIGINAL UNITY, Man and woman discover masculinity & femininity are each complete ways to be a human person. (TOB 10:1) We are called to give ourselves to God and others in love. Every student's path of <i>giving themselves to God and others</i> will be slightly different (ie. husband, wife, priest, religious sister, nurse, teacher, firefighter, businessman and woman etc.)</p> <p>Women are called in a unique way to be a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daughter of God and a daughter of their earthly parents. • Bride of Christ (all women) and bride of their earthly husband (some women). • Mother of many souls by caring for them through spiritual motherhood (all women) and mother of their physical children (some women). <p>Men are called in a unique way to be a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of God and a son of their earthly parents. • Husband of their earthly wife (some men). * • Father of many souls by caring for them through spiritual fatherhood (all men) and father of their physical children (some men). <p>*In the order of grace, men and women are both called to be a bride of Christ as a member of the Church, which is the mystical bride of Christ.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">THE BODY REVEALS THE PERSON</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Change of Liturgical Year</p> <p>(The vestments worn by the priest at mass are a sacramental, meaning they are blessed and set aside for a special purpose. The chasuble worn over the priest's alb is a symbol of the yoke of Christ and signifies charity. Different colors are worn to signify the time of the liturgical year. See p. 56 of your Teacher Companion Guide for an explanation of each color vestment.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">When Learning about Sacraments</p>	<p>A sacrament is a visible sign of invisible grace. In this way, the body acts as a sacrament. John Paul II said, <i>"The body, in fact, and only the body, is capable of making visible what is invisible: the spiritual and the divine."</i> (TOB 19:4)</p> <p>The body allows us to communicate with others through words, body language and emotion. It allows for us to be in relationship with others through physical touch, making and offering gifts with our hands and offering our work and service to others.</p>

Theme:

When to Teach:

Explanation of Theme:

VIRTUE & FREEDOM

The Feast of the Archangels

(September 29th) St. Michael the Archangel led an army of angels who cast Satan and all rebellious angels into hell. For this reason he is invoked for protection against all evil. John Paul II strongly encouraged the faithful to pray to St. Michael at the end of every Mass, a practice begun by Pope Leo XIII in 1886.

Preparing for First Reconciliation (Students are learning to examine their conscience.)

Lent

(Students use their freedom to make sacrifices for the good during Lent.)

We often think of freedom as a right to do whatever we want. However, this narrow view of freedom often leads to addiction and slavery. True freedom finds its perfection when one chooses to do what is morally right according to God's will.

Freedom does involve the power to choose, but freedom is perfected by choosing the good. Choosing to do evil leads to less freedom. Choosing to do the good leads to more freedom. (See *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 1733)

According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 1803, a virtue is a "habitual and firm disposition to do the good." A person becomes virtuous by practicing virtues just as a person becomes physically stronger by lifting weights.