

Living Faith Kids

Daily Devotions for Africa

bayard Publications



JUNE 2023 • N° 15

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28



Dear friends,

welcome to Living Faith Kids, the June edition. On 16th of June, we will be celebrating an important feast called Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Sacred Heart of Jésus expresses God's boundless and passionate love for us. Throughout this month of June let us make the following prayer to ask assistance from Jesus to help live according to his word.

«O most holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore You, I love You, and with a lively sorrow for my sins, I offer You this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure, and wholly obedient to Your will. Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in You and for You. Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions. Give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, Your blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. » Amen.

Rev. Fr. Jean-Claude DIWEDIGA, a.a.

Welcome to

Living Faith Kids

Daily Devotions for Africa

With this magazine, we can...

Read words from the Bible

God speaks to us in Scriptures. So each day, we pick a short quote from one of the daily Mass readings in order to think and pray about.

Pray with daily devotions

Daily prayer is a great way to get to know God better. Each reflection can help us to pray with the Word of God—every day!



Discover, learn, play and love

Our Catholic faith is like a big treasure chest waiting for us to discover. Here we will find games, activities, puzzles and more to help us learn about the sacraments, saints, feast days, the Mass and more. Have fun!

Reading the Bible

Our daily devotions begin with a passage from the Bible. Want to read more? The CITATION (sigh-TAY-shun) will guide you to the reading in three easy steps:



1: Book. The Bible is divided into books. Check your Bible for a list of titles.

Psalm 47:2 is from the Book of Psalms.

2: Chapter. The first number is the chapter. Bibles usually show book and chapter at the top of each page.

*Psalm 47:2 is in
Chapter 47 of the Book of Psalms.*



3: Verse. Last are the verse number(s).
Verses are usually a sentence or two long.
The tiny numbers are hidden inside the text.

Psalm 47:2 is verse 2 of Chapter 47.

Ready? Set? Go!

Practice by looking up Psalm 47:2.



June at a Glance

Activity Calendar of June



Week The Most Holy Trinity

1 Repeat daily "I believe in the Holy Trinity".



Week Corpus Christi

2 Pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament Repeat daily "I adore you Jesus Christ."



Week The Most Sacred Heart

3 Repeat daily. "Lord make my heart pure"



Week Saints Peter and Paul

4 Write down all what you know about Saints Peter & Paul

“Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you”.

Mark 10 :52

Thursday

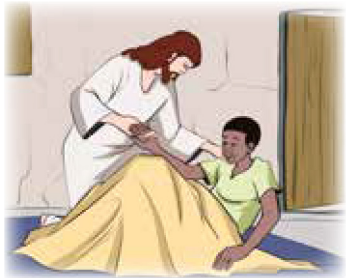
June 1



SAINT JUSTINE

Healing faith comes from our total trust, our total surrender to God’s love in all situations, especially the desperate ones; at that moment He comes to carry with us the situation. You may not currently have desperate situations like this woman, since you have your parents who take good care of you, and because you trust them that they will never abandon you! Have the same trust in God in every situation.

The Lord be
with you!



Sirach 42: 15-25/ Psalm 33: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9/ Mark 10: 46-52

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Mark 11:24

Friday June 2

Prayer is a great privilege for children of God. Think of how amazing it is that you can go before God and ask for whatever you need, the same way you go to your parents. Just as you are assured that your parents will not say no to your needs, likewise God will not fail you when you pray to Him. Do you have Faith when you pray?

Lord, teach me how to pray!

“By what authority are you doing these things?”

Mark 11:28

Saturday June 3

SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND COMPANIONS

Authority means having power to do something; being authorized means having permission to do something. Jesus was using power from God the Father to do all the things he did. Today, God gives us the same power through the Holy Spirit to do things that we cannot be able to do on our own. When we are faced with difficult situations, God will always help us to overcome.

Lord Jesus, teach me to rely on your power to accomplish your will in my life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:17

Sunday

June 4

THE HOLY TRINITY, SOLEMNITY

God the Father sent his Son to save the world. Today God sends us, to share His work of salvation in our communities, homes and schools. When we fulfil this work, we are living our vocations. Through our vocations, we offer services that are requested from us. Do you like to serve? There are some who don't like to serve, they get angry, they get sad when they are requested for service. However, serving should give us inner joy and makes us participants of Jesus' mission of salvation

Lord, here I am, send me!

Exodus 34: 4b-6. 8-9/ Daniel 3: 52. 53. 54. 55. 56 (52b) / 2 Corinthians 13:
11-13 / **John 3: 16-18**

The stone the builders rejected has become
the cornerstone. Mark 12 :10

Monday

June 5

SAINT BONIFACE

A cornerstone is usually the first one to be laid down during building. It is a very important stone since it determines how other stones are laid. Sometimes, builders reject a stone because they do not think it is good enough to be a cornerstone. Through this parable, Jesus tells us that anyone who allows the spirit of God to lead him or her will be as important as the cornerstone.

Tobit 1: 3; 2: 1a-8/ Psalm
112: 1b-2. 3b-4. 5-6/
Mark 12: 1-12



Then Jesus said to them, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."

Mark 12:17

Tuesday

June 6

Have ever wondered if it is ok for us to follow the law of our country or simply follow the law of God? When Jesus was asked whether it is ok to pay tax to Caesar, He said yes. He taught us not mix things up; but to obey both the law of our country as well as the law of God. It is therefore important to obey rules set up in our homes, schools, churches and country.

Father, help me to always be obedient to you and all those who are in authority

He is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

Mark 12:27

Wednesday

June 7

A saint by the name of Irenaeus had written that “the glory of God is the living man”, meaning when man is happy God too is happy, when man feels good, content with his life, God is glorified. Parents enjoy seeing signs of liveliness in children. When you are in good health, in a good mood, when you show joy, parents also are happy, and God too! God calls us to life, and we too must promote life around us.

Let us never doubt the presence of God in our lives.

The second is this: “Love your neighbor as yourself”.

Mark 12:31

Thursday

June 8



God is Love. Love is the greatest commandment and can be summed as Love for God and Love for neighbor. To love your neighbor as yourself simply means to do to them what you would want them to do to you. If you would not want them to hurt you, do not hurt them. Be kind to them always. Everything you can do or want for your well-being, do to others, thus you will show them love, that is what our life is all about.

Nourish me Lord with your love,
so that I can love others.

Tobit 6: 10-11; 7: 1bcde. 9-17; 8: 4-9a / **Mark 12: 28-34**

“.....The large crowd listened to him with delight”.

Mark 12:37

Friday

June 9

Listening to the word of God with delight! This is very interesting! Do you enjoy listening to the Word of God? What gives us joy in the Word of God? The Word of God is called ‘Good News’ . It carries a message of joy and hope. However the Word of God, sometimes can be hard and not very easy to abide with. Despite this, it always carries a message of life. Hoping that today’s word, brightens your day!

Lord, may your word be a light to my path.

But she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

Mark 12:44

Saturday

June 10

Everything we have comes from God. A poor woman in the Bible gave everything she had as an offering in the temple. She trusted God that even after offering the last of the money she had, God would bless her with much more. Likewise, God calls us to offer ourselves, our strength and time to serve Him through helping those in need as well as serving in the Church.



Tobit 12: 1. 5-15. 20/ Tobit 13: 2. 6e. 7. 8/ Mark 12: 38-44

“.....but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”

John 6 :58

Sunday

June 11

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Many people desire to live forever without dying. However, for one to see God face to face, one must die. Jesus gave us His Holy Body in the form of Eucharist. When we eat His body we welcome Jesus in our hearts and He helps us to be better Christians. Eucharist is our spiritual food that will help us to live forever not in this earthly body, but live with God in heaven. Have you received the first communion? Maybe it's time to think about it; and if you have already received it, all the best on your path of faith!

Eternal Father, help us always receive the body of Jesus Christ so that we may be strong Christians.

Deuteronomy 8: 2-3, 14b-16a / Psalm 147: 12-13, 14-15, 19-20 (12) /
1 Corinthians 10: 16-17/ **John 6: 51-58**

Blessed are the peacemakers, For they
will be called children of God.

Mark 5 :9

Monday

June 12

Today's gospel tells us that we will be called "Children of God" if we are peaceful, and if we love to create peace around us. Peace is a gift from God that must be welcomed. Unfortunately, there are people who provoke others, thus creating trouble. This is not what God wants us to do. The world today needs peace, you can be a source of peace where you are!

May the Lord guide you in that way!

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden”.

Matthew 5:14

Tuesday

June 13

SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA

We are called to be light for others! You certainly know what light does. It illuminates. Where there is darkness, light allows us to see clearly; light brings joy, security, while darkness inspires fear. Imagine then that you are a little light and that you shine to enlighten others, what happiness! God invites you through today's Word to be true, honest, among other virtues. It is by doing so that you can shine light to others.

Lord, help me to be a source of light for others.

2 Corinthians 1: 18-22 / Psalm 119: 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 135 /
Matthew 5: 13-16

...whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5 :19

Wednesday June 14

Commandments guide our actions. You certainly have some rules at home or at school. You are expected to obey and respect the rules. God's commandments help us to have good deeds that make our relationship with God and others stronger. As Christians we are called to teach others how to respect and live according to the commandments of God. Since it is not always easy to abide by the commandments, we should always ask for God's grace.

Lord, I am weak in keeping your commandments, sustain me with your grace!

Leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5 :24

Thursday

June 15

Have you ever had a disagreement with someone? A member of your family, brother or sister? A friend, a classmate? It happens! Did you get angry? Did you hold a grudge against them? In today's word Jesus tells us about reconciliation. This means forgiving and letting go any grudge you hold against someone who did something bad to you. When we wrong others, we should humbly ask for their forgiveness.



2 Corinthians 3: 15 - 4: 1. 3-6 / Ps 85: 9ab and 10. 11-12. 13-14 /
Matthew 5: 20-26

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11 :28

Friday

June 16



THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Sometimes we feel burdened by some situations in our lives that make us anxious. We are encouraged to talk about it to persons we trust such as our parents, teachers and other family members. Through prayer, we talk to Jesus about our fears, struggles and difficulties and he listens to us. With Jesus, we are never alone. We are assured of his help whenever we call upon him and gives us rest which only comes from Him.

Lord Jesus, you are my rest,
comfort me!

Deuteronomy 7: 6-11/ Psalm 103: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10 / 1 John 4: 7-16/ Matthew 11: 25-30

“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”

Luke 2:49

Saturday

June 17

THE IMMACULATE HEART OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

When Jesus was twelve years, he was left behind in the temple and his parents did not know where he was. When they looked for him, he told them “did you not know that I must be in my father’s house?” Do we sometimes desire to be in the house of God? How many times do we spend time in church? It is important to spend time with God, not just in the church but also reading His work and praying.

Loving Father, give us the desire to spend time with you

...we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:11

Sunday

June 18

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The word “boast” may sound negative; but to “boast in Jesus” means to be proud to be a child of God. Saint Paul says this in relation to his life story; Saint Paul’s life story sends us back to our own stories about how we have journeyed to know Jesus; could you say the same? Are you proud to be a child of God? Are you happy to be called a Christian? Would you be able to share your experience with Jesus to your friends, your family?

Lord Jesus Help us to grow our relationship with you.

Exodus 19: 2-6a / Psalm 100: 1-2. 3. 5 (3c) / **Romans 5: 6-11** /
Matthew 9: 36- 10: 8

Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

Matthew 5 :42

Monday

June 19

It seems difficult nowadays to be charitable, especially in a context of poverty, where one has little to give; the tendency is rather to keep jealously what we have for ourselves; and meanwhile the Word of God tells us rather to share what we have with the needy, not to run away from them.



You therefore must be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 5 :48

Tuesday

June 20

Perfection does not mean not making mistakes. God our father knows very well that we, his children, are very fragile, that without him we can do nothing. Perfection in God means perseverance in doing good, the effort to start over when we have made mistakes, the effort to do better in the future. May the Lord help us today not to be discouraged, even when we make mistakes.

Heavenly Father, inspire in us the desire to be like you.

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 8:9

Wednesday

June 21

SAINT ALOYSIUS GONGAZA

God has never ceased to bless His people! Every day that God has made is a blessing, and we need to recognize that, and thank Him. You are a blessing to your parents, to your family, and they too are a blessing to you from God. Let nothing separate you from God's blessing! More than our parents, God our Father is always attentive to our needs. He knows what is good for us and what is not good for us. Sometimes we have to wait for the right moment.

Lord we thank you for always taking care and providing for our needs daily.

2 Corinthians 9: 6-11/ Psalm 112: 1bc-2. 3-4. 9/ Matthew 6: 1-6. 16-18

“..... for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Matthew 6 :8

Thursday

June 22



Do you sometimes feel unable to pray?

Do you struggle to tell God what you need? God is our Father. He created us and knows us by our names. Even though it is good to pray, when we are unable to pray, God is still with us. He understands our needs and loves us as His children.



2 Corinthians 11: 1-11/ Psalms 111: 1b-2, 3-4, 7-8/ **Matthew 6: 7-15**

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6 :21

Friday

June 23

What is your treasure? All of us have something that we love, that we keep precious. It can be a toy or an electronic device among other things. Besides earthly possessions, we can have spiritual treasures such as a particular liturgical song, a prayer, a psalm or a place where we like to go like a shrine. Treasures are close to our hearts and we cherish them.

Lord help us to treasure your word, and delight ourselves in your presence.

2 Corinthians 11: 18. 21-30/ Psalm 34: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7/ **Matthew 6: 19-23**

Before the coming of Jesus, John preached repentance and baptism to all the people of Israel.

Acts 13: 24

Saturday

June 24

THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST, SOLEMNITY

Repentance leads to conversion which means changing one's life or behavior.

Do you also remember that we talked about "perfection" a few days ago? Conversion is a perpetual change, towards perfection. Conversion goes through self-examination, meaning reflecting on one's life, before bed for instance, and remembering all you've done well and what you've not done well, and then take the resolution to change the mistakes in order to be a better person tomorrow. That's how you strive for perfection.

Lord have mercy on me.

Isaiah 49: 1-6 / Psalm 139: 1b-3. 13-14ab. 14c-15 / Acts 13: 22-26 / Luke 1: 57-66. 80

So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Matthew 10:31

Sunday

June 25

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Are there times you feel afraid?

Sometimes we fear that something bad might happen to us. We could be afraid of darkness, certain places or being in certain situations. Fear makes us worried and could lead to desperation. Fear makes us unable to trust, pray or even do our day to day activities. Jesus comforts us and tells us, not to be afraid, because he is our Protector. We only need to trust Him at all times.

Lord Jesus, strengthen our faith
and trust in your care

Jeremiah 20: 10-13/ Psalm 69: 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 (14c) / Romans 5: 12-15 /

Matthew 10: 26-33

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged.

Matthew 7:1

Monday

June 26

We all make mistakes. Only God is perfect and without error. As such, we should not judge others no matter what. God tells us not to Judge because if we do, we go against His will. We will also be judged when we judge others! What does it mean not to judge someone? It means accepting that everyone makes mistakes. It means not talking badly about others, not condemning or wrongly accusing others.

Loving Father, give us the humility to accept others as they are without judging them.

So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them.

Matthew 7:12

Tuesday

June 27

This verse is commonly called the “Golden Rule” because it is based on the greatest laws: loving God, and loving others as oneself. The Golden Rule encourages us to treat others as we would like to be treated. For instance, most people appreciate it when others treat them with respect, kindness, and love. Logically, then, we should do the same to others.

Lord rekindle in me your love and the love of others.

Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Matthew 7:19

Wednesday June 28

SAINT IRENAEUS

A fruit tree that blooms is a delight to the eyes of the owner. As tiny fruits begin to appear, it inspires hope for a bountiful harvest. Now imagine that you are a fruit tree. What would be the tiny fruits that bloom from you?

These would be good deeds, respectful behaviour and other virtues.



Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18 / Psalm 105: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 / **Matthew 7: 15-20**

“You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Matthew 16:16

Thursday

June 29

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES,

Jesus asked Peter who he thought Jesus was. Peter gave a personal and very clear answer. Now imagine that Jesus is standing before you and is asking you the same question. Can you personally say who He is? Can you try to say in your own words who Jesus is to you? Do that exercise and share with your family, siblings and/or parents.

Lord Jesus son of the living God,
help me to be your witness to
others!

Acts 12: 1-11 / Psalm 34: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 / 2 Timothy 4: 6-8. 17-18 /

Matthew 16: 13-1

Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”

Matthew 8:2

Friday

June 30

“Lord, if you are willing”... Such a prayer expresses surrender to the will of God. God is not indebted to us in any way. It is out of pure love and grace that he gives us what we need. It is important to know how to ask, with humility, with patience and respect. “The one who asks for help does not command.” Some children ask forcefully, as if they must be given everything and immediately. May this verse inspire you humility in prayer and in your requests to anyone.

Loving God, grant me the humility
to always surrender to your will

Living Faith Kids features daily devotions based on the daily Scripture readings, commentaries and illustrations. This quarterly pamphlet is mainly made for African children in order to help them grow in faith and wisdom. It also helps develop their habit of daily prayer and build their relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church. This is an important tool for our kids to take part in liturgical worship and parish life. It can therefore be used in our schools, catechesis classes and homes.

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IMPRIMATUR

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February 15, 2018

**“For God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son.”**

John 3:16



**“God helps those who help
themselves.”**

Africa