

AUGUST 31, 2025

MYOCN PEW PALS



12th Sunday of Matthew

In the Gospel, a rich young man asked Jesus, “What good thing must I do to have eternal life?” Jesus told him to keep the commandments. The man said he already did that, so Jesus said, “If you want to be perfect, sell what you have, give to the poor, and come follow Me.” The young man walked away sadly because he loved his riches too much. Jesus then told His disciples that it’s hard for the rich to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but with God all things are possible. This shows us that we shouldn’t let anything—money, toys, or possessions—be more important than loving and following Jesus.

Imagine you are at a birthday party. You have a big bag of candy all to yourself. Suddenly, you notice another child didn’t get any. You *really* want to keep all your candy—but deep down, you know Jesus would want you to share. It feels hard, because you love your candy. **But when you share, you’re actually showing Jesus that you love Him more than candy.**

That’s what Jesus was teaching the young man—our toys, games, candy, and even money are not as important as loving and following Him. When we let go of things we hold too tightly, we make more room in our hearts for God.

Family Homework

Family Treasure Hunt: Hide slips of paper with good deeds written on them around the house. Kids find them and read them out loud.

Simplify & Give: Have children pick one toy, book, or clothing item to donate to someone in need.

Memory Verse

“With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

– Matthew 19:26



CRAFT – New Year Confetti Popper

Supplies

- 1 balloon
- 1 plastic cup (sturdy) or toilet paper tube
- Scissors
- Tape (or duct tape)
- Confetti (store-bought or homemade from cut-up paper)



Instructions

- **Prepare the Balloon:** Tie a knot at the end of the balloon (like you would if it were inflated). Cut off the very top (round part) of the balloon with scissors, leaving the knotted end intact.
- **Attach the Balloon:** Stretch the cut end of the balloon over the bottom of the cup (the open rim of the cup, not the drinking side) or one end of the cardboard tube.
- **Secure it tightly with tape so it won't slip off.**
- **Fill with Confetti:** Turn the cup/tube upright. Place a small handful of confetti inside. Don't overfill or it won't launch well.
- **Launch the Confetti:** Hold the cup/tube firmly. Pull down on the knotted end of the balloon, aim upward, and release.
- **Watch the confetti burst into the air like a celebration!**

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Are there times when it feels hard to share or give something up? How can we remind ourselves that Jesus is the most important treasure of all?"

SAINT STORIES

ELIZABETH, MOTHER OF THE FORERUNNER

Elizabeth was a holy woman who lived at the same time as the Virgin Mary. She was married to Zechariah the priest. Both of them loved God very much and followed His commandments.

For many years, Elizabeth and Zechariah had no children. They were very old, and it seemed impossible for them to ever have a baby. One day, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah in the temple and told him that Elizabeth would give birth to a son. This son would grow up to prepare the way for Jesus. His name would be John—we know him as St. John the Baptist, the Forerunner of Christ.

When Mary came to visit her, carrying baby Jesus in her womb, Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. The baby in her womb—John—leapt for joy because he already recognized the Savior! St. Elizabeth teaches us to trust in God, even when something seems impossible. With God, all things are possible.

Commemorated September 5

