

Getting Ready for Chapter 12

Take Home



We Pray for Others

In this chapter, children will become more aware of the needs of others. Sometimes all we can do to help others is to pray for them. The children will come to realize that, when we pray, we trust God to care for people's needs. The children will also compose their own prayers for other people.

ACTIVITY

Trust Walk Blindfold one family member. Then have someone be the trust-walk leader. It is the leader's job to make sure that the blindfolded person doesn't bump into anything or get hurt. It is the blindfolded person's job to trust the leader. Take turns being the blindfolded person and the leader. Then talk about what it was like to play these roles.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Listen for the priest to say the words "Let us pray." When he pauses, use the opportunity to be quiet and prayerful.

On the Web

www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of The Week



**Saint Paula Montal
Fornés (1799–1889)**

Paula was born in Spain. After her father died, she worked as a seamstress to help her family. With a friend she began a school. She later founded the Daughters of Mary. She was canonized in 2001.

Patron Saint of: seamstresses
Feast Day: February 26



**A
Prayer
for the
Week**

Lord, sometimes we are caught up with our own needs and we ignore the needs of those around us. Open our hearts to see the needs of others as did Saint Paula Montal Fornés. Amen.

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Scripture Background

In the Time of Jesus

Prayer The earliest instances of prayer recorded in the Old Testament are conversations God initiates with people. In Genesis, God speaks with Adam (1:28–30), and with Abraham (15:1–21). In Exodus 3:4–22, God speaks with Moses. Christ’s role as mediator between God and humans is shown in the New Testament. Prayer is addressed to God through Jesus Christ. This is based on the concept that God’s grace and love come through Christ.

You can read of Jesus’ role as mediator in John 1:1–18.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Prayer

Novenas *Do not despise my poor prayer. Do not let my trust be confounded!*

This prayer is part of a novena to Saint Jude. Also known as Saint Jude Thaddeus, he is the patron saint of impossible causes.

A novena is a repeated prayer asking for a specific intention. *Novena* comes from the Latin word *novem*, or *nine*. It reflects the Apostles’ experience. They prayed for nine days awaiting the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Most novenas are prayed for nine days in a row, or once weekly for nine weeks. They may be made to saints, angels, and even God. Mary is perhaps most often addressed in novenas.