

Faith Loops

Faith Loops are PowerPoint presentations with images and information that will help us grow in the understanding of our Catholic faith. They will be projected on the screens during the twenty minutes prior to each weekend mass. To learn more about your faith while waiting for Mass to begin, come a few minutes early.

The slides will loop, or repeat, themselves. Thus, the name: Faith Loops.



Word of the Week: Devotion

The word 'devotion' stems from the Latin verb *devorere*, which means 'to dedicate by a vow, sacrifice oneself, promise solemnly'.

Devotions are pious practices that involve special prayers, gestures and rituals, all performed to worship God, honor the saints, or call upon God's favor. They can be private or public in expression. Some examples of devotions include praying novenas, the Stations of the Cross, or the Angelus.



Word of the Week: Devotions

Making a pilgrimage or wearing a religious medal or a scapular are also examples of private devotions. Perhaps one of the most popular devotions is the praying of the rosary.

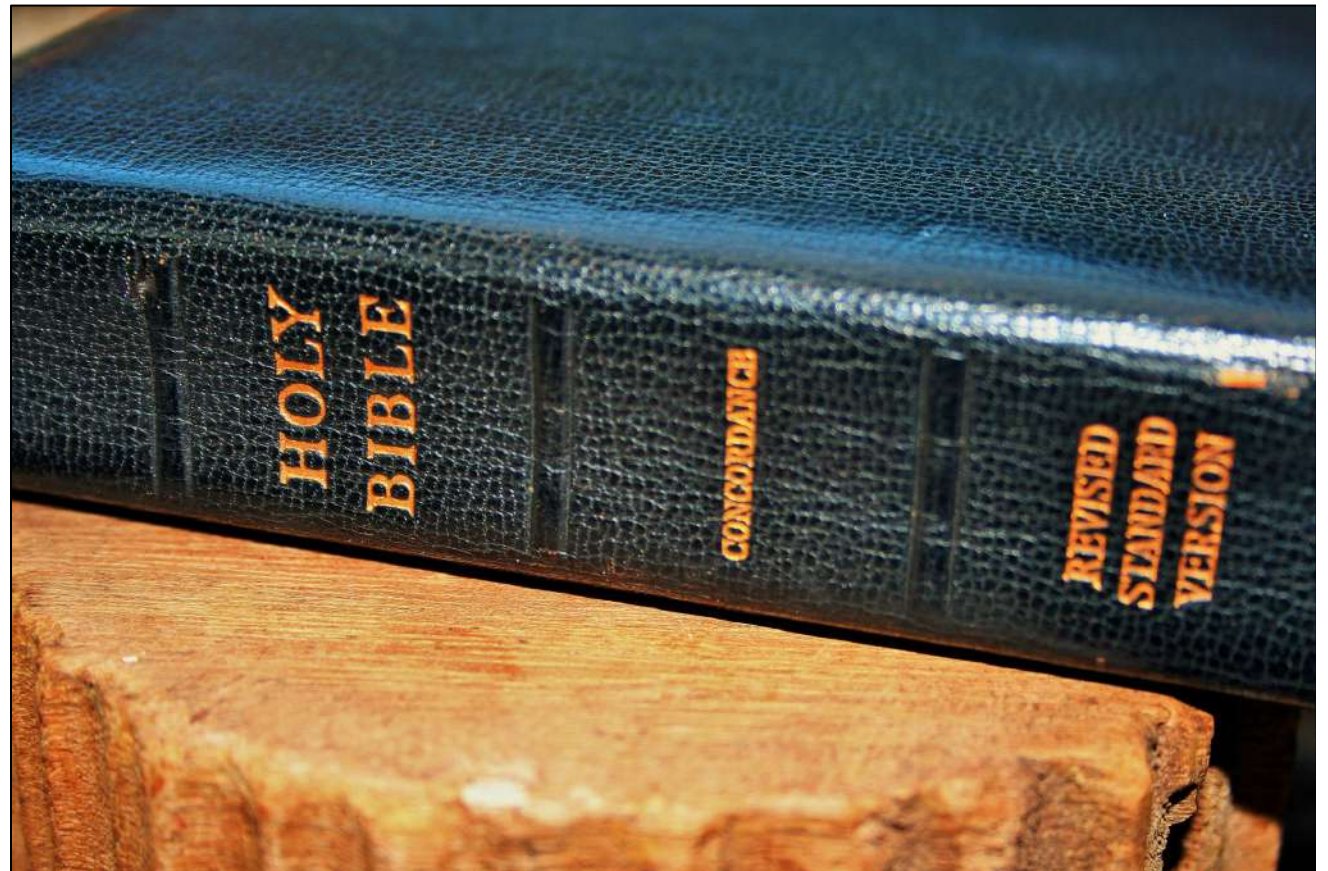
Most devotions are commended by the Church and contribute to one's spirituality and practice of the faith. However, unlike the sacraments, they are not part of the official teaching of the Church.



Testing Your Bible Knowledge

How many books are there in the New Testament?

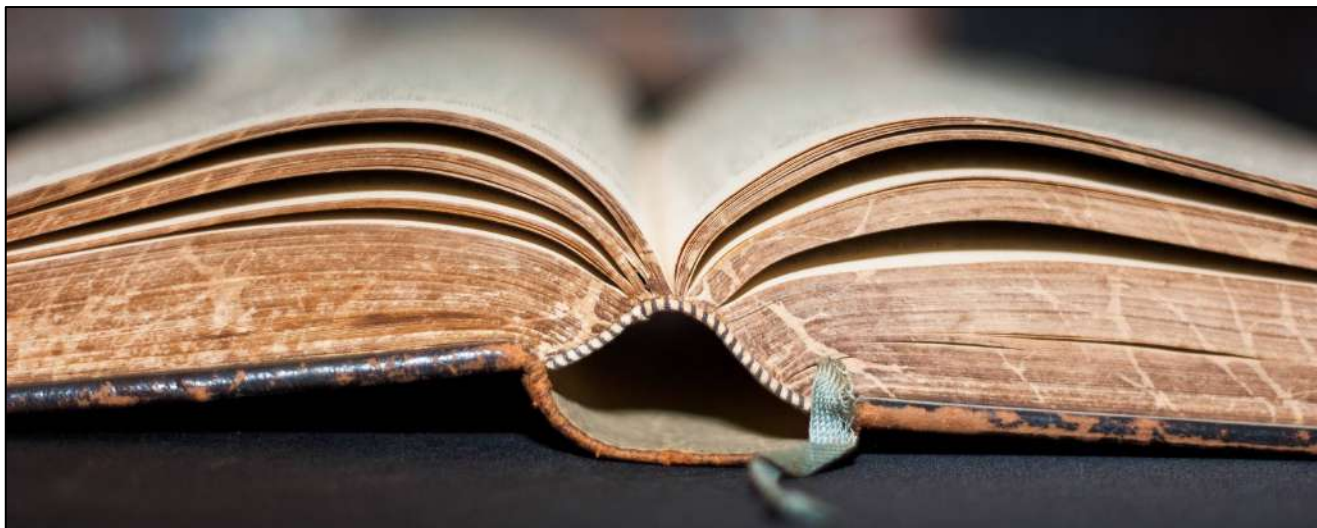
- a. 27
- b. 33
- c. 39
- d. 46



Testing Your Bible Knowledge

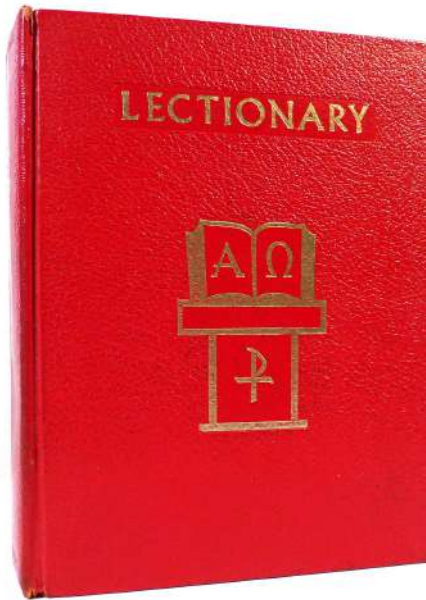
a. 27

There are 27 books in the New Testament. The New Testament includes the four Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, the Letters (Epistles) of Paul and other writers, and the Book of Revelation.



You Were Wondering ...

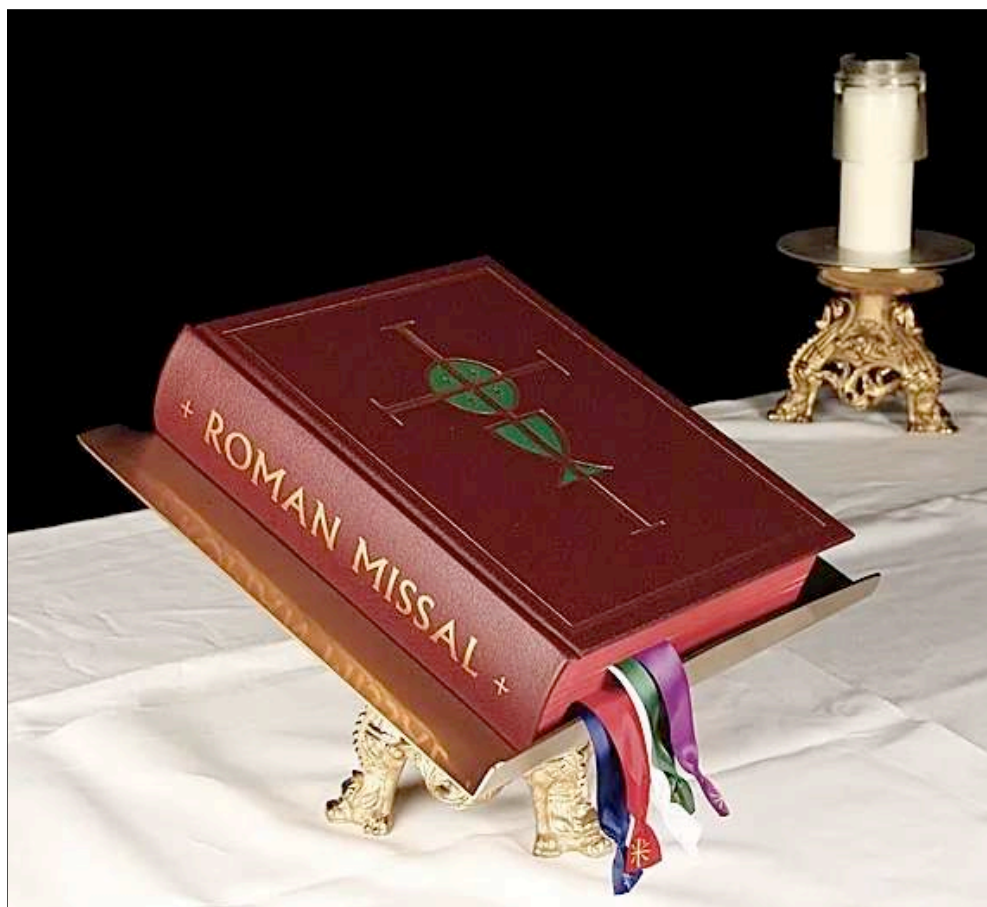
What are the two large books that they use at mass, one on the altar and the other on the ambo?



The book on the ambo is called the *lectionary*. It contains the scripture readings that will be proclaimed during the masses throughout the year.

One copy, green in color, is for weekday masses, which are on a two-year cycle. The one with a red cover contains all the Sunday readings for a three-year period (Years A, B, and C).

The book on the altar is known as the ***Roman Missal***. It contains all the prayers that will be read by the priest during the celebration of the Mass. These prayers include the opening and closing prayers, the Eucharistic Prayers, the Prayer over the Gifts, and the Prayer after Communion.



These prayers change from day to day, and that explains the thickness of the book. The priest uses different colors of ribbon to mark the pages to which he needs to refer.

The Seven Sacraments

There are seven sacraments in the Catholic Church. You can remember them by the acronym, **CHAMBER**.

Can you remember all seven?
(The images below may be of help.)



The Seven Sacraments

C – Confirmation

H – Holy Orders

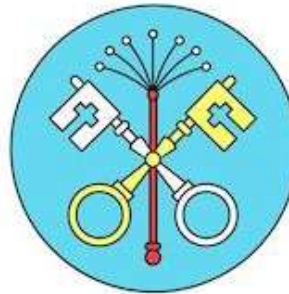
A – Anointing of the Sick

M – Marriage

B – Baptism

E – Eucharist

R – Reconciliation



The Glorious Mysteries

October is the month of the rosary. On Wednesdays and Sundays we pray the Glorious Mysteries.

Which of the following is **NOT** one of the Glorious Mysteries?

- ❖ The Resurrection of Jesus
- ❖ The Ascension of Jesus
- ❖ The Visitation
- ❖ The Descent of the Holy Spirit
- ❖ The Assumption of Mary



The Glorious Mysteries

The Visitation of Mary with her cousin Elizabeth is not a Glorious Mystery. It is one of the five Joyful Mysteries.

The Glorious Mystery that was missing from the list was the Crowning of Mary as Queen of Heaven, as depicted on the right.



Test Your Knowledge: Angels

After the temptation in the desert, angels:

- a. ministered to Jesus
- b. cried
- c. led Jesus back to his apostles
- d. brought Jesus olive oil and bread



Test Your Knowledge: **Angels**

After the temptation in the desert, angels:

a. ministered to Jesus



“Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.”

(Matt. 4:11)

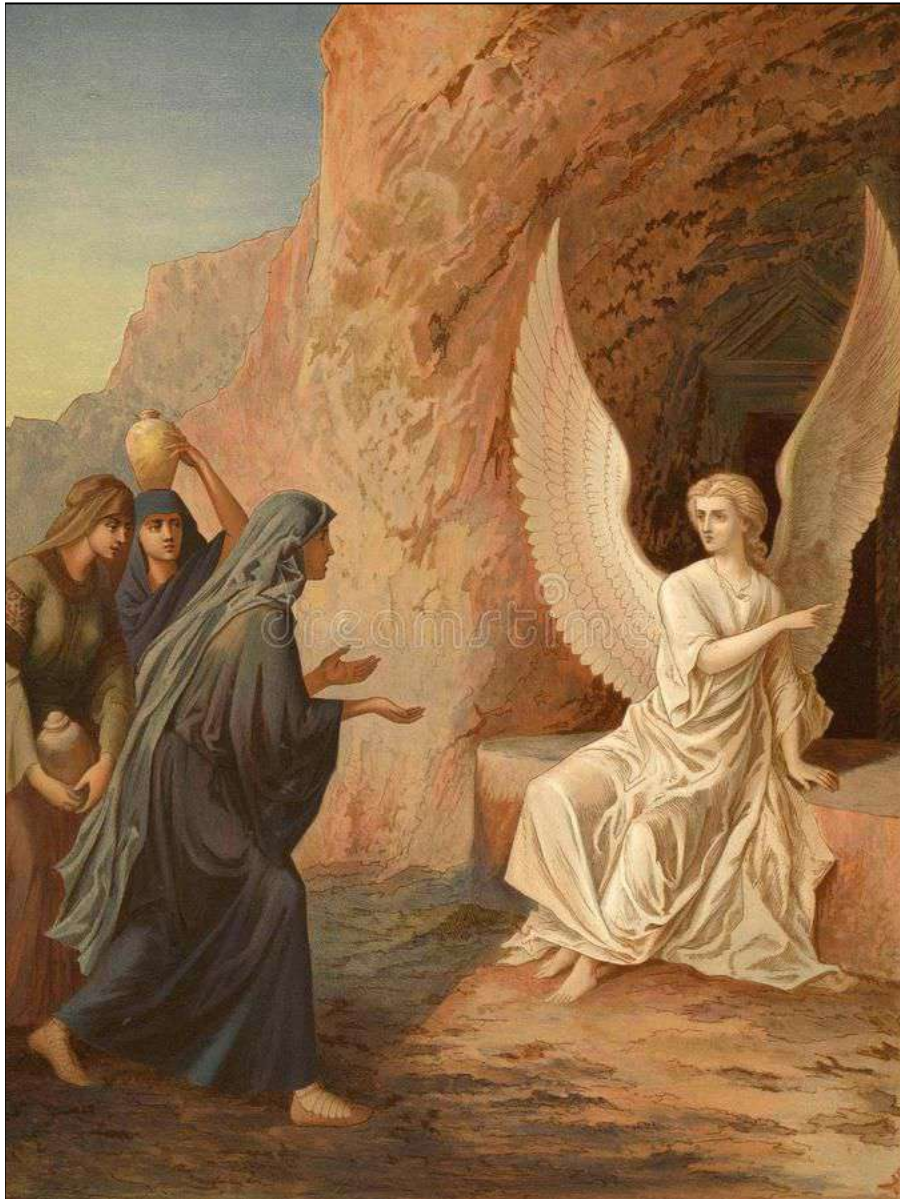
Test Your Knowledge: **Angels**



The angels at Jesus' tomb were:

- a. sitting
- b. hovering
- c. kneeling
- d. standing

Test Your Knowledge: **Angels**



The angels at Jesus' tomb were:

- a. sitting**
- AND**
- d. standing**

Trick question.

In Luke 24:4 the angels are standing, but in John 20:12 they are sitting.

What is the Mass Like?

The mass is like an oasis in the desert. We come to this oasis to be renewed and restored. God speaks to us in the Sacred Scriptures, and Fr. Nilo or Deacon Dan gives us direction and encouragement in their homilies. Here we are nourished and fed with the Body of Christ. Then, we are *sent* back out into the desert to bring the love of God, the peace of Christ, and the Good News to others. We are not meant to stay at the oasis for long. There is work to be done!





Guardian Angels

The word "angel" comes from the Greek word for messenger. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read how the apostle, Peter, escaped from prison with the help of an angel. The Catholic Church believes that every

person has a guardian angel, assigned by God. Jesus said to his disciples, "Don't be cruel to any of these little ones! I promise you that their angels are always with my Father in heaven" (Matt. 18: 10).

Guardian Angels

On October 2, we celebrate the Feast of Guardian Angels. We can pray to our guardian angels any time, as follows:

*Angel of God,
my guardian dear,
To whom God's love
commits me here.
Ever this day be at my side
to light and guard,
to rule and guide. Amen.*



Prayer Before Mass

Dear God, help me to be open to all that you want to give me at Mass today.

My heart is open. I come in hope.

I come empty and unsure and troubled.

I come in need to be loved by you,
united with this faith community,
strengthened by your word,
and nourished by the Bread of Life.

Cleanse me. Refresh me.

Strengthen me for the journey ahead.

Lead me to heaven.

Thank you, God, for this time together.

Thank you, God, for everything. Amen.



Questions???

Do you have a question about the Catholic faith or about the celebration of the Mass? If so, write it on a piece of paper and drop it into the marked shoebox on the table at the back of the church. We will try to answer it in a Faith Loop at a later date.

Thank you.

