

Getting Ready for Chapter 15

Take Home



Living God's Commandments

God revealed his divine Law to Moses in the Ten Commandments. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us that God has engraved the Ten Commandments on every human heart. In giving us his Law, God shows us how to live as his children. When we follow the commandments, we love God with all our heart, mind, and soul, and our neighbors as ourselves.

ACTIVITY

Balancing the Rules Draw a scale that has two arms. On one arm, draw or write a rule that is extremely important, a rule that, if broken, could harm another. On the other arm, draw or write a less important rule. Talk about what makes one rule more important than another.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Before Mass begins, take a few moments and ask Jesus to show you one way that you can better live the commandments this week.

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 Augustine of Hippo (A.D. 354–430)

Saint Augustine was born in northern Africa. He rejected the faith of his mother and led a wild life for many years. Through his mother's prayers, he converted to Christianity and later became a bishop and one of the greatest theologians of the Church.

Patron Saint of: theologians
Feast Day: August 28



A Prayer for the Week

Lord, thank you for giving us the Ten Commandments. Like Moses and Saint Augustine, help us to love your Law with all our heart. Amen.

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Scripture Background

In the Time of the Early Church

The New Commandment In Old Testament times, God established a covenant with his people and gave them the Ten Commandments. In turn, Jesus gave his followers the New Commandment: “Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another” (John 13:34). In the time of the early Christians, Paul explained this new commandment as a new covenant established by Jesus Christ. Paul wrote, “The other commandments are summed up in this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ Love is the fulfillment of the Law” (based on Romans 13:9–10).

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Literature

Flannery O’Connor Born in Savannah, Georgia, Flannery O’Connor (1925–1964) belonged to the Southern Gothic tradition and is considered one of the most important American writers of the twentieth century. She depicted Southern rural life and characters struggling with inner conflict. In all of her stories, O’Connor explored the action of grace on characters not willing to accept grace. Flannery O’Connor brought her Catholic beliefs and keen sense of morality to bear on all her writings.