

## CT Highschool Study Guide

### Fill in the blank or Recite Psalm 128 (bonus points for doing both)

They have greatly oppressed me from my youth, let Israel say, they have greatly oppressed me from my youth, but they have not gained the victory over me. Plowmen have plowed my back and made their furrows long. But the Lord is righteous; He has cut me free from the cords of the wicked. May all who hate Zion be turned back in shame. May they be like grass on the roof, which withers before it can grow; with it the reaper cannot fill his hands, nor the one who gathers fill his arms. May those who pass by not say, "the blessing of the Lord be upon you; we bless you in the name of the Lord." Alleluia.

### 2 questions from one of these 5 spiritual talks

#### St. Basilides the martyr

Saint Basilides was a minister in the Roman Empire and he was Christian. He had two sons: Eusebyus and Macarius, who were soldiers in the royal army. The emperor went to war and was killed, so another emperor took over. This emperor left the faith and started to kill the Christians. St. Basilides took his sons and they went to go be martyred, even though they were rich and worked for the emperor. Christ lifted him up to heaven to show him the spiritual dwellings, and his soul was comforted. They tortured St. Basilides in so many severe ways until his soul went up to the heavenly kingdom. They did not leave out one method of torturing him.... Do I love Jesus that much that I would leave everything for him? Do I actually seek FIRST the kingdom of God, or do I seek other things, and just use Jesus to get me what I want? Analyze your heart and ask God to help you be like the martyrs in having a loyal heart for Him only.

#### Saints Abadir and Eraee his sister

Tout 28--Martyrdom of Saints Abadir and Eraee his sister. They were children of the minister of Antioch. They were told by a vision to go be martyred by Diocletian. Their mother tried to prevent them but they were determined, especially since Christ appeared to them and commanded them to do it. St. Abadir was filled with the Kingdom of God, so he was able to pass it onto his sister and make her have the same love for God.

When the Kingdom of God grow inside of us, it is inevitable that it grows outside of us too, and into the hearts of others. We need to recognize the importance of spreading His kingdom to our siblings, parents, friends, etc. Our number 1 goal though, should be to let Christ reign inside of us. Then He will take care of overflowing from us into others.

#### Raising of the Son of the Widow of Nain

This Sunday's gospel reading is about the miracle of the raising of the son of the widow of Nain found in the gospel of Luke. There are many aspects of our lives that we want resurrected. Restoring our love with Christ, commitment to our spiritual rule, fasting, praying, and living a life of service as Christ taught. There are also other aspect of our life where we might want to stop but we feel hopeless or "dead." A grudge against a friend or family member, a certain sin, judging of others etc. In both aspects we must allow the resurrected Christ to raise us up from our dead states, have faith in his healing

and life-giving power to restore the things we want and to combat the things we want casted out.

### Feast of the Cross

The Church celebrates the feast of the Cross on the 17th of Tout, (27th or 28th of September), the day of the apparition of the Cross to the Emperor Constantine, and on the 10th of Baramhat (19th of March), the day when the Empress Helen found the wood of the Holy Cross. In Christianity, you suffer, you find pleasure in suffering, and you obtain crowns for your suffering which is transformed into glory. Christianity is not a Cross which you carry, and grumble and protest in your complaint. It is the love of the Cross, the love of suffering, sacrifice and fatigue for the Lord and for the expansion of His kingdom. **Sacrifice** for others. **Endure** by turning the other cheek and acting with patience. **Crucify the Flesh** by fasting, controlling your tongue, thoughts, and overcoming temptation. **Self Denial** by not caring about your reward on earth but put others before yourself and avoid praise. **Bear the sins of others, as our Lord Christ did** by bearing the guilt and punishment of someone or bear their responsibilities

### How to benefit from the Advent Fast

Christ had to empty Himself to come down from heaven to earth. What does that mean? He left His throne and was practically homeless. He left his position of power and became a servant to everyone. He left His place of honor and respect and dignity, and made Himself look just like everybody else. He, the living God who cannot die, came as human just so He could feel pain and die for us. He had to come through a sinful human being and be called the "Son of Man". In the same way, we must also empty and strip ourselves of our pride, our dignity, and our reputation. We must humble ourselves and put aside our ego whenever we find it there. Just ask God to help you put it aside, and you will find Him filling you instead. That's the goal of this fast: to have His seed be born inside of us and fill us, to make us more like Him.

Sing by yourself one of the following verses

Short Verse:

<p>Pi-ep-nevma em-parak- liton, fe-etaf-ee ejen-ni- apos-tolos, khen-epshai enti-penti-kosti, av-saji khen han-mish en-las.</p>	<p>ΠΙΠΝΑ ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΤΟΝ: ΦΗΕΤΑΙ ΕΞΕΝ ΝΙΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ ΘΕΝ ΠΩΙ Ν ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗ : ΑΥΣΑΙ ΘΕΝ</p>	<p>The Spirit of comfort, came down upon the Apostles on the feast of Pentecost, and they spoke in many tongues.</p>
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Long Verse:

Pi e p-nevma em-para  
 k-li-ton, let-af-  
 ee epe-sea t e-vol-khe net  
 fe, af-o rsh eje n ef-o  
 wai efowai, a v-ca  
 ji khen han-mi sh  
 enlas.

Translate the following Verse

- Μαρενορωνη εβολ: οΠιχριστος Πεννορτ
- Let us give thanks, to Christ our God, with D

