GATHERING...

"If possible, on your part, live at peace with all . . . . Do not be conquered by evil but conquer evil with good."

(Romans 12:18, 21)

13 Caring for the Whole Human Family

Leader: Jesus taught us that all people are our brothers and sisters. We are one human family. Let us pray for the grace to live the way that Jesus did—with love, concern, and respect for the dignity of all human beings.

All: Almighty and eternal God,
may your grace enkindle in all of us
a love for the many unfortunate people
whom poverty and misery
reduce to a condition of life
unworthy of human beings.
Amen.

The BIG QUESTION:
What does it mean to be human?

Discover whether you can identify some characteristics of living creatures. Circle the name of the living thing that best completes each statement.

1. **No two _____ have exactly the same pattern of stripes.**
   humans zebras clownfish

2. **_____ communicate with whistles and use individual "names" to identify one another.**
   Penguins Giraffes Dolphins

3. **An adult _____ is covered with about 5 million hairs—the same as an adult gorilla.**
   elephant human mole rat

4. **A _____ can reach speeds of 60 to 70 miles an hour when covering short distances.**
   black bear cheetah tiger

5. **Young _____ stay with their mothers for eleven to twelve years.**
   lions seals orangutans

6. **_____ have seven vertebrae, the same number of vertebrae found in the neck of a giraffe.**
   Humans Lemurs Iguanas

7. **Only _____ naturally sleep on their backs.**
   cats humans sloths

Answers:
1. zebras 2. Dolphins 3. human 4. cheetah 5. orangutans
6. Humans 7. humans

In this chapter we learn that the Church continues the mission of Christ on earth.

What are some special characteristics that are specific to only humans?