

March 19, 2020

Dear OLQP Families,

The Archdiocese of Newark has requested that all religious education classes be suspended until further notice. At Our Lady Queen of Peace we firmly believe that families along with our catechists support each other in the faith formation of our children.

1. I will email you WEEKLY FAMILY LESSONS which can be completed together as a family. I am also posting this on the parish website.
2. The book series has a website that includes computer games that the children can access with your supervision. Go to <https://religion.sadlierconnect.com/wbpd>
3. When you get to this page find the grade level book for your child and look for the unit and chapter. We are currently in Unit 4 in grades Kindergarten – 5. There are also many other interesting items on this web page including the Mass readings and saints' biographies.
4. Grades 6 and 7 are to also read the following and share with the family discussion: page 518 (Fun Fact); page 519 (Liturgy Connection); page 521 (Live It-The Juqular Prayer); page 526 (Fun Fact); page 536 (Live It – Pray Always); page 547 (Did you Know? The Hail Mary)
5. Religion class takes place on Sunday morning (8:30am – 9:50am). You can stick to that time slot. It makes sense to use Sunday because all the regular school work is being completed during the week.
6. Pray is essential. In this email there is a special prayer to be prayed for the intentions of the PANDEMIC. Please pray it often. Also in your child's folder is the list of prayers that are used in class. Have your child(ren) choose a prayer to begin and then end each session. As a family pray for different things (better health, peace, cures for disease, safety, etc).
7. Mass is live-streamed on Sunday by the Archdiocese (RCAN.org) or you can watch it on TV or YouTube.

One other very important item. Please continue to mail/or bring your parish donations to the office. We must maintain the buildings, grounds, and pay the many bills that are normally incurred each month.

Please email me any questions.

I appreciate your help during this time. Pray for God's help – He is here and our faith is strong.

Angela Connelly

Family lesson – March 29, 2020

Materials needed for this lesson – a candle, a crucifix/cross, a copy of the Lord's Prayer which is in your child's folder

Part 1 –

Place the Cross in the center of the family group and light the candle

Opening Prayer – In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Someone is to read this Scripture verse.

A reading from the Gospel of Mark 10:13-16

And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

The Gospel of the Lord. All respond: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

After this reading – everyone is to mark each person in the family with the sign of the cross on the forehead.

Part 2 – The Lord's Prayer -

When we SAY the pray it is different than when we PRAY the prayer. Praying is not like the NASCAR races. The Lord's Prayer is the only prayer that Jesus gave us in the Bible. Sometimes we don't even pronounce the words correctly. As parents, we are asking you to help your child to read the Lord's Prayer slowly with the words in front of them. Help them pronounce the words correctly, explain what they mean (if you need help, email me) – grade 6 and 7 book has the explanation if you blessed with an older child) Your guidance is appreciated with this lesson.

Please have your child pray (not say) this prayer every night.

Part 3 – Connecting the Gospel with family life.

Accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it. We are all children of God through our Baptism.

This is your activity for this week – choose one.

Embrace your childhood and pray a different way. Find bubble water and pray with it. Each bubble you blow pray for someone or something. Do this as a family.

Find a flat stone, clean it off, and paint everyone's name on it and place it on your family meal table and at every meal pray for each other. Everyone is to color a page in a coloring book and hang it on the fridge. Pray together as you place it there. (Grown-ups and older kids – don't laugh at this)
Think of something else.

God bless – Stay healthy - Pray

A Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic

O Mary,
you always brighten our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain
while remaining steadfast in faith.
O loving Mother,
you know what we need,
and we are confident you will provide for us
as at Cana in Galilee.
Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
the Divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill,
for those who are vulnerable,
and for those who have died.
Intercede also for those charged with
protecting the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick
and seeking a cure.
Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who took upon himself our
sufferings and carried our sorrows,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.
*Under thy protection we seek refuge,
O Holy Mother of God.
In our needs, despise not our petitions,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*