

Family lesson for week 2 - March 29, 2020

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.

We continue with home lessons for each family – not individual grade level lessons. I am also posting the family lessons on the parish website.

Materials needed for this lesson – a candle, a crucifix/cross

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.

As a family slowly pray (not say) the Lord's Prayer.

Then each family member can offer a special prayer for someone or something that they want God to bless this week. When everyone is finished, mark each person in the family with the sign of the cross on the forehead. End this prayer time by praying a Hail Mary.

Part 2 - The theme this week is Creation

Read the following Scripture story. As with all great stories, this one needs a great story teller. (Great story tellers make sure that they pause for discussion and repeats)

Children's Story of Creation

In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth, and while the earth was still unformed, God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. Then God separated the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day and the darkness Night. And there was an evening and a morning, making the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a sky and let it divide the waters that are below from the waters that are above the sky." And it was done. And God called the sky the Heavens. And there was an evening and a morning, making the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be brought together, and let the dry land appear." And it was done. And God called the dry land Earth and the waters that were brought together Seas. And God saw that it was good.

And God said, "Let plants and trees grow from the earth." And it was done. And plants and trees grew from the earth, each plant bringing forth its own kind of seed and each tree its own kind of fruit, and God saw that it was good. And there was an evening and a morning, making the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the heavens to separate the night from the day. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, the days, and the years. Let them be lights in the heavens to light the earth." And it was done. So God made the two great lights (the sun and the moon): the greater to rule the day and the lesser to rule the night. God made the stars also and placed them in the heavens to throw light upon the earth. And God saw that it was good. And there was an evening and a morning, making the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth many living creatures and let birds fly above the earth and in the sky." And God made large sea-monsters and all kinds of living creatures with which the waters abound, and all kinds of birds. And God saw that it was good. And he blessed them, saying, "Increase and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." And there was an evening and a morning, making the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures, cattle and creeping things and wild beasts." And it was done. So God made all the different kinds of wild beasts, and the cattle, and everything that crawls upon the ground. And God saw that it was good.

And God said, "Let us make man like ourselves. Let him rule over the fish in the sea, the birds of the sky, the cattle, the wild beasts and all the living things that crawl upon the ground." And God made man like himself, like God he made him. He made them male and female.

And God blessed them, and said to them, "Have children, increase, live all over the earth, and conquer it; rule over the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that crawls upon the ground."

And God said, "See, to you I give every plant which grows on all the earth, and every tree which bears fruit with its own kind of seed. It shall be food for you. And to every wild beast and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that crawls on the earth and is alive, I give every green herb for food." And it was done.

And when God saw everything that he had made, he saw that it was very good. And there was an evening and a morning, making the sixth day.

And the heavens and the earth were finished and all that there was in them. And on the seventh day when God had finished the work which he had done, he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, for in it he rested from all the work which he had done.

[The Children's Bible](#) by Henry A. Sherman and Charles Foster Kent.

Part 3 – Connecting the Gospel with family life.

- 1. God created the world for us as a gift to be care for. In the creation story there are many things that God made for us to care for. Everyone should identify all of them and adopt a few to write a prayer of thanks and praise for this week (more than a one line prayer please.) If you have a yard maybe have spring clean-up and plant something (you are allowed to go into the yard.) If you do not have a yard, choose the room where your family gathers the most (living room, kitchen, dining room, family room) and everyone pitch in and help spruce it up.**
- 2. For younger children (Pre-school – 7yrs) – create pictures for each day of creation. For (older children – 8-14yrs) go around the house or yard and take pictures of your family, pets, plants, outside flowers, animals, etc. (in your yard) all of God's creations. Share them with your family and cousins and grandparents. Make people smile.**
- 3. For our 6th and 7th graders there is valuable information in their book on pages 73-82 regarding creation.**

JUST REMEMBER THAT GOD MADE EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING GOOD

Mass is live-streamed on Sunday by the Archdiocese (RCAN.org) or you can watch it on TV or YouTube.

The next thing has been the ongoing Lenten project that everyone has been doing. You have been saving your change in the Lenten boxes for several weeks now. Unfortunately, the church and parish offices are now closed. You must mail a check payable to OLQP. Put a note inside that the donation is for the Propagation of the Faith and put your family name on the note. Mail to: Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 400 Maywood Ave. Maywood, NJ 07607 Attention Religious Education

Also please continue to mail your weekly parish donations to the office. We must maintain the buildings, grounds, and pay the many bills that are normally incurred each month.

As I said last week I will continue to email you any updates from Fr. Tony and Cardinal Tobin as I receive them.

The following may also be helpful.

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>

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.

You can 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

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.*