

Family Lesson 4

Happy Easter Season – He is Risen Alleluia!! We hope that each of you spent Easter reflecting on the importance of the how the resurrection of our Lord Jesus is central to our Christian faith. This faith of ours is what is getting us through these troubled times and the sufferings that family and friends are experiencing. We have heard of many people who are sick or have passed on. We are praying for the many health care workers and rescue workers and even for the funeral directors and cemetery workers who need to be there for the families at their time of need. Our prayers and our spiritual presence are necessary.

Our Risen Lord is truly our strength and during these 50 days of Easter, so continue to walk with Him to Pentecost and his Ascension. He is always with us. Have faith and believe!!

Part 1-

Family Gathering Prayer

As you gather as a family this week use your family cross and light your candle as you have been doing each week.

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

As a family slowly pray 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

Scripture – John 21:1-14 (The oldest child in the family should try to read this story)

Some of the Apostles and disciples were together after Jesus' resurrection. Simon Peter was among them and he said, "I am going fishing." "We also will come with you" the others said. So they went out and got into the boat but that night they caught nothing. When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered, "No". Jesus said, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." The disciples did as he said and all of a sudden the net began filling with fish! They were not able to pull it into the boat because of the number of fish! So the disciple whom Jesus loved, the Apostle John, said to Peter, "It is the Lord."

When Simon Peter heard this, he wrapped his garment around him and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, dragging the net full of fish. When they climbed out on the shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred fifty-three large fish. Even though there were so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come have breakfast." The disciples realized that it was the risen Jesus. Jesus took the bread and gave it to them and then he gave them some fish too. This was the third time they had seen Jesus since he was raised from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Discussion –

Imagine you are at the shore or even camping. Your family is with you. You are looking out into the ocean or lake. Then you turn around to find your Mom or Dad and you cannot see

them. You see a lot of other people in the crowd. Then you spot your Mom or Dad. You feel relieved. The disciples must have felt relieved when they realized that it was Jesus, their Lord and Savior on the seashore. He calmed their fears and he even served them breakfast. Of course there was bread. Jesus always serves bread – just like in the Eucharist. They must have had a lot of questions for Jesus about what happened and stories to share.

What would you talk about if you were having breakfast/lunch/dinner with Jesus? This does not only have to be “God stuff.”

Part 3

Other activities for families to share.

These were questions that were used at a retreat to help the kids relax. Even the adults joined in. It is a good way for families to interact when TV, video, and excessive work causes stress or boredom. Choose a few or all to ask.

1. The superhero's power I'd most like to have is...
2. What really makes me happy is...
3. What people really like about me is...
4. If I could only eat one food for an entire week, it would be...
5. My favorite movie is...
6. I am really good at...
7. If I could spend a week with any historical character, it would be... because...
8. Something I really like to do when I need peace is...
9. The best book I ever read was... because...
10. If I could ask God any question, it would be...
11. If I had 1 minute to speak to everyone on the entire planet, I'd tell them...
12. What I really look for in a friend is...

PARISH UPDATES---

Each night at 7pm the Rosary is prayed and can be accessed via the parish website.

Please continue to mail your weekly parish donations to the office. You can also drop your envelope in the mailbox by the back patio of the parish center. We must maintain the buildings, grounds, and pay the many bills that are normally incurred each month.

If you have not sent in the donations from the small Lenten boxes that your child collected, you can 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, 410 Maywood Ave. Maywood, NJ 07607

Attention Religious Education

Re-registrations for the new school term will begin next week – details will be posted next week.

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.*