

Family Liturgy – Easter Week 3 (Year A)

Sunday 26 April 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a white or gold cloth on the table or floor (white or gold for Easter Season).

Place a cross, a bible and a candle on it. Some holy water if you have some or a bowl with water as a reminder of our baptism. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

You tube as listed on sheet: Gospel stories and song

Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet

Print out sheet if required



<https://pixy.org/1070403/>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: Today we hear that Jesus appears to his disciples, he walks and talks with them, but they don't recognise him. They recognise Jesus only when he breaks bread with them as he did at the last supper. We celebrate that Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist. We join ourselves to Jesus and listen to what he is asking of us today.

Opening prayer: God of the Resurrection, we give you thanks for sending Jesus into the world so we could understand how much you love us. Help us to hear the good news of his Resurrection and receive it with open hearts. Help us now to listen to your Word to us. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (24: 13-35)

All: Glory to you O, Lord

Two of Jesus' disciples were going to the village of Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. As they were talking and thinking about what had happened, Jesus came near and started walking along beside them. But they did not know who he was. Jesus asked them, "What were you talking about as you walked along?"

The two of them stood there looking sad and gloomy. Then the one named Cleopas asked Jesus, "Are you the only person from Jerusalem who didn't know what was happening there these last few days?" "What do you mean?" Jesus asked.

They answered: "Those things that happened to Jesus from Nazareth. We had hoped that he would be the one to set Israel free! But it has already been three days since all this happened.

Some women in our group surprised us. They had gone to the tomb early this morning, but did not find the body of Jesus. They came back, saying that they had seen a vision of Angels who told them that he is alive. Some men from our group went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said. But they didn't see Jesus either."

Then Jesus asked the two disciples, "Why can't you understand? How can you be so slow to believe all that the prophets said? Didn't you know that the Messiah would have to suffer before he was given his glory?" When the two of them came near the village where they were going, Jesus seemed to be going farther. They begged him, "Stay with us! It's already late, and the sun is going down.' So Jesus went into the house to stay with them. After Jesus sat down to eat, he took some bread. He blessed it and broke it. Then he gave it to them. At once they knew who he was. But he disappeared. They said to each other, "When he talked with us along the road and explained the scriptures to us, didn't it warm our hearts?" So they got right up and returned to Jerusalem.

The two disciples found the eleven apostles and the others gathered together. And they learned from the group that the Lord was really alive and had appeared to Peter. Then the disciples from Emmaus told what happened on the road and how they knew he was the Lord when he broke the bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the Gospel story of Jesus' Resurrection.

<https://youtu.be/34zqp750auM> Luke 24 - Road to Emmaus (2.57 mins)

Gospel reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder how the two disciples felt as they were walking on the way to Emmaus

I wonder how the two disciples felt when the stranger who joined them said he didn't know what happened to Jesus

I wonder how the two disciples felt as the stranger talked to them as he walked with them

I wonder how the two disciples felt when the stranger who had been walking with them took the bread, gave thanks to God, broke it and handed it to them to eat

I wonder how I would feel if Jesus broke bread and gave me a piece of bread to eat

Parent/Caregiver:

Let us pray quietly and listen to Jesus' message to us.

Let us think of how we can share the good news that Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist.

(pause for a moment)

Let us share with each other, one way in which we can tell others about how much Jesus loves us.

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.

(We respond to the prayers by repeating the words 'Lord, hear our prayer')

1 We pray for our Church: that all may be able to set hearts on fire by their joyful witness to the good news of the Resurrection. Lord, hear us.

2 We pray for all people in our parishes who are not able to meet together at this time: that they may draw hope from the mystery of the Resurrection. Lord, here us.

3 We pray for people in our world who are suffering in any way at this time: may they feel the joy and peace that Jesus brings in their hearts. Lord, hear us.

4 We pray for all people who have died recently and especially for people we know and love: may they share in the fullness of joy with Jesus forever. Lord, hear us.

Closing prayer: God of the Resurrection, we believe in your love – your love created the world. We believe in your love – your love sent Jesus to live with us on earth. We believe in your love – your love sent the Holy Spirit to breathe life through us. Amen.

Closing song: <https://youtu.be/vV-UnsZCXHo> Sing Hosanna - Jesus Loves the Little Children

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Write a prayer in your prayer journal (special notebook).
Ask the children to write a prayer thanking Jesus for giving of himself in the Eucharist.
Add to this prayer journal each day.
- Act out the story of the two disciples on the way to Emmaus
- Go to https://sermons4kids.com/road_to_emmaus_group_activities.htm and https://sermons4kids.com/road_to_emmaus_crossword.htm and
- <https://sundayschoolzone.com/?s=on+the+road+to+emmaus> for more puzzles and activities.