



Family Liturgy - Easter Week 2 (Year A)

Sunday 19 April 2020

Preparing the prayer space

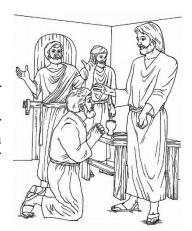
Place a white or gold cloth on the table or floor (white or gold colour for Easter Season).

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://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/49077

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: Today we hear the story of Jesus appearing to his disciples after his resurrection. We celebrate that Jesus is risen and is with us in a new way! 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 John (20: 19-29)

All: Glory to you O, Lord

The disciples were afraid of the Jewish leaders and on the evening of that same Sunday they locked themselves in a room. Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the middle of the group. He greeted them and showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they became very happy.

After Jesus had greeted them again, he said, 'I am sending you, just as the Father sent me.'

Then he breathed on them and said.

'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they will be forgiven.

But if you don't forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven.'

Although Thomas the Twin was one of the twelve disciples, he was not with the others when Jesus appeared to them. So they told him, 'We have seen the Lord!'

But Thomas said, 'First, I must see the nail scars in his hands and touch them with my finger. I must put my hand where the spear went into his side. I won't believe unless I do this!'

A week later the disciples were together again. This time Thomas was with them.

Jesus came in while the doors were still locked and stood in the middle of the group.

He greeted his disciples and said to Thomas,

'Put your finger here and look at my hands!. Put your hand into my side. Stop doubting and have faith!'

Thomas replied, 'You are my Lord and my God!'

Jesus said, 'Thomas, do you have faith because you have seen me?

The people who have faith in me without seeing me are the ones who are really blessed!'

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 and the meeting with the disciples and Thomas. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QskYLHiJOfk

Gospel reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder how Mary Magdalene felt when she saw that the stone had been rolled away?

I wonder how the disciples felt as they were running side by side to go to the tomb?

I wonder why the disciples locked themselves away in a room afterwards?

I wonder how the disciples felt when they saw Jesus appear in the locked room?

I wonder what gift Jesus' gave to the disciples when he breathed on them?

I wonder why Thomas did not believe the disciples when they said to him that they had seen Jesus?

I wonder how Thomas felt when Jesus said to Thomas to put his finger in Jesus' side and hands?

I wonder how Thomas felt when he could see that this was really Jesus who was risen and alive? I wonder what Jesus meant when he said,

'The people who have faith in me without seeing me are the ones who are really blessed?' I wonder what Jesus is asking of me today?

Parent/Caregiver:

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

Let think about how we can share the good news that Jesus is risen.

(pause for a moment)

Let us share with each other how we can show Jesus and others that we believe in him.

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')

- We pray for our Church and world leaders: that they will be open to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and lead all people to Jesus our hope and resurrection. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer.
- 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 Jesus' Resurrection and live in peace at this time. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer.
- 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 to them. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer.
- We pray for all people who have died recently and especially for people we know and love: that they will be share in the new life of the resurrected Jesus. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

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: Alleluia! Jesus is Risen! by Michael Mangan https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q4bJ8D6lvrk&list=RDEMuiB96c-A6V2vLz3g_b-9uw&index=3 or the song:

Yes Lord, I believe! By John Burland https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LH5TpPGzH5c

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 speaking with the Risen Jesus.
 Add to this prayer journal each day.
- Act out the story of Jesus speaking with Thomas, the disciple
- https://sermons4kids.com/doubting thomas crossword.htm
- https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/49077
- https://www.daniellesplace.com/html/disciple-bible-crafts-learning-activities.html#disciples2
- select and print page/s 61-83 https://sundayschoolzone.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Easter Bible Activities For Kids 83.pdf