

St. Ignatius Catholic School

Faith for Families

April 2023

An outreach of the School Board's Catholic Identity Committee



The JOY of belonging ...

Happy Holy Week! As we enter into the Sacred Triduum and prepare for Easter, we can be grateful that our Lenten hope will not disappoint us. The sacrifices and struggles of these 40 days will be measured back to us, packed down and overflowing. The beauty of our faith will be so apparent in the coming days and liturgies, the sufferings and passion of our Lord, the emptiness of the tomb, and the joy of His Resurrection is so tangible, we just have to reach out and enter in. If you have never been, consider attending the liturgies of Holy Week as much as you are able. One of the things that is most beautiful about being Catholic is the opportunity to truly enter into these days with all of the traditions, tangible reminders, and deep symbolism that will carry us through this Holy season. If you don't know much about these days or their liturgies, please consider attending our Parish mission on April 3, 4, and 5 from 7-8pm. If you've never attended, the mission is a series of talks to help us all prepare ourselves for the Triduum and Easter. You can come for one mission, or all three. Come to prepare your heart, come to fellowship with other Catholics, come to get to know Deacon Nelson. Deacon Nelson Cintra is a transitional deacon, meaning he will be ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Boise on June 8th. He is a dynamic speaker and this mission is sure to be fruitful for the whole family.

On the second page of this newsletter, there's an explanation of each of the days and liturgies that are coming up this week. In some ways, these rituals were made for families, even children! Every way we look, there is something new to see, touch, smell, and experience that is different, but also so familiar. While the length of some things might be daunting, the added sights, sounds, smells, and participation are intriguing for all of us! As an example, the symbolism of light and fire at the Easter Vigil, beginning outside the church, and then spreading in with candles for every person present reminds us that Light has overcome the darkness, and it always will. If you will be attending this liturgy, maybe consider bringing your own and your children's Baptismal candles, as a way to tie in the beauty of our own baptism, with the salvation of Easter.

We pray that your family enjoys the beauty and blessing of this Easter celebration as we share in the joy of our Resurrected Savior!

Agape Service

On Holy Thursday the students at St. Ignatius will participate in an "Agape" service. Agape is a word that means unconditional love. During the service, the students meet in mixed-age "family groups" and reflect on the Last Supper. Students will share crackers and grape juice with their family groups as they reflect on the unconditional love of God.

Be sure to ask your student about this beautiful tradition!



Whole Wholesome Families

Holy Apostles Catholic Church

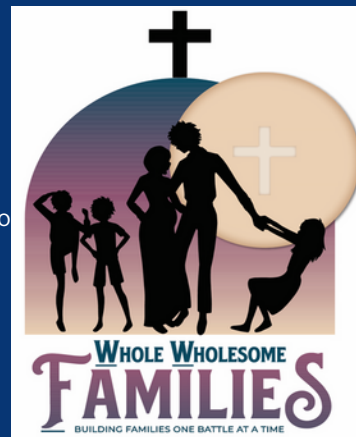
April 22nd - 6:15 - 8:00pm

The Whole Wholesome Families ministry's mission is to equip and inspire families with a vision of God's call to live out being the Domestic Church within a community. It is for the whole family to attend and participate in; parents and children of all ages. There will be a potluck dinner and presentation that aligns with the ministry's mission during each of the evenings.

Additional Dates in 2023

- July 15th
- October 21st

Please use the QR code to register by April 16th!



Ways to bring Holy Week into your home

What is a Triduum?

- The highest point of the liturgical year is the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the Easter Vigil. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ’s Paschal Mystery.
- The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.
- The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are:
 - Mass of the Lord’s Supper (Holy Thursday)
 - Good Friday of the Lord’s Passion (Good Friday)
 - Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Sunday)
- [Holy Week At Home](#) - free downloads from Catholic Family Crate
- [How to engage your 3-7 year olds in the Triduum](#) - Holy Heroes

Holy Thursday

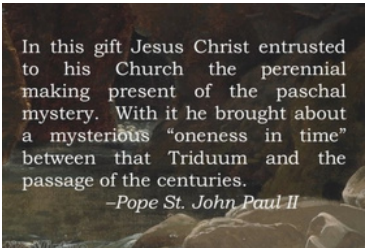
At the very first Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Priesthood and Eucharist for the Church. At this Holy Thursday celebration, we are reminded of who we are in Jesus Christ and that, through the sacrament of the Eucharist, we are and we become even more the Body of Christ together. A significant aspect of the Holy Thursday celebration is the washing of feet—our priest will wash the feet of 12 people symbolizing Jesus washing the feet of His disciples at the Last Supper.

- At the conclusion of the Holy Thursday celebration, there is no concluding prayer. Once the celebration of the Eucharist is completed, there is a Eucharistic Procession. This procession to the Chapel of Reservation reminds us of Jesus’ time in the garden of Gethsemane when he prayed so fervently through the night. The entire community is invited to join in this procession and then join in the silent prayer and adoration until Midnight. The gathered community leaves in silence only to return in silent prayer the next day for the Good Friday celebration.
- As a family, you can do your own washing of the feet. You can read from the Gospel ([John 13:1-5, 12-17](#)) and play meditative music, take turns washing each other's feet and praying for each individual in your family
- Attend the Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7pm at Church followed by Adoration in the gym until midnight.

Holy Saturday

This day commemorates the time of darkness and waiting when Jesus was in the tomb. It is also a day for final preparations before Easter.

- Spend some time together in nature and talk about what it means to die and the hope of Resurrection. Death is the separation of our bodies and our souls that we will all experience. However, as Catholic Christians, we believe in the Resurrection, that our bodies and our souls will be reunited. That is what happened to Jesus on Easter and what will happen to us at the end of the world.
- Here is a helpful [article](#) if you’re interested in more details about this day!



Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday

The celebration of the Easter Vigil tells the whole story of our salvation — from creation to resurrection and beyond. The Easter Vigil includes the lighting of the Easter Fire and Paschal Candle (the large candle that we will use throughout the year), the singing of the Exsultet (the Easter Proclamation) by candlelight, the expanded Liturgy of the Word that traces time through Salvation History (the story of our Salvation), the Liturgy of Initiation (where new people come into the Church), and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. All these rituals come together for one purpose: to remember and recall the saving deeds of our God on our behalf.

- Throughout these three days, we experience the highs and lows in our faith, ending with the ultimate high — the new life of the resurrection. The Easter Season begins with the Easter Vigil, and we enter a time (50 days) when endless “Alleluias” will ring out throughout all of our liturgical celebrations. May you experience the joy of new life in your own way this Easter Season. Have a happy and blessed Easter!
- Attend Mass with your family! Easter is the greatest celebration of the Liturgical year! We actually celebrate Easter as an octave, meaning that we celebrate with the same joy for 8 days, not just one!

Good Friday

In this solemn celebration, we remember the Passion and Death of Our Lord. The service is marked by several important rituals including the proclaiming of the Passion according to John, the Veneration of the Cross, an extended form of General Intercessions, and finally, the distribution of Communion (reserved from the Holy Thursday celebration of the Eucharist).

- The Veneration of the Cross - This reminds us that through this Cross, the Glory of the resurrection emerges. So, on Good Friday, we come forward to show our great reverence and respect for the Cross. You will see people showing reverence by kneeling before the Cross, touching, and even kissing the Cross.
- The General Intercessions - In this expanded form of General Intercessions, the presider and the deacon work together to pray 10 intercessions. These intercessions include praying for the Holy Church, praying for the unity of all Christians, praying for the Jewish people, praying for people who do not believe in Christ or in God, praying for people in public office, and praying for people who are in tribulation. These prayers recognize how universal our Church is and that we should be aware of all of the faiths and traditions in the world that are different from our own.
- St. Ignatius is hosting “Living Stations” at 9 and 10:30am. Regular spoken stations will be at 12:15 in the Church.
- If those times don't work for you, you can also pray the stations of the cross in your home or by walking the stations outside behind the church. Here are a few free resources! [Real Life at Home](#), [Catechism Angel](#), [DMSB Catholic](#)
- There will also be Adoration and Veneration of the Cross at 7 pm in the Church.