

April LIFT 2017-18

Level 1-3 Home Assignment

Directions: Work with your child through the take home assignment. It isn't a writing assignment but an opportunity to experience together what we discussed at LIFT. Jot down notes about the things you talk about and email me a summary to dremaley@holyeucharist.org.

Theme: Eucharist and Faith

- Objectives:**
1. Know where we are in the liturgical calendar.
 2. Be able to retell the gospel story of Jesus appearing to the disciples
 3. Consider the importance of the Eucharist in our lives as Catholic Christians.
 4. Consider how we trust each other and apply this to how we can trust and live our faith in Jesus

Activities

Liturgical Calendar Connection

Remember from last time that the church uses different colors to show what church (liturgical) time of year we are in.

- What liturgical season are we in? (Easter)
- What color is associated with Easter? (white)
- When is the Easter season over? Hint...think about a feast day associated with the Holy Spirit. (Pentecost). We will celebrate Pentecost together at our last LIFT, the weekend of May 19th and 20th. What color is associated with feast days of the Holy Spirit like Pentecost and (hint) feast days of martyrs? (red)

Gospel Reading and Reflection Questions

1. Ask the children to close their eyes and to remember a time when they were confused and afraid. Suggest that they remember a time when they awoke in the middle of the night or a time when the electricity went out and they were left in the dark until they could find a flashlight. Observe that it may be difficult for them to keep their eyes closed now because they prefer to see what is around them. After a few moments, tell the children to open their eyes again.
 2. Tell the children that after Jesus' Crucifixion, his friends were confused and frightened. Say: Jesus' friends were unable to see why Jesus had died. But when Jesus came back to life, he appeared to them and helped them to understand that he died so that our sins would be forgiven.
 3. Read the Gospel
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The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

But they were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have."

And as he said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed, he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

5. Ask: What did Jesus say when he appeared to the disciples? ("Peace be with you.") Why were Jesus' disciples startled and afraid when they saw him? (They thought that they were seeing a ghost.) What did Jesus do to show them that he wasn't a ghost? (Jesus told the disciples to touch him and to look at his hands and feet, and then he ate with them.) After they shared a meal and Jesus talked with them, what did Jesus tell his disciples? ("You are my witnesses.")

6. Say: The disciples were no longer confused and afraid. They had seen Jesus alive. So Jesus told his friends to go tell everyone how much God loves each one of them. They were to help others understand why Jesus died so that no one would be confused and frightened by his death.

7. Say: Jesus helped open his disciples' eyes. The disciples helped others see and understand why Jesus had died. We now understand that being sorry when we do something wrong and knowing that God forgives us is like taking off a blindfold and finding God's love.

8. Other questions to consider:

- In the Gospel, Jesus appears to the disciples in the breaking of the bread. Why is breaking the bread such an important act for Catholic Christians? Share why participating at Mass and sharing in the Eucharist is important to your life of faith.
- How do you bear witness to the Good News of God's forgiveness?
- In the Gospel, how does Jesus help the apostles with their fears? How you deal with your everyday fears and concerns?
- How does it feel when you are included in a celebration or asked to join in a game at recess? When you aren't included, how does it feel? How is our community a sign of peace and love? What do we do in this community that promotes people being welcomed and included as disciples of Jesus?

Being a Witness to Jesus

Have your child discuss the following sentence starter: "I am a witness to Christ's love when I..."

Closing Prayer

Say the "Our Father" and a "Hail Mary" together
