

February LIFT 2018-19

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: Jesus: The Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of our Savior

- Objectives:**
1. Become familiar with the Apostle's Creed as we say it at every LIFT session
 2. Know where we are in the Liturgical Calendar and how we can know it
 3. Be able to retell what we have covered so far this year
 4. Be able to retell the story of the Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus.
 5. Be able to define Passion, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Paschal Mystery.
 6. Understand that hope is not wishful thinking but hope is placed on Christ's promises.

Activities

Liturgical Calendar Connection

Questions to consider:

- What color did we see in church today and on the vestments (clothes) of the priest and deacon? (dark green)
- What is the liturgical time of year we are in? (Ordinary Time) What does "ordinary" in Ordinary Time mean? (Ordinary usually means "regular" or "plain" but the way that we are using it here means "order" as in the order of counted weeks. During Ordinary Time, we follow Jesus as He teaches and heals the people.)
- What season is coming next? (Lent) What color is associated with Lent? (purple)

Apostle's Creed Introduction

Last month we discussed that we are learning about a prayer that we say in church called the Apostle's Creed. It is what we believe as Catholic Christians.

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;

he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Review of what we have covered so far

During the **September LIFT**, we concentrated on the first line “I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.” We read a story about how God created everything...the earth the sky, all of the birds and animals and people too.

In **October**, we discussed on who we are as human beings created in God’s image. To do this, we looked at a line from St. Augustine:

You have created us for Yourself O Lord – we are created in God’s likeness and image with the ability to reason, free will to make choices and the capacity to love. He created us to use these gifts and be in relationship with Him.

However...**Our hearts are restless** because we sin and we turn away from God.

Until they rest in you – God is love and when we love Him and one another, we are at peace inside. He is our eternal and ultimate rest.

In **November**, looked at the whole swath of Salvation History where God revealed Himself little by little to the Chosen People (the Israelites) through a series of covenants.

Remember a covenant is a solemn promise that creates a family bond. A covenant is unbreakable and there are consequences if you don’t live up to your end of the covenant.

We talked about the five major covenants and looked very closely at the covenant that God made with Abraham. Does anyone remember the promise that God made to Abraham? (“I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous and the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore.” Gen 22:17a).

How does God fulfill this covenant that He makes with Abraham as well as the rest of the covenants? Who does he send to make it happen? (Jesus) During the **December LIFT**, we looked at the lines “Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary;” we celebrated the birth of Jesus. We experienced a taste of what it might have been like if we were in Nazareth on the evening that Jesus was born with our play called the Nazareth Evening News.

Last month in the **January LIFT**, we followed Jesus through his ministry while he taught and healed people especially the healing of “A Little Girl and the Poor Frail Lady.” Jesus was not just a good person or even a great teacher. He is God. We know Jesus is God because:

- At the Baptism of Jesus, God reveals this truth “this is my beloved Son with whom I am

well pleased” with the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove. (Father, Son and the Holy Spirit present at the Baptism)

- Miracles-like the healing of the little girl and the frail lady
- Forgives sins

Jesus: Passion and Death of our Savior

Today, we are going look at the next lines from the creed:

Jesus “suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.”

So today we are going to tell a sad story about Jesus but it has a good ending. The best ending ever. We are telling the story about how Jesus suffered (Passion), died, rose from the dead three days later (Resurrection) and returned to the Father 40 days later (Ascension) and what this all means for us as Catholic Christians.

“A Dark Night in the Garden” from The Jesus Storybook Bible

[the story of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane]

- Who has heard the story of Jesus in the Garden? What do you remember from the story? Let’s read it now.
- What did Jesus and His Father plan to do? Why did Jesus have to die?
- Why was Jesus so sad?
- Who came for Jesus in the night? What is the name of the disciple that leads the soldiers to Jesus?
- What does Peter do to try to help Jesus? How does Jesus respond? Does this surprise you? What does this mean for us and how we treat people?
- What do the disciples do when Jesus is arrested?

Story is continued in “The Sun Stops Shining” from The Jesus Storybook Bible

[the Passion and Death of Jesus]

- The soldiers and people are cruel to Jesus. What kinds of things do they do to Jesus? Why is this especially cruel to do this to Jesus?
- If it wasn’t the nails that kept Jesus on the cross, what was it?
- What was the sky like when Jesus died? Why?
- How did the disciples feel when their friend Jesus died?
- Where was the body Jesus laid?

“He descended into hell.”

- Where did Jesus go after he died? (While his body was put to rest in the tomb, His soul went to the realm of the dead. There he preached the Gospel to the just who had died before Him...like Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, David etc.)
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Jesus: Resurrection and Ascension of our Savior

What is the Resurrection? [flip to the next page and there is a picture of the three women – Mary Magdalene, Mary and Salome – going to anoint Jesus body on the third day.]

- What do you see in this picture? [three women and the stone rolled away] What is happening?
- Where is Jesus? [When the women get to the tomb an angel tells them that Jesus is alive! Do not look for the living among the dead.]

The fact that Jesus came back to life, body and soul, after being in the tomb for 3 days is called the **Resurrection**. By rising from the dead, Jesus destroyed death and sin for us.

Jesus appeared to and taught his disciples for 40 days. After 40 days, the disciples watched as He ascended into Heaven. This is called the **Ascension**.

Let's review some words that we have been using:

- **Passion**-suffering of Jesus
- **Death**
- **Resurrection**-Jesus came back to life body and soul
- **Ascension**-Jesus returns to the Father in Heaven after 40 days of appearing to and teaching his disciples
- **Paschal Mystery**-the Passion Death Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus

Hope

"My Hope is in the Lord"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tJePCzTaQo4>

Our hope in the Lord is not wishful thinking like we hope that we will get a good grade on a test. Our hope is based on the knowledge that God has acted in the past like in the Resurrection of Jesus and acts every time we celebrate the Mass. We place our hope in God because we know that He is trustworthy.

Closing Prayer

Pray together the "Our Father"