

Lesson for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday, April 9-12, 2020

Dear Families,

Blessings to all as we begin the summit of our Liturgical Year, the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery – Jesus' Suffering, Death and Resurrection.

I am praying that you are well and staying safe.

- I wanted to let you know that I have been able to update our website: holyfamilyrockland.org and have created a fairly user-friendly section for all families under the tab "Faith Formation". In the drop-down menu you will find the student classes listed by their Grade. If you click on your child's grade you will see links to everything that I have been sending home since we started remote learning on March 15. I am adding things daily so please start making a habit of checking here often. 😊
- K-8 Grade Students: The lessons in the students' Pflaum Gospel Weeklies this week recount the final days of Christ's life on earth, the Last Supper with his Disciples, Praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, His arrest, Crucifixion and His magnificent Resurrection on Easter Sunday. I have attached a clip from Jesus of Nazareth that shows Jesus' with His Disciples at the Last Supper which institutes for Catholics the Eucharist that we celebrate every time we gather for Mass.
- 2nd, 9th, 10th, Grade Students: Please continue reading your text for Eucharist (2nd Grade) and Confirmation (9/10 Grade). I have put Chapter 3 up on the website for those of you who don't have your text at home. You should be working through one chapter a week and doing the lesson summary questions at the end of each chapter. We will be discussing them when we are finally able to get back together!!
- I have added some additional Easter activities, and support material on the website and attached some activities to this email.
- **HOLY WEEK FAMILY PROJECT:** Thank you to all who have already shared your cross images that you have been making and displaying at your home. I love seeing the photos you are sending me. If you haven't started yet here is the information that I sent out last week:

As I was out running these last few weeks, I noticed all the wonderful rainbows the kids have made and placed on their front doors and windows. They made me smile! And, it got me to thinking, how wonderful it would be, if, on Easter Sunday morning, April 12 when we woke up, all throughout Rockland we would look around and see homes with an Easter Cross on the door or window. Reminding us, as Father Hickey so often does, that in spite of all that is happening in our world, Jesus Christ is Lord, Still! So, I am asking each family to please:

- ❖ *Choose one of the crosses that I have linked to this email (the are also on the website), or better yet,*
- ❖ *Design a cross of your own and*
- ❖ *On Holy Saturday, April 11, before you go to bed, hang up your cross that your family made, either on your front door or in a prominent window.*

It could be as simple or as elaborate as you would like to make the project. There are many ideas for making crosses online too! Once you hang up your cross would you please take a picture of it, preferably with your beautiful children in the photo and email the picture to me. I would love to post some of them on our website and in our church bulletin. Thank you!!

- K-8 Parents: I wanted to remind you that when you go to pull up your lessons for Grades K-8 at [Blog – Pflaum Gospel Weeklies](#) please remember that if this is your first time logging in and setting up an account you may be asked for our Holy Family account number which is 1140301.
- K-10 Parents: If the online component is proving difficult remember that I am happy to drop your child's Gospel Weeklies (K-8), Workbook (K-8), Eucharist Workbook (2nd grade), Confirmation texts (Grades 9/10) on your porch so that you have the hardcopies to work from through May 10.

Lastly, and most important: Please make a point of watching Mass together as a family this week. Holy Thursday and Good Friday Mass will be available on our website each day and showing on local cable. It is important for our children to understand that we are called to celebrate Mass now more than ever and that God never abandons us. Families have said that there was great comfort for their kids to see their Church and Father Hickey, and other familiar things during the broadcast.

- Our website has a link to the current weekly Mass. It is the first slide/link that you see on our landing page. It takes you directly to the Mass. Go to www.holyfamilyrockland.org. You can also make your weekly offertory online by clicking on the GIVE link at the top right of the homepage.
- Holy Family Sunday Masses are being broadcast on our local cable network WRPS. You can find it on Comcast Channel 15 and Verizon Ch 32 for those who live in Rockland. It will be played back throughout the week in case you aren't able to see it on Sunday.
- If you do not get the local cable channels the Mass is also be posted on our own Holy Family YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiH6rk8xypw8Pt0VWaL4Rxw>.

We miss you! We love you! Please let us know if we can help in anyway. We continue to prayer for health and safety for all our families and offer prayers of gratitude for all those that are working around the world to aid those affected by the Coronavirus.

Yours in Christ,
Liz Davis, DRE