

Lesson for Sunday, March 14, 2021 (The 4th Sunday of Lent also called Laetare Sunday)

Dear K-1 Promise Students and Families,

Blessings to each of you. I am praying that you are well, having a good week and enjoying these warmer temperatures. Please find below the outline to this week's lesson for your child. Do not hesitate to reach out if you are having difficulty with anything or need clarification. **Also, there are just a few of you who have not yet picked up your child's final quarter of materials. Please call or email to set up a time to stop by and we will run the materials out to you. Thank you to those who have already picked up!**

- We are working this week on the March 14th Pflaum Gospel weekly lesson.
- The complete lesson can be found by going to the Holy Family website at holyfamilyrockland.org. Hover over the Menu button on the right corner of the main landing page and then Click on Faith Formation. Next, choose your child's grade level, **Grade K-1 Promise**. Everything you need for the week is found there: (Remember, I will always give you lots of options – you do what you can get to each week based on your family's schedule and your child's abilities.)
 1. Links to the Parent Teaching Guide pages to help you help your children each week.
 2. A digital copy of their lesson (they have the hard copy that you picked up for them)
 3. A video clip and activities to support the lesson.
 4. Prayers: For the season of Lent, we will be focusing each day on your Lenten plan that you made with your child at the beginning of Lent. Each night when you say your prayers together spend time reviewing the day – what did you do well – what can you do better tomorrow. Say the Act of Contrition. Discuss your Lenten plan: did you **FAST** from what you said you would, did you make time for more **PRAYER**, did you **GIVE** of yourself generously to others?

This Sunday's Gospel: John 3:14–21 This Sunday's Gospel describes Jesus as the Son God sent into the world to reveal God's love. Those who believe in Jesus believe in the power of God's love as the light of their lives—a light that can turn darkness into light and troubles into joys.

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Even as we pay attention each day to our Lenten plan that we made with more prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter when Jesus raises from the dead.

In the Gospel writer John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

Promise (Grades K–1) Lesson Summary: (The complete lesson can be found on your child's webpage under Parent Guide.) This week, you and your child will explore the Christian call to forgive others as one wants to be forgiven. This is expressed in the Lord's Prayer (The Our Father) and in the Golden Rule (Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.). Read with your child the forgiveness stories in their Gospel Weekly. Share stories about how your family members model forgiveness and can say, “I'm sorry.” Is there anyone in the household who might need forgiveness today?

Pray Together: Father Hickey has talked a lot about Devotion during his homilies at Mass each Sunday, especially these past weeks during Lent. As a special devotion, try to have a family evening prayer each day this week. Use a favorite family prayer, pray in your own words, or say one decade of the Rosary. Set a definite time for this prayer. Remember that the prayer time does not need to be long or involved. The important part is praying together in the Light of Christ.

Lastly, and most important: Please make a point of signing up to attend 4:00 PM Saturday Mass or 10:00 AM Sunday Mass in person (if your family is comfortable with that) or watching Mass together as a family this week (preferably on Sunday). The easiest way to access the Mass recording is on our website. It is also showing on local cable WRPS. We always want our children to make the connection, like the great Road to Emmaus story in the Bible (Luke 24: 13-35), that we learn the scripture readings and then we celebrate Eucharist in the Mass – even if it is Spiritual Communion during this time of the pandemic.

We miss you! We love you! Please let us know if we can help in any way to make this process as smooth as possible for your family. We continue to pray for the health and safety of all our families and offer prayers of gratitude for all those that are working here in our area and around the world to administer vaccines and aid those affected by the Coronavirus. **God bless you!**

Yours in Christ,
Mrs. Liz Davis