

## Lesson for Sunday, May 2, 2021 (The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter)

Dear Grade 2-3 Good News Students and Families,

Happy Easter (the Easter season lasts for 50 days until the Feast of the Pentecost)! I am praying that you are well and having a good week. Please find below the outline to this week's lesson for your child.

- We are working this week on the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Good News Gospel weekly lesson.
- The complete lesson can be found by going to the Holy Family website at [holyfamilyrockland.org](http://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 2-3 Good News**. 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. Link 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)
  3. A video clip and activities to support the lesson.
  4. Prayers: Please continue to work on a morning prayer and an evening prayer with your child. It is important to develop this practice of starting and ending your day speaking to Jesus. It can be a simple "Thank You" to the Lord for waking up and asking for a good day at school or at home. In the evening, it could be a review of the day: what did you do well and what could you do better on the next day.

**This Sunday's Gospel: John 15:1–8** In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus compares himself to a vine and his followers to the branches on that vine. Branches get their nourishment from the vine. From this Gospel, we understand that we are all one family and that we need and depend on one another. We, the branches, never want to be separated from the vine that is Jesus Christ.

**Good News Grades 2–3 Lesson Summary:** (The complete lesson can be found on your child's webpage under Parent Guide.) As part of the discussion of Jesus' image of the vine and the branches, you and your child will explore ways that people are connected—ways in which they are like others. One of those ways is that we are all part of the Body of Christ, that is the Church. Discuss how we share in the life of Christ. Help your child with the activity on family trees. See how much more you can add to the family tree and pray for those who have gone before us.

**Pray Together:** Each day this week, pray the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be to the Father together. Members of the Church throughout the world share these three prayers. Praying them together as a family can help you grow in awareness of just how many branches spring from Christ the Vine.

**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. It is important to get our children back to church if your family is comfortable with that. If not, please make sure to watch 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 at Mass.

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

**Second Graders:** Please remember that you have additional work each week from your God's Gift Eucharist Textbook. At this point you should be through all the chapters. Please make a point of watching the Teachable Moments Mass posted to your child's webpage to help them prepare for First Communion this Saturday, May 1 for Group 1 and next Saturday, May 8 for Group 2.