

Lesson for Sundays, April 18, 2021 (The 3rd Sunday of Easter)

Dear K-1 Promise 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 April 18th 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. 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 that you picked up for them)
 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: Luke 24:35–48 In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus appears to the disciples and invites them to touch him to see that he is really alive. He calls the disciples to be his witnesses. They have Good News to tell—that love is stronger than death, victory can come from suffering, and life can come from death.

Today's reading, taken from the Gospel of Luke, follows immediately after the report of Jesus' appearance to his disciples on the road to Emmaus. This is the story that we always talk about when we talk about learning about Jesus; by listening to the Scripture stories and then celebrating Eucharist together we come to know and understand who Jesus is. This is the event being recounted by the disciples in the opening verse of today's Gospel.

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. The disciples were no longer confused and afraid. They had seen Jesus alive. So, Jesus told his friends the Good News – that they were 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, but they would come to know, serve and love Him.

Promise (Grades K–1) Lesson Summary: (The complete lesson can be found on your child's webpage under Parent Guide.) You and your child will learn that Jesus visited his friends on that first Easter and gave them the gift of his peace. You will also help your child see the importance of being peacemakers. Discuss how your family members can be signs of peace to one another and the importance of offering the Sign of Peace to others at Mass. Help your child make their Peace Banner in their lesson and find a place to prominently display it in your home.

Pray Together: Eastern Christians have a special way of greeting one another during this 50-day season of Easter. One person says, "Christ is risen!" and the other answers, "Truly, he is risen!" or "Indeed, he is risen!" Use this greeting with members of the family throughout this week.

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), which is part of our lesson this week, 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