



SS. Peter & Paul Catholic "Connection"

608 E Main Street, Weyauwega, WI 54983 920-867-2179
SSPeterPaulWega@gmail.com SSPeterPaulChurch.org

MARCH 2024

*Feed your Faith - and your
fears will starve to death.*

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Mar 3 – Faith Formation Class at 9am
Mar 4-8 – Parish Office Closed – Katrina OFF
Mar 7 – Evening Mass at 5:30pm (no 9am Mass)
Mar 7 – Stations of the Cross at 6:00pm
Mar 7 – Adoration & Confession 6:30-7:30pm
Mar 9 – St Anne's Meeting at 3:15pm
Mar 9 – KC's Meeting at 5:30pm
Mar 10 – Daylight Savings Time Starts
Mar 10 – NO Faith Formation Class
Mar 10 – Spanish Mass at 2:00pm
Mar 10 – Encountering Jesus Witness Training
6:30-8:30pm
Mar 13 – Encounter Youth Group - 6:30-8pm
Mar 14 – Finance Council Meeting at 6pm
Mar 14 – Stations of the Cross at 6:00pm
Mar 17 – Faith Formation Class at 9am
Mar 21 – Diocesan Holy Hour at 9:30am
Mar 21 – Stations of the Cross at 6:00pm
Mar 24 – Faith Formation Class at 9am
Mar 28 – Holy Thursday Mass at Sacred Heart at
6:30pm (Adoration in parish center
after mass until 10:30pm)
Mar 29 – Good Friday Service at 1:00pm
Mar 30 – Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00pm
Mar 31 – Easter Mass at 10:30am

Holy Week Schedule



Holy Thursday, March 28th

6:30pm at Sacred Heart
*Adoration after Mass from
7:30pm until 10:30pm in
the Parish Center*

Good Friday, March 29th

1:00pm at SS. Peter & Paul
3:00pm at Sacred Heart

Easter Vigil, March 30th

8:00pm at SS. Peter & Paul

Easter Sunday, March 31st

8:00am at Sacred Heart
10:30am at SS. Peter & Paul

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

In preparation for Holy Week, now is an appropriate time to reflect upon the strength and determination of Jesus, remember His boundless love and mercy, and anticipate the joyous hope of His Resurrection. As we pray and reflect on Jesus' journey, the events of Holy Week once again remind us of the Passion narratives focusing on the suffering, death and burial of Jesus Christ—the Paschal Lamb who paid the price for our sins. This period of meditation will cause each of us to grow in faith and to appreciate more deeply the sacrifice offered on our behalf for our eternal salvation.

On Palm Sunday, we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. He entered riding a donkey to the praise of the townspeople who laid palms or small branches in front of him as a sign of respect and homage. Likewise, in Church, the palm branches are blessed and carried in procession as the congregation sings "Hosanna to the Lord". Palm Sunday is also called Passion Sunday because the Passion Narrative is proclaimed. It is the only Sunday when two separate gospels are read. This reminder of the Passion narrative helps us to focus on the coming events. Three special ceremonies called the Easter Triduum.

The Triduum is comprised of: the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday; the Lord's Passion on Good Friday and finally the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord on Holy Saturday night!

Holy Thursday commemorates the Exodus celebrated by Jesus and his disciples on the Jewish holiday of Passover before His arrest and crucifixion. At this Last Supper Jesus taught His disciples that the Eucharist is truly His Body and His Blood. He also inaugurated the priesthood as He said "do this in remembrance of Me." Jesus' disciples were the first Catholic priests and He gave them examples when He washed their feet and celebrated the First Eucharist.

Good Friday is the most somber day of the year for Catholics. The day Jesus died and saved us from our sins. Jesus' arrest, trial and crucifixion are recalled in the Stations of the Cross. It is a day of fasting, there is no Mass and no celebration of the Eucharist. (Communion received on Good Friday was consecrated at the Holy Thursday Mass and held over for distribution.) Instead, there is Veneration of the Cross. It is a solemn day; the Church bells are silent and the Altar is left bare. The hours of noon until three in the afternoon are especially solemn, as this was the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

Holy Saturday, the day Jesus spent in the grave resting, is completed at sunset. The Easter Vigil begins. The Easter fire is kindled and Mass attendees' light candles, slowly illuminating the Church. The Paschal candle is blessed and lit. This candle will remain in the Sanctuary of the Church to be used at baptisms and funerals throughout the year reminding us that Christ is our light. At the conclusion of the Liturgy of the Word, the water of the baptismal font is solemnly blessed and catechumens and candidates for full communion are initiated into the Church. Easter Sunday is a continuation of the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. This Mass celebrates the most important teaching in the Catholic faith - Jesus died for our sins and rose from the dead so we could share eternal life with him in heaven.

Holy Week is an emotional week reminding us of the price paid for our salvation. But one that anticipates the hope and glory of the resurrection of Christ which is at the heart of the Gospel and the center of our Christian faith and worship. God has cancelled the sin which brought us death. Jesus' precious sacrifice enables us to reconnect with God and receive life which lasts forever. God loves you and me that much. It is that powerful.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Kris Mekala





STATIONS of the CROSS

Thursdays at 6:00pm

March 7, 14, & 21

Join us for a Soup Supper immediately after Stations

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Thursday, March 7
6:30-7:30pm



If you know of someone in need of prayers, or you would like to be a Prayer Warrior (on the prayer chain) Call the church office at 920.867.2179

To have someone (or yourself) remembered in prayer during General Mass Petitions, sign the book on the narthex stand.

We are in the process of updating our files. Please let the church know if you have an email address that we could sent you updates, and if you don't have your landline phone anymore please give us your cell number so we can contact you.

Update
your
Information.



PRAY FAST GIVE

©LPI

Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church Financial Statement

January 2024

Jan-24

Statement of Activity

Revenue

Church Support
Liturgy and Worship
Other Revenue
Faith Formation & Youth
Fundraising
PPP Loan Forgiveness
Total Revenue

Operating Expenses

Salaries and Wages
Payroll Taxes, Insurance Benefits
Liturgy and Worship
Pastoral Care and Outreach
Faith Formation & Youth
Buildings and Grounds
General Office
Diocesan Assessment
Other Payments+CapEx
Total Payments

Restricted Donation Revenue
Restricted Donation Expense

Net Excess(Deficit)

4,673



LENTEN REGULATIONS

Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent and Good Friday.

In addition to abstaining from meat, Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrated their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may only eat one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

These minimal penitential practices should not be lightly excused.



EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES

Flower envelopes are due to the Parish Office by Tuesday, March 19th

BISHOP'S APPEAL 2024

Living the Eucharist,
Sharing the Gifts

Our parish goal is \$17,327

As of February 27th,

SS. Peter & Paul has

contributed \$3,227.00.

Please help us reach our goal.



18.6%

Daylight Saving Time Begins—March 10

Don't forget to



Encounter

Youth Group

We will be meeting **Wednesday, March 13** at 6:30pm.

All 6th -12th grade students are invited for a fun and inspirational evening of games, snacks, connecting with others, a talk, discussion and prayers.

Invite your friends of all faiths. All are welcome!



Parish Office Closed

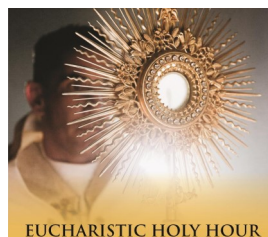
The parish office will be closed March 4th–8th

There WILL be Mass on Tuesday & Thursday

Diocesan Holy Hour

Thursday, March 21st
after the 9:00am Mass.

A great opportunity for adoration & confession!



Be My Witness

Equipping Catholics to share the Gospel.

SPIRITUS



Do you want to share your faith but struggle with exactly how? If so, please join us for "Be My Witness" at our parish **Sunday, March 10, 6:30-8:30PM**. Our speaker, Mike Iverson, is passionate about leading others to Jesus and helping them encounter Him.

He has been in full-time ministry for over 18 years. Mike is a former Protestant pastor, Catholic convert, and director of discipleship for Spiritus ministries. His Witness training is designed to meet individuals where they are at in their faith, reflect on their own encounters with Jesus, and learn how to confidently share those experiences with others. This event is for all adults and older teens. For more information, go to:

<https://www.spiritusministries.org/bemywitnesses>

Training Includes:

- Understanding barriers to sharing faith and ways to overcome them
- Reasons why faith sharing is vital in our lives and growing the Church
- A simple method to create personal witnesses of faith
- Time to create a witness to share with family & friends

Almighty and ever living God, you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent. May this time be one of outward focus; seeking you in those we often ignore. Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter. Give us hearts hungry to serve you and those who need what we have to give. — Author Unknown



THE RESURRECTION

Drawing Closer to God

A Catholic Art Show for Kids



La Misa en Español

10 de marzo de 2023

FORMED®

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To sign up for free:

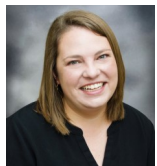
1. Visit signup.formed.org
2. Enter your parish zip code or name

SIGN UP



FOR FREE

54983



Sacred Heart's Lenten Speaker:

Amy Deibert (from the Evangelization
& Discipleship Mission Team)

“Discerning God’s Call”

Tuesday, March 19th 6:00-7:30pm

At Sacred Heart in Manawa
Refreshments, Prayer, Program
and Praise & Worship

“Let yourself be vulnerable. Let your walls down, your carefully constructed fortresses breached, your fiercely guarded heart laid bare. Let your wounds be touched, your fears revealed, your deepest desires, damaged dreams, and most daring hopes unveiled before the Bridegroom, who has the power to redeem, restore, and resurrect them. Drop your independence and the idea—which you clutch so tightly—that you can do anything to protect and save yourself. And LET HIM LOVE YOU.” — St Elizabeth of Hungary

PENNY WAR

The Squires will be sponsoring a Penny War to benefit the Taylor Folk Scholarship Fund & SS Peter & Paul Faith Formation. It will run from Feb 24th until Mar 3rd. All money collected will be matched by the Squires and the winning classes will get an ice cream buffet or donuts. There will be two groups competing, grades 1-5 and grades 6-10.



Palm Sunday, March 23rd & 24th

Saturday, March 23rd

4:30pm at Ss. Peter & Paul

Sunday, March 24th

8:00am at Sacred Heart

10:30am at Ss. Peter & Paul



Holy Thursday, March 28th

6:30pm at Sacred Heart

Adoration after Mass from 7:30pm
until 10:30pm in the Parish Center



Good Friday, March 29th

1:00pm at Ss. Peter & Paul

3:00pm at Sacred Heart

Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil, March 30th

8:00pm at Ss. Peter & Paul

Easter Sunday, March 31st

8:00am at Sacred Heart

10:30am at Ss. Peter & Paul



Registration for the
11th Annual
Walk To Mary
is NOW OPEN!

Saturday, May 4th

A 21-mile walking pilgrimage (shorter routes available) starting from the National Shrine of St. Joseph at Old St. Joseph Church on the St. Norbert College campus in De Pere, WI to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, WI.

Get More Info or Sign Up at: www.WalkToMary.com





"FIVE ALIVE" PRACTICES *for Kids*

My young friends! As disciples, we are each called to discover, follow, worship, and share Jesus with others. There are many ways to grow our friendship with him, and I invite you to experience the presence of Christ through these "five alive" practices. Which ones have you tried? Which ones would you like to do more? Blessings as you continue to grow closer to Jesus. – Bishop David L. Ricken

1. Mass — The ultimate prayer for Catholics. As Catholics, we should attend Mass every Sunday – it's a celebration that leads us to what we call the source and summit of our Christian life, the Eucharist.

Try it! I encourage you to always make it the beginning of your week and, if you can, try to go another day or two during the week. You will be amazed at how your desire for Jesus increases!



2. Lectio Divina — A way of reading and reflecting on the Scriptures.

Lectio divina means "divine reading" or "spiritual reading" and opens us up to God's Word. Through this prayer process, we learn to listen to God, hear the Holy Spirit at work in our hearts, and find out what God wants to say to us.

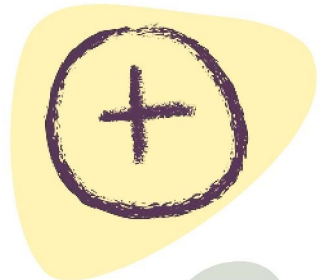
Try it! Open your Bible to the reading for the upcoming Sunday and follow the following steps: 1. Reading 2. Reflection 3. Response 4. Rest.



3. Eucharistic Adoration — A special time of quiet in the presence of Jesus.

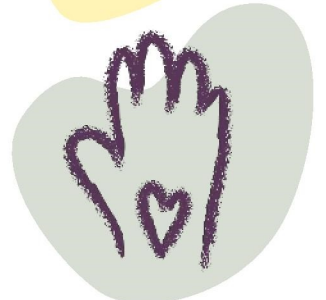
At a Holy Hour service, Jesus, present in the host/bread, is placed front and center and displayed in a special vessel called a monstrance. This beautiful tradition brings us face-to-face with Jesus in the Eucharist.

Try it! Might I suggest staying after Mass for a little quiet time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle? Even a few moments in the presence of Jesus will fill you with grace and peace!



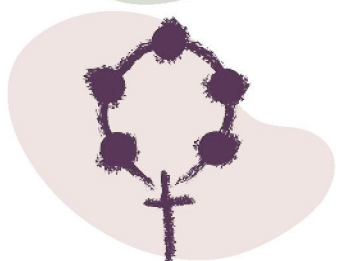
4. Confession — Becoming who God created us to be. We are blessed with a merciful God who knows us so well. He even wants us to share where we are fall short of who he is calling us to be. We all sin and confessing our sins to a compassionate priest brings us peace.

Try it! Look up when your parish has confession available and try to make this a frequent practice to grow deeper in your faith.



5. The Rosary — Connecting with our Blessed Mother. When you ask her something, she always answers. For me, it wasn't always what I thought or what I'd hoped, but was almost always better than what I had asked for!

Try it! Gather your family or a few friends together and pray the rosary. Or, start by learning the basic prayers: the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be.



2024 LAKESIDE SPEAKERS SERIES

Winter & Spring Speakers



Wednesday, March 13, 2024 - Jesuit Novices, men in their first two years of Jesuit formation will share their vocation stories, discernment, and experiences of novitiate.

Wednesday, April 10, 2024 - Fr. Phil Schoofs of SS. Peter & Paul Parish, Hortonville, will speak about his ministry in the Hispanic community and how Latino Catholics are transforming the US Catholic Church.

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 - Fr. Peter Nguyen, SJ will speak about growing up as a Vietnamese refugee, learning to be an American, and integrating the devout faith of his family with the faith he learned in his Jesuit formation and schooling.

Series Details

Location: Loyola Lounge or St. Ignatius Chapel

Time: 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

NO COST – free will offering accepted.

Refreshments served.

RSVPs much appreciated.

To **RSVP**, call JRH office at (920) 231-9060 or email us at office@jesuitretreathouse.org

Driving Directions /Parking Information

Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago

4800 Fahrnwald Road, Oshkosh, WI 54902

Six miles south of Oshkosh/
Fifteen miles north of Fond du Lac

On US Highway 45

Take interstate 41 to Exit 113 (WI 26/N). Go East on Highway N, travel approximately 3 miles to US Highway 45. Turn right on US 45 and drive south for about 1 mile. Turn left onto Fahrwald Road for 0.5 miles until it ends at our entrance gate. Drive through our gate onto our sacred grounds





CINCO PRÁCTICAS VIVAS *para Niños*

¡Mis jóvenes amigos! Como discípulos, cada uno de nosotros está llamado a descubrir, seguir, adorar y compartir a Jesús con los demás. Hay muchas formas de crecer nuestra amistad con él, y los invito a experimentar la presencia de Cristo a través de estas “cinco prácticas vivas.” ¿Cuáles has probado? ¿Cuáles te gustaría hacer más? Bendiciones mientras siguen acercándose a Jesús. – Obispo David L. Ricken

1. Misa — La máxima oración para los católicos. Como católicos, debemos asistir a misa todos los domingos – es una celebración que nos lleva a lo que llamamos la fuente y cumbre de nuestra vida cristiana, la Eucaristía.

¡Intentalo! Te invito a que siempre lo hagas el comienzo de tu semana y, si puedes, trata de ir uno o dos días más durante la semana, te sorprenderá de cómo aumenta tu deseo por Jesús!



2. Lectio Divina — Una manera de leer y reflexionar sobre las Escrituras. *Lectio divina* “lectura divina” o “lectura espiritual” nos abre a la palabra de Dios. A través de este proceso de oración, aprendemos a escuchar a Dios, escuchar al Espíritu Santo obrando en nuestros corazones y a descubrir lo que Dios quiere decirnos.

¡Intentalo! Abre tu Biblia en la lectura del próximo domingo y ve por los siguientes pasos: 1. Lectura 2. Reflexión 3. Respuesta 4. Descanso.



3. Adoración Eucarística — Un tiempo especial de quietud en la presencia de Jesús. En un servicio de Hora Santa, Jesús, presente en la hostia/pan, se coloca al frente y al centro exhibido en un recipiente especial llamado custodia, esta hermosa tradición nos pone cara a cara con Jesús en la Eucaristía.

¡Intentalo! ¿Podría pedirte que te quedes después de misa para tener un momento de tranquilidad en presencia del Santísimo Sacramento en el sagrario? Incluso algunos momentos en la presencia de Jesús te llenará de gracia y paz!



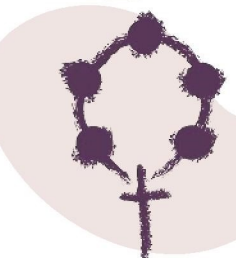
4. Confesión — Llegar a ser la persona que Dios imaginó que seríamos. Estamos bendecidos con un Dios misericordioso que nos conoce tan bien; Incluso quiere que compartamos desde donde estamos. No estamos a la altura de lo que él nos está llamando a ser, todos pecamos y confesar nuestros pecados a un sacerdote nos trae la paz.

¡Intentalo! Busca cuándo tu parroquia tiene confesiones disponibles y trata de hacer esto una práctica frecuente para profundizar en tu fe.



5. El Rosario — Conexión con nuestra Santísima Madre. Cuando le preguntas algo, ella siempre contesta. Para mí, no siempre fue lo que pensé o lo que esperaba, pero casi siempre era mejor de lo que había pedido!

¡Intentalo! Reúne a tu familia o algunos amigos y recen el rosario ó empieza por aprender las oraciones básicas: el Padre Nuestro, el Ave María y el Gloria.



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Driving Directions /Parking Information

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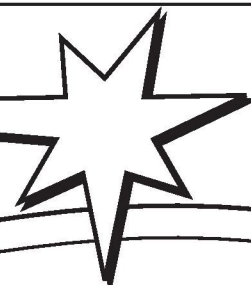
Six miles south of Oshkosh/
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On US Highway 45

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Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

March 2024

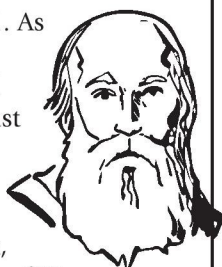
S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Thoughtful Moments

Pope St. Zachary

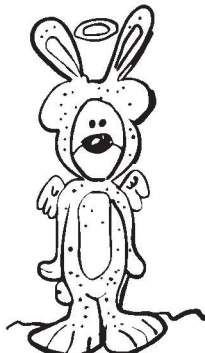
St. Zachary was a deacon before he became pope in 741. As pope, St. Zachary skillfully negotiated peace for Italy against the usually violent Lombard clan and befriended the Frankish king Pepin, the Short, the father of King Charlemagne. He was a patron of restoring churches and saving priceless treasures from Byzantium from being destroyed. Also known for his charity, St. Zachary ransomed slaves being sold in Venice and supported St. Boniface's mission in Germany.



See with your heart

Scripture says that God wants to be intimate with us but it can be challenging to feel close to someone we can't see in human form. Remember that God said, *"Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things which you have not known"* (Jeremiah 33:3).

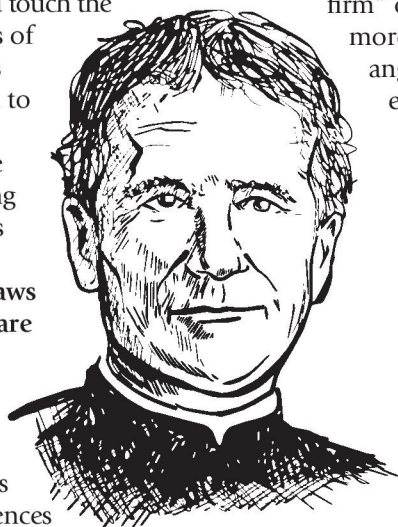
"Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil" (Matthew 6:34).



Invoke Don Bosco's special charism

As an educator and father-figure, St. John "Don" Bosco had a special charism. He could touch the hearts and minds of rebellious youths and inspire them to follow Christ. Follow his advice for forming young hearts and minds for Christ:

"See that the laws of discipline ... are made known." Children of all ages benefit from understanding clear expectations and the consequences for deviation. He knew that children thrive on routine and well-defined boundaries. And, Don Bosco believed that placing youths in safe surroundings with good influences removes the likelihood of their committing sin. That encourages responsible independence.



"Always gentle and prudent." It was his experience that "gentle but firm" or "quiet but stern" were more effective in discipline than anger or violence. The educator must strive to make himself loved by his pupils, if he wishes to obtain their respect and obedience.

"Never ... correct in public." To Don Bosco, punishments were a last resort and done in private when it is more likely to have the child's full attention. Never humiliate a youngster.

"A humble prayer to God is much more useful..." Don Bosco encouraged drawing on God's grace. The Holy Spirit speaks to our children's hearts in ways we can't. Inviting God into our challenges might turn what could have been a fall-out into a breakthrough.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

During Sunday Mass, we recite the Nicene Creed, and bow when we proclaim the miracle and mystery of the Incarnation. It is such a central tenet of our faith that we genuflect when proclaiming it on Christmas and the Feast of the

Why do Catholics bow during the Creed?



Annunciation (April 8). Whether we bow or genuflect during the Creed, the extra gesture helps us to recall with gratitude and reverence that God became man "for us ... and our salvation," when we proclaim our Catholic beliefs.

Help children “tune in” to the Holy Spirit

Holiness results when we honor God and follow His ways. Try these suggestions to develop children’s “God-radar” that allows the Holy Spirit to work in their lives.

5-minute check-in: Encourage children to make “5-minute check-ins” with God throughout the day. They can thank Him for blessings, offer intentions, confide worries, offer apologies – whatever they want to tell God.

Form faith-filled consciences: Make sure children know the Ten Commandments and understand them as God’s laws to guide their behavior. For example, if your child thinks

“white lies” are okay to spare hurt feelings, explain the Eighth Commandment forbids lying, and brainstorm charitable alternatives.

Twelve Fruits raffle: A heart where God is known, honored, and obeyed will “grow” the Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1832). Write each fruit down on a slip of paper and put them in a jar. Each of you can draw one from the jar weekly and practice it.

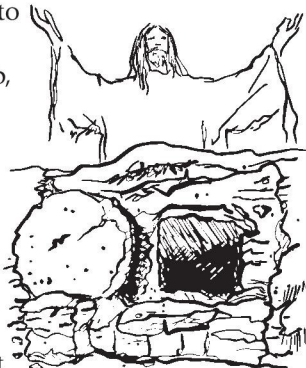


Scripture LESSON

John 20:1-9, “People who have hope live differently”

The Resurrection is the keystone of our Faith, making a claim unique to Christianity. When Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb, she expected to find a corpse. Instead, she found the stone rolled back, the grave clothes left behind, and the tomb empty. She thought thieves had taken the Lord’s body and ran to tell Peter and John.

When the Apostles arrived at the tomb, Peter went in first and also saw that the grave clothes had been left behind, not left in a heap, but neatly arranged. No grave robber would take a body and leave the shroud. John

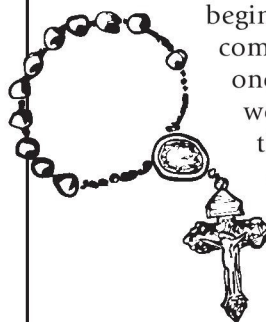


followed Peter and saw the cloth covering Christ’s face was neatly folded in a separate place, perhaps by Jesus Himself. John saw and believed.

What can a parent do? Pope Benedict XVI wrote, “People who have hope live differently.” We know death is not the end and we hope for eternal life. As Christians, we’re called to live differently. We do this when we put God first and listen to Him. Then we can point others to this hope.

Parent TALK

We had such a fruitful Lent this year, we wanted to keep up our good habits as “Easter resolutions.” At the beginning of Lent, we committed to doing one good family deed weekly. We discussed the good deeds over dinner, which gave the children a chance to pat each other on the back.



We also committed to praying a decade of the Rosary as a family every night to help us have a good Lent. At first, it was difficult to make the time, but the family decade became a favorite part of our bedtime routine. We still do good deeds every week, but instead of discussing them, we talk about ways others have been kind and discuss how to imitate them.

Continuing our Lenten practices of doing good deeds and praying nightly helps us to be more patient and caring, and brought us closer together as a family.

Feasts & Celebrations

March 12 – St. Seraphina (1253): Born to a poor family in San Gimignano, Italy, she suffered from a mysterious paralyzing illness. Her family abandoned her, but she found comfort in Christ’s Passion and the prayers of St. Gregory the Great. She suffered with extraordinary patience until her death.

March 14 – St. Matilda (968). The daughter of the Count of Westphalia, St. Matilda married Prince Henry the Fowler and had five children, including Otto I, the Holy Roman Emperor. She was known for her charitable works and

generosity to the poor.

March 17 – St. Patrick of Ireland (461). Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped by pirates and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland. He is credited for having established the Church there.

March 24 – Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion (1st Century). The start of Holy Week. Today, we recall Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when He was greeted by cheering crowds waving palms.



Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

Compañeros en la fe



Ayudando a nuestros hijos a crecer en la fe católica

Marzo de 2024

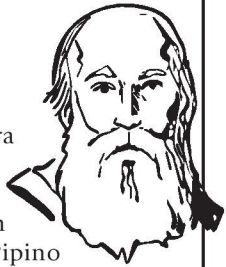
S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Momentos para pensar

El papa san Zacarías

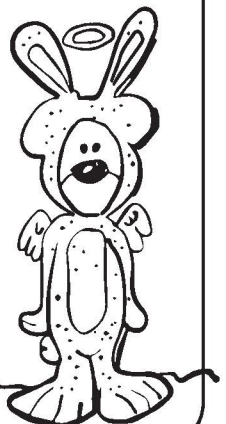
San Zacarías fue diácono antes de ser papa en 741. Como papa negoció hábilmente la paz para Italia contra los violentos lombardos y entabló amistad con el rey de los francos Pipino el Breve, padre del rey Carlomagno. Fomentó la restauración de templos y evitó que se destruyeran valiosos tesoros bizantinos. Conocido así mismo por su caridad, san Zacarías rescató a esclavos que eran vendidos en Venecia y apoyó la misión de san Bonifacio en Alemania.



Vean con el corazón

La Sagrada Escritura dice que Dios busca la intimidad con nosotros pero que puede resultarnos difícil sentirnos cerca de alguien a quien no podemos ver en forma humana. Recuerden que Dios dijo: *"Lláname y te responderé; te mostraré cosas grandes y secretas que tú ignoras"* (Jeremías 33:3).

"No se preocupen por el día de mañana, pues el día de mañana se preocupará por sí mismo. A cada día le bastan sus problemas" (Mateo 6:34).

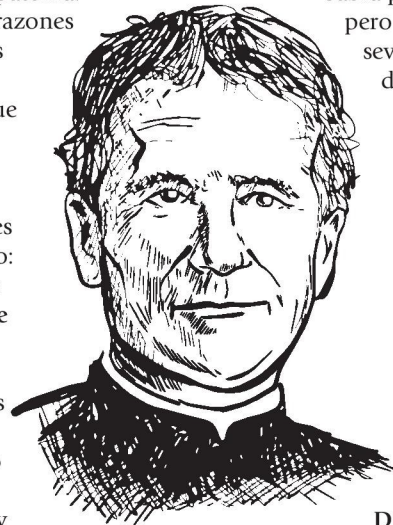


Invoquen el carisma especial de Don Bosco

San Juan Bosco, conocido como Don Bosco, tenía un carisma especial como educador y figura paterna. Podía tocar los corazones y las mentes de los jóvenes rebeldes e inspirarlos para que siguieran a Cristo. Sigán su consejo para formar corazones y mentes jóvenes para Cristo:

"Cerciórense de que las normas de disciplina... se dan a conocer".

Los niños de todas las edades se benefician cuando entienden lo que se espera de ellos y las consecuencias si no cumplen esas expectativas. Don Bosco sabía que los niños crecen muy bien con hábitos regulares y límites bien definidos. Y Don Bosco creía que situar a los jóvenes en ambientes seguros con buenas influencias reduce la probabilidad de que pequen. Esto



fomenta la independencia responsable. **"Sean siempre amables y prudentes".** Sabía por experiencia que "amable pero firme" o "tranquilo pero severo" eran métodos de

disciplina más eficaces que el enojo o la violencia. El educador debe esforzarse por ser amado por sus alumnos si quiere conseguir su respeto y su obediencia.

"Nunca castiguen en público". Para Don Bosco los castigos eran un último recurso y debían ser aplicados en privado donde es más fácil tener toda la atención del niño. Nunca humillen a un joven.

"Una oración humilde a Dios es mucho más útil..." Don

Bosco animaba a recurrir a la gracia de Dios. El Espíritu Santo habla a los corazones de nuestros hijos como nosotros no podemos hacerlo. Hacer partícipe a Dios de nuestros retos podría evitar un fallo y convertirlo en un logro.

¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

Recitamos el Credo de Nicea durante la misa dominical y hacemos una reverencia cuando proclamamos el milagro y el misterio de la Encarnación. Es un principio tan fundamental de nuestra fe que hacemos una genuflexión cuando lo proclamamos en Navidad y en la

¿Por qué hacen una reverencia los católicos durante el Credo?



fiesta de la Anunciación (8 de abril). Al hacer una reverencia y una genuflexión durante el credo, este gesto adicional nos ayuda a recordar con gratitud y devoción que Dios se hizo hombre "por nosotros... y por nuestra salvación" cuando proclamamos nuestras convicciones católicas.

Ayuden a los niños a “sintonizar” con el Espíritu Santo

La santidad es un resultado de honrar a Dios y de seguir el camino que nos marca. Pongan a prueba estas sugerencias para desarrollar en sus hijos un “radar de Dios” que permita al Espíritu Santo obrar en sus vidas.

Control de 5 minutos: Animen a sus hijos a que hagan “controles de 5 minutos” con Dios a lo largo del día. Pueden agradecerle sus bendiciones, ofrecerle intenciones, confiarle preocupaciones, pedirle excusas: cualquier cosa que quieran decirle a Dios.

Formen conciencias llenas de fe: Cerciórense de que sus hijos conozcan los Diez Mandamientos y comprendan que son la ley de Dios que guía su



comportamiento. Por ejemplo, si su hijo opina que puede decir “mentiras piadosas” para no herir los sentimientos de alguien, explíquenle que el octavo mandamiento prohíbe la mentira y piensen en alternativas caritativas.

Sorteo de doce frutos: Un corazón que conoce a Dios, lo honra y lo obedece “cultivará” los doce frutos del Espíritu Santo: caridad, gozo, paz, paciencia, longanidad, bondad, benignidad, mansedumbre, fidelidad, modestia, continencia y castidad (*Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica*, #1832). Escriban cada fruto en una tira de papel y coloquen las tiras en un frasco. Cada uno de ustedes puede sacar una tira del frasco semanalmente y practicar el fruto.

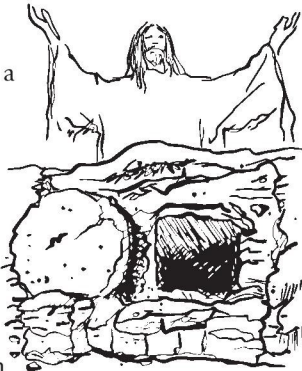
Lecciones de las Escrituras

Juan 20:1-9, “La gente que tiene esperanza vive de otro modo”

La resurrección es la piedra angular de nuestra fe y es una creencia esencial del cristianismo.

Cuando María Magdalena llegó a la tumba esperaba encontrarse un cadáver. En cambio halló la piedra sepulcral retirada, los lienzos de la sepultura abandonados y la tumba vacía. Pensaba que unos ladrones se habían llevado el cuerpo del Señor y corrió a avisar a Pedro y a Juan.

Cuando los apóstoles llegaron a la tumba, Pedro entró primero y también vio los lienzos abandonados, pero no en un montón sino cuidadosamente colocados. Ningún ladrón de tumbas se habría llevado el cuerpo pero dejado la mortaja. Juan



siguió a Pedro y vio que el sudario que cubría el rostro de Cristo había sido cuidadosamente doblado aparte, quizá por el mismo Jesús. Juan vio y creyó.

¿Qué pueden hacer los padres? El papa Benedicto XVI escribió: “La gente que tiene esperanza vive de otro modo”. Sabemos que la muerte no es el final y tenemos esperanza de

vida eterna. Como cristianos estamos llamados a vivir de otro modo. Lo hacemos cuando damos prioridad a Dios y lo escuchamos. Luego podemos guiar a otros hacia esta esperanza.

Hablan los padres

Nuestra Cuaresma fue fructífera este año y queríamos conservar nuestras buenas costumbres como “propósitos de Pascua”. Al comienzo de la Cuaresma nos

comprometimos a realizar una buena acción para la familia cada semana.

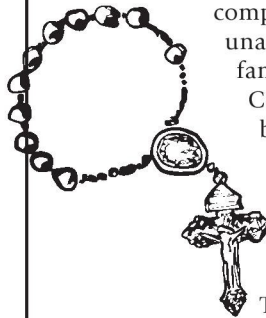
Comentamos las buenas acciones durante la cena, lo que permitió que los niños se dieran una palmadita en la espalda.

También nos

comprometimos a rezar una década del Rosario en familia cada noche como apoyo para una buena Cuaresma. Al principio era difícil sacar tiempo, pero la década familiar se convirtió en una de nuestras cosas preferidas antes de acostarnos.

Seguimos haciendo buenas obras cada semana, pero en lugar de comentarlas hablamos de cómo han sido bondadosas otras personas y comentamos cómo imitarlas.

Continuar la práctica cuaresmal de hacer buenas acciones y rezar por la noche nos ayuda a ser más pacientes y cariñosos y nos ha unido como familia.



Fiestas y celebraciones

12 de marzo – Santa Serafina (1253). Nacida en una familia humilde en San Gimignano, Italia, padeció una misteriosa enfermedad que la paralizaba. Su familia la abandonó, pero ella halló consuelo en la pasión de Cristo y en las oraciones de san Gregorio Magno. Sufrió con paciencia extraordinaria hasta su muerte.

14 de marzo – Santa Matilde (969). Hija del conde de Westfalia, santa Matilde se casó con el príncipe Enrique el Pajarero y tuvieron cinco hijos, incluyendo a Otón I, el emperador del Sacro Imperio Romano Germánico. Se la conoció por sus obras de caridad y su generosidad con los pobres.

17 de marzo – San Patricio de Irlanda (461). Nacido en Escocia, san Patricio fue raptado por piratas y llevado a Irlanda como esclavo. Se escapó pero regresó allí más tarde para convertirse en obispo de Irlanda. Se le atribuye el establecimiento de la Iglesia en ese país.

24 de marzo – Domingo de Ramos de la Pasión del Señor (siglo I). Inicio de la Semana Santa.

Conmemoramos hoy la entrada triunfal de Jesús en Jerusalén cuando fue recibido por multitudes que lo vitoreaban agitando ramos de palma.



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