



SS. Peter & Paul Catholic "Connection"

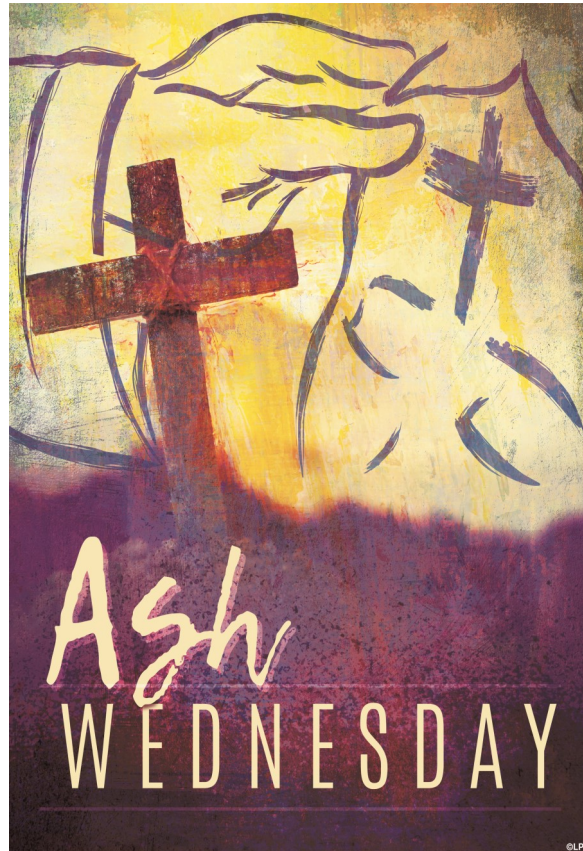
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FEBRUARY 2022

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Feb 5 – No Faith Formation Classes
Feb 7 – No Weekday Morning Mass
Feb 8 – Encounter Youth Group - 6:30-8pm
Feb 9 – No Weekday Morning Mass
Feb 10 – Red Cross Blood Dr - 1:30-5:30pm
Feb 12 – KC & St. Anne's Meeting at 9am
Feb 12 – Faith Formation Class at 9am
Feb 12 – Spanish Mass at 2:00pm
Feb 14 – No Weekday Morning Mass
Feb 16 – No Weekday Morning Mass
Feb 19 – Faith Formation Class at 9am
Feb 19 – NET Retreat for Grades 7-12 (9a-5p)
Feb 21 – Parish Council Meeting at 6:30pm
Feb 22 – Ash Wednesday Mass at 7:00pm
Feb 23 – No Weekday Morning Mass
Feb 26 – Faith Formation Class at 9am



ASH
WEDNESDAY
MASS
SCHEDULE
Wednesday,
February 22nd

Ss. Peter & Paul,
Weyauwega
7:00pm

Sacred Heart,
Manawa
5:30pm

Dear Parishioners,

As we prepare for the season of Lent, let us take a few moments to reflect on the true meaning of the season and its power to transform our lives. Lent is a time for us to prepare for Easter through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is an opportunity for us to focus our attention on Jesus Christ and the life of grace he offers us.

During Lent, we are invit-

ed to turn away from the distractions of daily life and focus more deeply on our relationship with God. We can do this by spending time in prayer and meditation, reading scripture and deepening our understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. We can also practice simple acts of self-denial such as fasting or giving up certain luxuries in order to make room for God.

Through almsgiving we

can show our love for those in need. This could include donating to a charity or volunteering our time to help those less fortunate than ourselves. By opening our hearts to those in need, we become more aware of the suffering of others and the need for compassion and mercy in our world.

Gratefully,

Fr. Matthew



Heaven Speaks about Stress

Jesus' Words to Families

(This is one of many messages given to a modern day mystic. Her writings, Direction for our Times, have been approved by the church.)

"My children, why do you hurry so? Why do you feel you must move so quickly through your days? This is not the way I intended the children of God to live. You may tell Me that you have many things to do. I respond to you by saying that you are trying to do too much. You will not be holy if you move so quickly. I want My beloved apostles [each Christian] to move more slowly and thoughtfully through their days. I want you to make decisions on what I am asking you to do and what you are busying yourself with that is not from Me. I want your way of life to change and I am asking you to make this change now. In the next week, think about each activity and decide, with Me, if it is something I want you to do or something you want to do. My dearest apostles, I ask that you begin to remove activities that do not further My will. I want more time in silence, as you know. I want more time with families, without blocking you from each other. I want prayer; yes, but also conversations that are not hurried and stressed between husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, and parents and children. These are the souls I have decided you will walk through your life with and you have obligations to them. If you are too busy with your own will, you are not seeing to Mine and you are missing opportunities both to learn from others and to assist others in learning about Me. If you do not pay heed to Me, who will? In order for the renewal to come, My beloved apostles must begin to seek only heaven's will in their days. And I am talking to you and calling you My apostle. Do not look to someone else or assume I am speaking to others. I am speaking to you.



"Totally Yours" Summer Youth Camp

July 16-21 (Save the Date!)

What? Totus Tuus is a fun and powerful Catholic summer youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic Faith through catechesis, evangelization, Christian witness and Eucharistic worship. It is led by 4 trained young adults. Students learn about the faith, play games, pray, and grow closer to Jesus.

Who? Kids going into gr. 1-12 next school year

When and Where? S.S. Peter and Paul Parish
July 16-21, Mon.-Fri, 9-2:30 (gr. 1-6) Sun.-Thurs.
7-9 pm (gr. 7-12)

"I really grew a lot closer to God at Totus Tuus!"

(comment from one of our parish students after last summer's Totus Tuus)

Family Pray and Play Evening

Saturday, Feb. 25

Grow in faith and have fun!

5:30 – Light supper and Fellowship (Main dish will be provided. You can bring a dish to pass if you want)

6:00 – Prayer (Adoration and Rosary)

6:30 – Games and dessert (Bring your favorite games)



Sponsored by our Knights of Columbus



PHOTOS WANTED

To continue our church history, we are seeking photos of Ss. Peter & Paul First Communion and Confirmation classes prior to 2016. Also, anyone having pictures that were taken at the former church on Ann Street would also be appreciated. A container will be available in the church narthex. If you need these pictures back, please leave your name, address and phone number. Please contact Mary Jane with questions: 920-538-2025.

2023 BISHOP'S APPEAL

During the first week of February, parish members will receive a letter from Bishop David Ricken requesting a pledge or gift to the 2023 Bishop's Appeal. With the letter, you will receive a pledge card and return envelope. Please mail your envelope to the Catholic Foundation. Last year, through your generosity, the Bishop's Appeal campaign received more than **\$6.4 million** in gifts that are being used to share our faith with hundreds of thousands of people throughout northeastern Wisconsin. We ask again for your generous response to help our parish meet its goal for this year. If you did

not receive a letter in the mail, please contact our parish office. Our goal for this year is **\$15,564**. Please help us reach our goal.

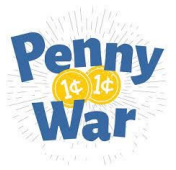


SCHEDULE CHANGE:

*February 5th—No Faith Formation classes—
there WILL be classes on February 12th*

PENNY WAR

The Squires will be sponsoring a Penny War to benefit the Weymont Food Pantry & Fr. Carr's Place to Be. It will run from Feb 19th until Mar 26th. 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.



Blood Donation

**There will be a blood
drive here on
February 10th.**

Please Call the Red Cross to make an appointment.

HEALING, PRAISE & WORSHIP

Join us for an evening of Adoration, Healing & Praise & Worship on Thursday, March 23rd.

Encounter

Youth Group

We will be meeting **Wednesday, February 8** 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!



La Misa en Español

12 de febrero de 2023

Diocesan Holy Hour

Thursday, Feb 16th
after the 9:00am Mass.
A great opportunity for
adoration & confession!



ANNUAL MEN'S
CONFERENCE

COME FOLLOW ME

MISSIONARY
DISCIPLESHIP
FOR MEN

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023
7:00AM-4:30 PM

THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HELP

REGISTER AT ESTOVIR.COM

Read the Bible as a Family ☺

(Kids Bibles and many other spiritual books are available to borrow in our church library.)



"Thus says the LORD, who created you...Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine...you are precious in my eyes...and I love you." (Isaiah 43:1-5)

"...Things we have heard and known, we will not keep them from our children; we will tell the next generation about the LORD's power and his great deeds and the wonderful things he has done. In this way they also will put their trust in God and not forget what he has done, but always obey his commandments." (Psalm 78:3-4, 7)



Feb. 19 Retreat (Part of classes for gr. 7-12)

N.E.T. (National Evangelization Team) is an organization that sends out teams of 10-12 young adults to travel across the country and put on powerful and fun retreats for teens that help them fall in love with the faith and experience God in a life-changing way.

Where: Our parish

Who: All teens in gr. 7-12 (please invite friends/family that age too!)

When: Sunday, Feb. 19, 9:00- 5:00 (in place of classes for those grades)

What: Lots of fun and Lots of God...Games, Prayer, Talks, Small Groups, Mass, Confession, Adoration, connecting with friends, and more!

TEEN QUOTES:
"That was so fun!"

"NET taught me how to have a better relationship with God."

Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church Financial Statement

December 2022

Dec-22

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)

9,848



Thursdays at 6:00pm
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6

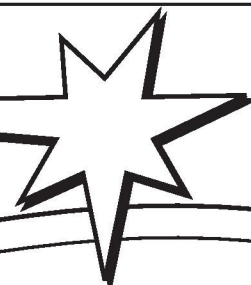
LENTEN REGULATIONS

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.

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

February 2023

S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Thoughtful Moments

Instill confidence in prayer

Many Catholic parents worry their children will be tempted away from the Faith. The good news is that children who grow up with a strong prayer life, regular Mass attendance and Confession often are likely to stay Catholic. Youngsters who turn to God from an early age grow up to revere and lean on Him. Teach children to pray and have prayer aids handy. Pray regularly as a family, and stay close to the greatest Catholic prayer – the Mass.



Love of God and others

Christian parents, by example, can help their children live the greatest commandments – love of God and neighbor. By creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, and humility flourish, the family places the spiritual above the material aspects of society. Children learn to love as God loves – freely, confidently, and without limits.

"Discipline your children, and they will bring you comfort, and give delight to your soul" (Proverbs 29:17).



Four holy habits to teach children during Lent

The season of Lent is a call to change our ways and repent. It's also a chance to help our youngsters grow in holiness. In turn, we will find ourselves becoming more virtuous as we *"train a child in the way he should go"* (Proverbs 22:6).

Patience: Children often have trouble waiting, but impatience can make us sad or mad, and lead us to stop trusting in God. Teach patience by calmly waiting your turn, don't complain when enduring difficulty, and encourage children to pray while waiting.

Kindness: Flowing out of the virtue of charity, it is best learned by feeling it so it can be reproduced. Make kindness a signature virtue your family shares.

Honesty: Deception in any form is sinful. Children may lie to get out of trouble, to get something they want, to avoid upsetting others.

When they admit to wrong doing, extend mercy. If you uncover a lie, require an apology and

impose steps to repair damage done.

Obedience: Our fallen nature means that disobedience is more natural to us than submitting to authority, but

obedience recognizes rightful authority. This virtue encourages us to submit to God's will – a critical life skill. We can model obedience when we seek God's will in prayer and Scripture, pray for His guidance, and model those habits for our children.



Why Do Catholics Do That ?

Each color highlights a particular aspect of the season and helps us enter the mystery we're celebrating. Green symbolizes spiritual growth and is worn during Ordinary Time. Purple (or violet) is for the penitential seasons of Lent

Why do we use different colored vestments during Mass?



and Advent. White and gold signify joy and glory and are for Christmas and Easter. Red, recalling Christ's blood, is worn on Good Friday and the feasts of the martyrs. It also recalls the Holy Spirit and is worn on Pentecost and Confirmations.

Explain the Faith on five fingers

The best gift we can give our children is a close, loving relationship with Christ. An easy way to explain the basics of our faith in Him is to use the five fingers of the left hand:

Pinky: The smallest finger reminds us that we're weak and need a Savior. We must ask Him each day for the graces we need.

Ring finger: Traditionally, this is the finger on which married people wear a wedding ring. God's love for us is forever, like the perfect,



endless circle of a wedding ring.

Tall finger: Jesus died on the Cross for our sins and then He rose, victorious. He promises that if we stay close to Him, we will also rise, victorious, to Heaven.

Pointer: Jesus chooses each of us to imitate His example of love. He asks us to inspire others with our words and actions.

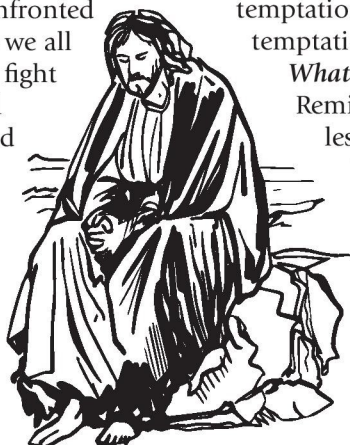
Thumb: As part of Jesus' Body, we are stronger together than alone. "Thumbs up!" reminds us to stay close to Him and invite others, too.

Scripture LESSON

Matthew 4:1-11, Jesus leads us to victory

In this Gospel reading, Satan tried to tempt Jesus to sin. Jesus confronted the three basic temptations we all face and showed us how to fight them: choosing self-control over selfishness, serving God instead of expecting Him to serve us, and remaining faithful to God's plan, even in the face of difficulties.

During the season of Lent, we join Jesus in the desert in prayer and fasting for forty days (not counting Sundays). We use this time to go deeper in relationship with God and to purify our hearts to love well, and to grow in virtue. Sooner or



later in our lives, we all encounter temptations, especially the temptation to give up.

What can a parent do?

Remind youngsters that the lesson of Lent is to come back to God and encourage them to make offerings that help them think, choose, and love like Jesus. For example, they can resolve to only say kind words, sacrifice dessert, help

around the house. Teach them to pray whenever they feel tempted. When we stay close to Jesus, He will lead us home.

Feasts & Celebrations

February 2 – Presentation of the Lord. In accordance with the Law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple forty days after His birth, and Simeon praised God for revealing the long-awaited Savior.

February 3 – St. Ansgar (865). St. Ansgar was born in Picardy, France. He was sent to a Benedictine monastery after his mother's death. After taking vows, he traveled to Denmark and Sweden to preach the Gospel.

February 4 – St. Jane of Valois (1505).

Briefly a queen of France, St. Jane was unwillingly married to the Duke of Orleans. Despite an unhappy marriage, she remained loyal and patient. When their marriage was annulled, she retired to Bourges and founded the Order of the Annunciation.

February 22 – Ash Wednesday. The first day of Lent. The ashes of old palms are placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. Today is a day of abstinence from meat and fasting – one regular meal and two smaller meals that together don't equal a full meal.



Parent TALK

Lent often felt like a holy diet to me. I focused on cutting out sweets, alcohol, and snacking. I ended up, six weeks



later, pounds lighter and not an ounce holier. When the children came along, I decided to look at the

three pillars: prayer, penance, and almsgiving.

On Ash Wednesday Mass we each offered a sacrifice – a favorite toy, screen time, some luxury. Then, we agreed that each night before bedtime we would pray a decade of the Rosary and offer spontaneous prayer.

Finally, we spent the weeks setting aside gently used toys and clothes to donate at the end of the season. We also increased our contributions to the poor box at church.

The emphasis on God and the practices the Church encouraged brought us out of ourselves and helped us approach Easter with a new perspective. As my daughter said, "Isn't that the whole point of Lent?"

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

Family Lent Calendar 2023

 = a day of fasting and abstinence from meat
 = a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February						
"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert fasting and praying" (<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>).						
26 "Bury the Hallelujah." Write the word, "hallelujah," on a piece of paper. Put it in a bag and bury it in the ground to be "resurrected" on Easter.	27 Make a Lent prayer chain. Write 40 intentions on strips of paper. Each day, choose a strip, say a prayer for the intention and add it as a link to the chain.	28 Give up a favorite snack today for the souls in Purgatory.	1 March Check out Catholic Relief Services and see if you can help support any of their projects. Look here: https://www.crs.org .	2 At dinner tonight, encourage everyone to think of a person he or she doesn't like and say three nice things about that person.	3 First Friday Attend Mass or make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament in church. Play for a fruitful Lent.	4 Play a family Rosary together in your prayer corner.
5 After Mass, light a candle for someone who passed away recently. Your parish family will join their prayers to yours.	6 Set out an empty box. Throughout Lent, add any unused clothes, books, or toys that are in good condition.	7 Pick someone in the news and pray for them.	8 Each day remaining in Lent, put a jelly bean in a jar whenever someone does a good deed. Share the jelly beans at Easter!	9 At dinner, share one way God showed His love to each of you today.	10 Consider fasting from screens tonight. Play boardgames, draw pictures, do a puzzle, read books together.	11 Family story night! Cuddle up tonight and read Easter-themed books, such as the <i>Legend of the Three Trees</i> or <i>The Week That Led to Easter</i> .
12 After Mass, explain the homily in terms children can understand. Come up with a resolution for the week.	13 Resolve to use only kind words today.	14 Monks would roll dough and twist it into crossed "prayer" arms -- now known as pretzels. Enjoy this traditional Lenten snack.	15 The Our Father is the perfect prayer, given by Jesus to us. Play the Our Father together and talk about what it means.	16 Prepare souls for Easter! Ask each family member to make an examination of conscience, using the Ten Commandments and eight Beatitudes as guides.	17 St. Patrick's Day In St. Patrick's honor, pray for Catholic missionaries and those involved in religious education.	18 Go to Confession as a family. Go out for a special treat afterwards to celebrate God's forgiveness.
19 Laetare Sunday Today, we look forward to Easter joy! Have a treat after Mass to celebrate the midpoint of Lent.	20 St. Joseph's Day St. Joseph served, protected, and cared for Mary and Jesus. Entrust fathers (including priests) to his care.	21 Refresh any Lenten commitments you made.	22 Say a short prayer in front of each cross or crucifix in your home.	23 At dinner, go around the table and share something for which you are each grateful.	24 Go on a screen fast (from recreational use) from noon to 3, in memory of the three hours Jesus hung on the Cross.	25 Annunciation of the Lord We celebrate Mary's "Yes" to God. Play three Hail Marys for help to be faithful to God's plan.
26 Spiritual Bouquet Have each person choose a prayer to offer daily for your pastor. Send a card with everyone's promises.	27 Get up 15 minutes earlier than usual today and pray as a family.	28 Practice patience -- a form of almsgiving that is especially pleasing in God's eyes.	29 Give up a favorite toy or treat just for today.	30 Deliver the box you started on March 6 to its destination.	31 Eat pizza, relax and play boardgames together.	1 April Dust, vacuum, clean and get your home ready to celebrate Holy Week -- the holiest time of the year.
2 Palm Sunday Palm fronds were a sign of victory and triumph. Decorate the statues and images of Jesus around your home with palms.	3 Tonight and every night this week, say a special prayer for those entering the Church during the Easter Vigil.	4 Go for a walk and look for signs of new life.	5 Using crayons or colored markers, draw Easter symbols. Hang them up to decorate for Easter.	6 Holy Thursday Read the story of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:20-30). Wash and dry each other's feet as Jesus washed the feet of his Apostles.	7 Good Friday Play the Stations of the Cross together. Thank Jesus for His sacrifice on the Cross for us.	8 Holy Saturday Light a candle and renew your baptismal vows together as a family, promising to be faithful to God.

Compañeros en la fe



Ayudando a nuestros hijos a crecer en la fe católica

Febrero de 2023

S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Momentos para pensar

Transmitan confianza en la oración

Muchos padres católicos se preocupan por si sus hijos sienten la tentación de alejarse de la fe. Lo bueno es que los niños que crecen con una vida de oración sólida, van con regularidad a misa y confiesan con frecuencia seguramente seguirán siendo católicos. Los niños que acuden a Dios desde pequeños crecen reverenciándolo y apoyándose en él. Enseñen a sus hijos a rezar y tengan a mano ayudas para la oración. Recen en familia con regularidad y no se alejen de la mejor oración católica, la misa.



Amor a Dios y a los demás

Los padres cristianos, mediante el ejemplo, pueden ayudar a sus hijos a vivir los mandamientos más importantes: amar a Dios y al prójimo. Al crear un hogar donde florecen la ternura, el perdón, el respeto y la humildad, la familia coloca lo espiritual por encima de los aspectos materiales de la sociedad. Los niños aprenden a amar como Dios ama: sin reservas, con seguridad y sin límites.

"Corrige a tu hijo y él te dará tranquilidad y colmará tu alma de delicias"
(Proverbios 29:17).



Cuatro hábitos santos para los niños en la Cuaresma

El tiempo litúrgico de la Cuaresma es una llamada al cambio de costumbres y al arrepentimiento. También nos da la oportunidad de ayudar a nuestros hijos a que crezcan en santidad. A la vez, nosotros descubriremos que nos hacemos más virtuosos al iniciar *"al niño en el camino que debe seguir"* (Proverbios 22:6).

Paciencia: A los niños a veces les cuesta esperar, pero la impaciencia puede enristecernos o enojarnos y llevamos a perder la confianza en Dios. Enseñen paciencia esperando su turno con calma, no se quejen cuando se enfrenten a dificultades y animen a sus hijos a que recen mientras esperan.

Bondad: Derivada de la virtud de la caridad, se aprende mejor sintiéndola a fin de reproducirla. Hagan de la bondad una virtud distintiva de su familia y compártanla.

Honradez: Engañar de cualquier forma es pecado. Quizá los niños mientan para librarse de problemas, para conseguir lo que quieren, para no disgustar a alguien. Cuando admitan que han hecho algo mal, ofrézcanles clemencia. Si descubren que han mentado, exijan una excusa e impongan pasos para reparar el daño causado.

Obediencia: Por nuestra naturaleza caída la desobediencia nos resulta más natural que el sometimiento a la autoridad, pero la obediencia reconoce la autoridad

legítima. Esta virtud nos anima a rendirnos a la voluntad de Dios, una habilidad crucial en la vida. Podemos dar ejemplo de obediencia cuando buscamos la voluntad de Dios en la oración y en la Sagrada Escritura, pedimos que nos guíe y damos ejemplo de esos hábitos a nuestros hijos.



¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

Cada color destaca un aspecto especial del tiempo litúrgico y nos ayuda a entrar en el misterio que celebramos. El verde simboliza crecimiento espiritual y se usa durante el tiempo ordinario. El morado (o violeta) es para los tiempos penitenciales de Cuaresma y Adviento. El blanco

¿Por qué usamos vestiduras de distintos colores en la misa?



y el dorado representan el gozo y la gloria y son para los tiempos litúrgicos de Navidad y Pascua. El rojo, recordando la sangre de Cristo, se usa en Viernes Santo y en las fiestas de los mártires. También evoca al Espíritu Santo y se usa en Pentecostés y en las confirmaciones.

Expliquen la fe con cinco dedos

El mejor regalo que podemos darles a nuestros hijos es una relación estrecha y cariñosa con Cristo. Una forma fácil de explicarles los principios básicos de nuestra fe en él es usar los dedos de la mano izquierda:

Meñique: El dedo más pequeño nos recuerda que somos débiles y necesitamos un salvador. Debemos pedirle cada día las gracias que necesitamos.

Dedo anular: Es el dedo en el que tradicionalmente los casados llevan su anillo de boda. El amor de Dios por nosotros es para siempre, como el círculo perfecto e infinito de un anillo de boda.



Dedo corazón: Jesús murió en la cruz por nuestros pecados y luego resucitó, victorioso. Nos promete que si no nos alejamos de él, también nosotros resucitaremos, victoriosos, e iremos al cielo.

Índice: Jesús nos elige a cada uno de nosotros para que imitemos su ejemplo de amor. Nos pide que inspiremos a los demás con nuestras palabras y con nuestras obras.

Pulgar: Como parte del Cuerpo de Jesús, somos más fuertes que solos. Hacer una señal de aprobación con los pulgares arriba nos recuerda que sigamos cerca de él y que invitemos a los demás a hacer lo mismo.

Lecciones de las Escrituras

Mateo 4:1-11, Jesús nos conduce a la victoria

En este pasaje evangélico, Satanás trató de tentar a Jesús a que pecara. Jesús hizo frente a las tres tentaciones básicas a las que todos nos enfrentamos y nos mostró cómo combatirlas: elegir el autocontrol en lugar del egoísmo, servir a Dios en vez de esperar que él nos sirva y permanecer fieles al plan de Dios, incluso a pesar de las dificultades.

Durante la Cuaresma nos unimos a Jesús en el desierto en oración y ayuno durante cuarenta días (sin contar los domingos). Empleamos este tiempo para profundizar en nuestra relación con Dios y para purificar nuestros corazones a fin de amar



bien y de crecer en virtud. Antes o después, todos hallamos tentaciones en la vida, especialmente la tentación de rendirnos.

¿Qué pueden hacer los padres? Recuerden a sus hijos que el tiempo de Cuaresma es para regresar a Dios y animarlos a que hagan ofrendas que los ayuden a pensar, a elegir y a amar como Jesús. Por ejemplo, pueden proponerse decir sólo palabras amables, privarse del postre, ayudar en casa. Enséñenles a rezar cuando se sientan tentados. Jesús nos llevará a casa si no nos alejamos de él.

Hablan los padres

La Cuaresma me solía parecer una dieta santa. Me concentraba en consumir menos dulces, alcohol y tentempiés. Seis semanas más tarde terminaba con unas cuantas libras menos de peso pero ni una onza más santa.

Cuando tuve hijos, decidí considerar los tres pilares: oración, penitencia y limosna.

En la misa del Miércoles de Ceniza cada uno de nosotros ofrece un sacrificio: un juguete apreciado, tiempo de pantalla, algún lujo. Luego cada noche antes de acostarnos rezamos una década del rosario y decimos una oración espontánea.

Finalmente, pasamos las semanas separando juguetes y ropas poco usadas para donarlas al final de este tiempo. También aumentamos nuestra contribución al cepillo de la iglesia.

El énfasis en Dios y en las prácticas recomendadas por la Iglesia nos sacó de nosotros mismos y nos ayudó a acercarnos a la Pascua con una perspectiva distinta. Como dijo mi hija: "¿No es esa la razón de la Cuaresma?"



Fiestas y celebraciones

2 de febrero – Presentación del Señor. De acuerdo con la ley de Moisés, María y José llevaron a Jesús al templo cuarenta días después de su nacimiento y Simeón alabó a Dios por revelarle al anhelado salvador.

3 de febrero – San Ansgario (865). Nacido en Picardía, Francia. Fue enviado a un monasterio benedictino tras la muerte de su madre. Después de tomar los votos, viajó a Dinamarca y Suecia a predicar el evangelio.

4 de febrero – Santa Juana de Valois (1505). Reina de Francia por un breve

tiempo, santa Juana fue desposada contra su voluntad con el duque de Orleans. A pesar de un matrimonio infeliz, permaneció fiel y paciente. Cuando su matrimonio fue anulado, se retiró a Bourges y fundó la Orden de la Anunciación.

22 de febrero – Miércoles de Ceniza. Primer día de Cuaresma. Se ponen en la frente la ceniza de viejas palmas en señal de penitencia. Hoy es un día de abstinencia de carne y de ayuno: una comida normal y dos comidas más pequeñas que juntas no equivalgan a una comida completa.



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2023 Calendario de Cuaresma para la familia

 = un día de ayuno y abstinen-
cia de carne

 = un día de abstinencia de carne

Domingo		Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado
"La Cuaresma es el tiempo litúrgico de cuarenta días que comienza con el Miércoles de Ceniza y termina con la celebración del Misterio Pascual (Triduo Pascual). La Cuaresma es la principal temporada de penitencia en el año litúrgico de la Iglesia, reflejando los cuarenta días que Jesús pasó en el desierto ayunando y orando" (Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica).		Febrero					
26 "Entierra el alfiler". Escribe la palabra "aleluya" en una hoja de papel. Póngalo en una bolsa y entiérralo en el suelo para "resucitar" en Pascua.	27 Haz una cadena de oración de Cuaresma. Escribe 40 intenciones en tiras de papel. Cada día, elige una tira, reza una oración por la intención y agrégala como eslabón a la cadena.	28 Renuncia hoy a un refrigerio favorito por las almas del Purgatorio.	1 Marzo Visite Catholic Relief Services y vea si puede ayudar a apoyar alguno de sus proyectos. Mire aquí: http://www.crsespanol.org.	23 Ayude a los niños a elegir ofrendas de oración, penitencia y limosna. Asegúrate de que sean apropiados para la edad.	24 Hoy, tengan una comida sencilla juntos. Ore por aquellos que no pueden tener carne como parte regular de sus dietas.	25 Establecer un rincón de oración. Cubre una mesa pequeña con un paño morado. Incluye una Biblia, una vela y una almohada. Reúnanse allí por la noche para la oración familiar.	
5 Después de la Misa, encienda una vela por alguien que falleció recientemente. Su familia parroquial unirá sus oraciones a las suyas.	6 Coloca una caja vacía. A lo largo de la Cuaresma, agregue cualquier ropa, libros o juguetes sin usar que estén en buenas condiciones.	7 Elige a alguien en las noticias y ora por él.	8 Cada día restante de Cuaresma, ponga una goma dulce en un frasco cada vez que alguien haga una buena acción. ¡Comparte las gomas en Semana Santa!	9 Durante la cena, comparta una forma en que Dios les mostró su amor a cada uno de ustedes hoy.	10 Considere ayunar de las pantallas esta noche. Jueguen juegos de mesa, hagan dibujos, hagan un rompecabezas, lean libros juntos.	11 ¡Noche de cuentos familiares! Acúrrquense esta noche y lean libros relacionados con la Pascua, como la Leyenda de los tres árboles o La semana que llevó a la Pascua.	
12 Después de la Misa, explique la homilía en términos que los niños puedan entender. Plantéate una resolución para la semana.	13 Resuelve usar solo palabras amables hoy	14 Los monjes enrollaban la masa y la retorcan en brazos cruzados de "oración", ahora conocidos como pretzels. Disfruta de esta menenda tradicional de Cuaresma.	15 El Padre Nuestro es la oración perfecta dada por Jesús a nosotros. Recen juntos -el Padre Nuestro y hablen sobre lo que significa.	16 ¡Preparad las almas para la Pascua! Pida a cada miembro de la familia que haga un examen de conciencia, usando como guías los Diez Mandamientos y las ocho Bienaventuranzas.	17 <i>Día del San Patricio</i> En honor a San Patricio, ore por los misioneros católicos y los involucrados en la educación religiosa.	18 Ir a la Confesión en familia. Salga para recibir un regalo especial después para celebrar el perdón de Dios.	
19 Domingo de Alegría ¡Hoy esperamos la alegría pascual! Tenga un regalo después de la Misa para celebrar el punto medio de la Cuaresma.	20 Día de San José San José sirvió, protegió y cuidó de María y Jesús. Encuentre a los padres (incluidos los sacerdotes) a su cuidado.	21 Actualice cualquier compromiso de Cuaresma que haya hecho.	22 Diga una breve oración frente a cada cruz o crucifijo en su hogar.	23 Durante la cena, rodeen la mesa y compartan algo por lo que estén agradecidos.	24 Ir en una pantalla rápida (de uso recreativo) desde el mediodía hasta las 3, en recuerdo de las tres horas que Jesús colgó en la Cruz.	25 Anunciación del Señor Celebramos el "Sí" de María a Dios. Reza tres Avemarías por ayuda para ser fiel al plan de Dios.	
26 Ramo Espiritual Haga que cada persona elija una oración para ofrecer diariamente por su pastor. Envíe una tarjeta con las promesas de todos.	27 Levántense hoy 15 minutos más temprano de lo habitual y oren en familia.	28 Practica la paciencia, una forma de dar limosna que es especialmente agradable a los ojos de Dios.	29 Renuncia a un juguete o golosina favorita solo por hoy.	30 Entrega la caja que empezaste el 6 de marzo a su destino.	31 Coman pizza, relajense y jueguen juegos de mesa juntos.	1 Abril Desempolve, aspire, limpie y prepare su hogar para celebrar la Semana Santa, la época más sagrada del año.	
2 Sunday de ramos Las hojas de palma eran un signo de victoria y triunfo. Decora las estatuas e imágenes de Jesús alrededor de tu casa con palmeras.	3 Esta noche y todas las noches de esta semana, diga una oración especial por aquellos que ingresan a la Iglesia durante la Vigilia Pascual.	4 Salga a caminar y busca señales de nueva vida.	5 Usando crayones o marcadores de colores, dibuje los símbolos de Pascua. Cuelégalos para decorar en Semana Santa.	6 <i>Jueves Santo</i> Lea la historia de la Última Cena (Mateo 26:20-30). Lavarse y secarse los pies unos a otros como Jesús lavó los pies de sus Apóstoles.	7 <i>Viernes Santo</i> Recen juntos las Estaciones de la Cruz. Gracias a Jesús por Su sacrificio en la Cruz por nosotros.	8 <i>Sábado Santo</i> Enciendan una vela y renueven sus votos bautismales juntos como familia, prometiendo ser fieles a Dios.	