



BuildingFaith@HOME

This Sunday's Gospel, the central theme of darkness and light is quite fitting as we move closer to Easter. The image gives a stark contrast between those who prefer to be in the darkness, submitting themselves to wicked things. They hide in the dark. But those who live in the light so that their good works "may be clearly seen as done in God." Living in the light is a conscious choice that we are always invited towards being in.

We are introduced to Nicodemus, a Pharisee, a member of the Jewish ruling council, who came to Jesus in the darkness of night with a question. The Pharisees were a group within the Jewish population who had been calling their people back to strict adherence to the law of Moses. Jesus poised his conversation knowing that Nicodemus would know these scriptures. This initial visit to Jesus was Nicodemus' first initial step toward the Light.

Reading further into John's gospel, you will find Nicodemus two more times. In John 7:50-51, he tentatively defends Jesus before his fellow religious leaders who are looking to arrest Jesus. By the end of John's gospel, Nicodemus comes with Joseph of Arimathea, bringing a hundred pounds of spices for Jesus' burial (19:39). This was grandiose expression of his definitive choice to come to the Light.

Missionary Discipleship: Lent is a season of transition as we journey with Jesus from the darkness of death to the Easter light of new life. Consider spending time this week reflecting on your sins. Ask for God's healing mercy through the sacrament of reconciliation. Rejoice with Jesus as you choose to be in the light!

Family Table Talk

Children: Who is one person in your life who supports your faith and helps it to grow?

Youth: The Gospel speaks of following God as coming toward the light. How can you move towards the light in your own life? What is the darkness that needs Jesus' healing in your life?

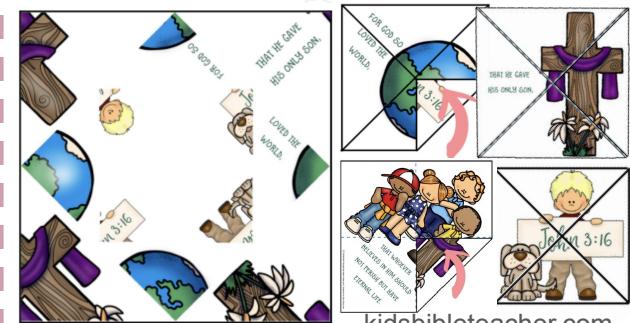
Adults: When is it difficult for you to believe? What particular line in this reading helps your faith?

1st Reading: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23
Responsorial Psalm:137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6
Second Reading:Eph 2:4-10
Gospel:Jn 3:14-21

Folded Puzzle



This John 3:16 folded puzzle is a fun little origami craft that unfolds to reveal the message of John 3:16. It only requires a one page template printed double sided, and the folding is fairly easy.<https://bit.ly/Folded-Puzzle>



, kidsbibleteacher.com

What does "Laetare" mean?
REJOICE!

Pray the Novena in
anticipation of the
Solemnity of
St.Joseph
March 10 - March 18
Syracuse GoogleDrive
St. Joseph, pray for us!



Pray - Pray for an increase in faith. (See Building Prayer@Home page)

Fast - Fast from complaining.

Give - Take on an attitude of joy. Share that joy with everyone you encounter each day.



LENT

Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

- Thecatholicspirit.com - Laetare Sunday: The Fourth Sunday of Lent JOY! JOY! And More JOY! (Family Faith Builder)
- GoogleDrive - Novena to St. Joseph March 10 -18 (Family Faith Builder)
- Catholicculture.org - Catholic Activity: Mothering Sunday
- LoyolaPress.com - fourth Sunday of Lent: Family Activity (Family Faith Builder)

This resource is meant to be used in a digital format with hyperlinks,

Digital Format can found at:

syracusediocese.org/partnering-with-families



March 10, 2024

'Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him,
"Lord, teach us to pray..."' - Luke 11:1



Prayer@HOME

Act of Faith

O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God
in three divine Persons,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe these and all the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches, because you have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

Amen.

It is an old tradition on Laetare Sunday to visit or talk about one's "mother church," the church at which one was baptized. It is sometimes referred to "Mothering Sunday." During this feast, display your family's baptismal candles and reminisce about any memories from their baptisms. *Bonus: Visit the church(es) of each/some of the family member's baptisms!



Building Prayer Time @ Home

This will be a series of family activities to try as your families start or strengthen prayer time.

Prayer can take place in the everyday events, such as when children are hurt, physically or emotionally. Bumps, bruises, and hurt feelings occur throughout the day. You can pray with them for healing. Teach them to ask God to heal them of these hurts. Pray can be as simple as....

May God heal all of our boo boos!

2024 - A Year of Prayer

"Lord, teach us to pray..." - Luke 11:1

Cut & Pray!



Scripture Verse of the Week From Sunday's Mass



But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

John 3:21

Challenge: Works of Mercy ...

Download one or both of these pages with practical ideas and check as many as you can do, or add a new idea to sheets!

[The Corporal Works of Mercy](#)



[The Spiritual Works of Mercy](#)

