

Faith in Five- Children
Easter Week 3

- 1. Read Luke 24:13-35 as a family. What happened when two of Jesus' disciples were traveling to Emmaus? Jesus appeared to them and began to journey with them. The disciples were unable to recognize him. How were the disciples feeling? The disciples were sad and confused. They had hoped Jesus would redeem Israel, meaning set the Jews free from the Romans. What did Jesus do? Without revealing himself to the disciples, Jesus explained the scriptures to them. He explained to them what the prophets of the Old Testament had meant by the Redeemer. He showed them the passages that told of all of the sufferings the Christ would endure. Jesus also broke bread and ate with them. It was during the breaking of the bread that they were able to recognize Jesus. Does the disciples' time with Jesus remind you of anything? The experience on the road to Emmaus was just like a mass. Scripture is read to us, the Holy Spirit works through our priests as they explain the readings to us. The Liturgy of the Eucharist is like the breaking of the bread. In the scriptures and the Eucharist, we also recognize Jesus, learning all He wants to reveal to us. What did the disciples do after traveling and breaking bread with Jesus? They immediately went to share the news with the other disciples. After mass, we pray our hearts burn within us too, and we are compelled to go tell others about Jesus!
- 2. Do you know who we celebrate on April 25th? April 25th is the feast of St. Mark. What do we know about St. Mark? St. Mark was Jewish before becoming a Christian. He was friends with St. Peter, taking notes from his stories about the life of Jesus. It is also believed that St. Mark traveled to Alexandria and founded the Church there. He was eventually martyred there. What symbol do we use for St. Mark's gospel? A lion represents St. Mark's gospel. A lion is one of the four animals who worship the Lamb of God in the book of Revelations. He is the patron saint of notaries.
- 3. What is the Acts of the Apostles? The Acts of the Apostles in a book in the Bible, written by Luke. You may have noticed during the Easter season the first readings at mass are from the Acts of the Apostles. What do we learn from the Acts of The Apostles? The Acts of Apostles shows what the early Church was like! We read what the apostles did after Jesus' Ascension, how they lived out and spread the faith! The Acts of the Apostles also tells us the story of St. Paul's conversion. Not only did St. Paul work tirelessly to spread Christianity, he also wrote many letters instructing, encouraging, and even reprimanding these early churches. His letters, called epistles, make up a large

part of the New Testament. Family Challenge! Read through the Acts of Apostles as a family this Easter season.

- 4. What is the Paschal Candle? Pasch comes from the word Passover. It means "having to do with Easter." This Easter candle is lit at the Easter Vigil mass. What does it symbolize? The Paschal Candle is a symbol for Jesus Christ. He is the light of the world! The candle is made from pure beeswax, as Jesus was sinless. The wick reminds us of His humanity while the flame represents His divinity. What is on the candle? At the Easter Vigil mass, the priest will bless the candle. Then he will inscribe a cross on the candle as well as the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, the Alpha and the Omega. This means Jesus is the beginning and the end, as He is called in the Book of Revelations. The current year is also carved into the cross. Next, five grains of incense are put into the candle, making the shape of a cross. The incense reminds us of the aromatic spices used to prepare His body for the tomb. 5 grains are used to symbolize Christ's five wounds. Finally, two more Greek letters (Chi and Ro, they look like an X and a P) are added for the Greek word for Christ, Christos. Where is the candle placed? Throughout the Easter season you will see it in a prominent spot on the altar. It is used to light. Other times it is kept near the baptismal font. The Paschal candle is used for the baptismal liturgy. The newly baptized "receive the light of Christ," as their baptism candle is lit from the Paschal candle.
- 5. How can you continue to live the Easter Season in your home? To celebrate Easter at home, you can start by decorating with lilies, or any flower! Painting wooden letters that read Alleluia would be ideal for the mantle. You can make and display your own Paschal Candle to light throughout this Easter season. As a family, sing Easter hymnstry Christ the Lord is Risen Today, Alleluia, Jesus Christ is Risen Today and Crown Him with Many Crowns.

REVIEW QUESTION: What is the Divine Mercy Chaplet? The Divine Mercy chaplet is a prayer both meditating on and invoking Jesus' mercy. Jesus revealed this chaplet to St. Faustina to spread great trust in mercy. It is prayed using rosary beads. On the Our Father beads we pray: Eternal Father, I offer you the body and blood, soul and divinity of your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ. On the Hail Mary beads we pray: For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Here are all the prayers to the Divine Mercy chaplet.

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