

Family Faith

Sharing Questions

May 2008

We encourage parents to reflect on these questions at home each week with their children and family.
Start talking.
Share your faith!!

May 4 † Seventh Sunday of Easter † John 17:1-11a

Today we hear yet another reading from the Gospel of John. In this passage, Jesus is talking and praying to God, telling him about the things that he has accomplished. He says that he has glorified God by doing all the things that God sent him to earth to do. And he prays for his disciples, telling God that they came to believe he was the Messiah, the Son of God.

Prayer is a strong thread in all of today's readings.

Do you make time to pray daily/regularly? Why or why not?

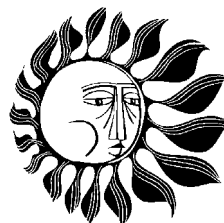
Do you only turn to prayer when you are worried or scared? If so, why?

May 11 † Pentecost † John 20:19-23

The Holy Spirit is Jesus with us here on earth. Because of our Baptism we, too, are disciples and are called to go out and spread the Good News. Actually, Jesus expects us to carry on his mission — just like those first disciples. Jesus breathed on a group of frightened disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit. This gift of the Spirit enabled them to go out and tell others about Jesus Christ and God's unconditional love for all people. Through our baptism and faith, we too are given graces and gifts, which we are called to share with others.

How have you experienced the Holy Spirit in your life?

Jesus told his disciples, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Have you ever had a hard time forgiving or reconciling with someone? Were you able to reconcile? Describe what happened.



May 18 † Holy Trinity † John 3:16-18

This familiar passage from the Gospel of John tells us that God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son to us, so that everyone who believes in him will live forever.

Think about how much God loves you. Describe how this makes you feel.

Based on these feelings, what kind of a prayer could you say to God? Either quietly or out loud, say this prayer. (Perhaps your family could write this prayer together).

May 25 † Body and Blood of Christ † John 6:51-58

Today's Gospel reading is from the Book of John and in it Jesus tells his disciples that he is the living bread come down from heaven. His followers don't understand what he means. Jesus goes on to say that unless we eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of Man, we cannot have life within us — but we must do this in order to have eternal life!!

Jesus is, of course, talking about the Eucharist here.

Describe what the Eucharist means to you. How does receiving the Eucharist make you feel? Do you think it makes a difference in your life? Why or why not?

