

OLD ST. MARY'S DISTANT LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

Step by Step Instructions for offering a LOWC at home during the CoVid-19 Crisis

1. **Adults, and if possible children too, should stream the Mass together in full via oldstmarys.com at 8am, 11am, and 6pm and on Saturday at 5pm**
2. **Set up a prayer table using a cloth, candle, and crucifix,**
3. **Print readings or have them ready to view on a tablet of phone.**
4. **Read in advance the scripture background info provided & print or have the reflection questions and activity ideas ready to discuss as a family.**
5. **Questions are for immediate reflection after the readings.**
6. **Gospel Weeklies Children's Activity Pages**
7. **Optional Family Activity Options is something you can discuss as a family and pick one to do in the coming week. Keep in mind, not all activities are available right now in light of the crisis.**

Parents: 4th Sunday of Lent March 22, 2020 - Background on Readings for the

Children's version of Sunday Scripture Readings are attached.

Reading I : 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a: David is anointed king of Israel.

- Saul the first king anointed by Samuel is rejected by God for disobedience.
- God sends Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint Saul's successor. Samuel anoints David.
- The first reading is a story of seeing. God sees David as no one else sees him.

Reading II : Ephesians 5:8-14: You are people of the light.

- The passage from Ephesians expands on the division between the sightless and the seeing.
- Those who believe in Jesus are children of light.
- With Christ they have been raised from the darkness of death and live in the light of Christ.

Gospel: John 9:1-41: Jesus gives us sight.

- At the start of today's Gospel story of the man born blind, the disciples believe that sin is the cause of the man's blindness. When Jesus gives the blind man sight, both the disciples and the blind man move from darkness into light.
- The Pharisees accuse Jesus of sin because he healed the blind man on the Sabbath. The man with new sight however sees more clearly, he calls Jesus a prophet.
- The Pharisees refuse to believe; they are truly blind.

Below are faith sharing questions for AFTER you proclaim the Readings as a family.

Question for Children: What are the things that Jesus wants you to do as his friend?

Question for Youth: Jesus helped a blind man see—and he helps each of us see the world differently. How do you see differently because you believe?

Question for Adults: Share how you, as a child of the light, in the power of Christ, produce goodness, justice, and truth for the world. What specific actions do you take to do this?

Family Activity For The Coming Week:

Choose one of the following activities as a way to further reflect on the Sunday readings:

- Use a candle to communicate to your children the light of Christ. Pass the candle around to each family member. Have family members take turns telling the person holding the candle, what good things they see in him or her.

Resources adapted are from OSV Alive in Christ used by OSM in our parish school and Pflaum Gospel Weeklies made available to parishes during the CoVid-19 Pandemic and Step by Step by Katie Thompson utilized by our parish each Sunday

- As we continue our Lenten journey, evaluate your family resolutions of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Are our Lenten practices helping us to see the light of Christ in others? What Lenten practices help us see the light of Christ in ourselves?
- Have a family discussion about seeing the needs of each other in the family. Have family members share what they need and whether anyone sees those needs. Discuss how seeing each other with “eyes of faith” can help build family unity.
- As a family, “see” the needs of your community. Select one of those needs and do a family project to help out with that need.

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Children Celebrate!



SPRING 2020 (YEAR A)

MARCH 1, 2020 First Sunday of Lent
through

MAY 24, 2020 Ascension/Seventh Sunday of Easter

March 22, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Laetare Sunday

Children Celebrate!

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Today's Readings

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a

Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5b–6c

Ephesians 5:1–2, 8–10

John 9:1, 6–12, 35–38



We Pray

Lord Jesus, may we put our faith in you every day. Amen.



The Word of God This Week

Jesus Cures the Man Who Was Blind

Jesus cured a man who had been blind from birth. People were amazed! The Pharisees tried to make the man take back his story about how Jesus cured him, but he wouldn't.

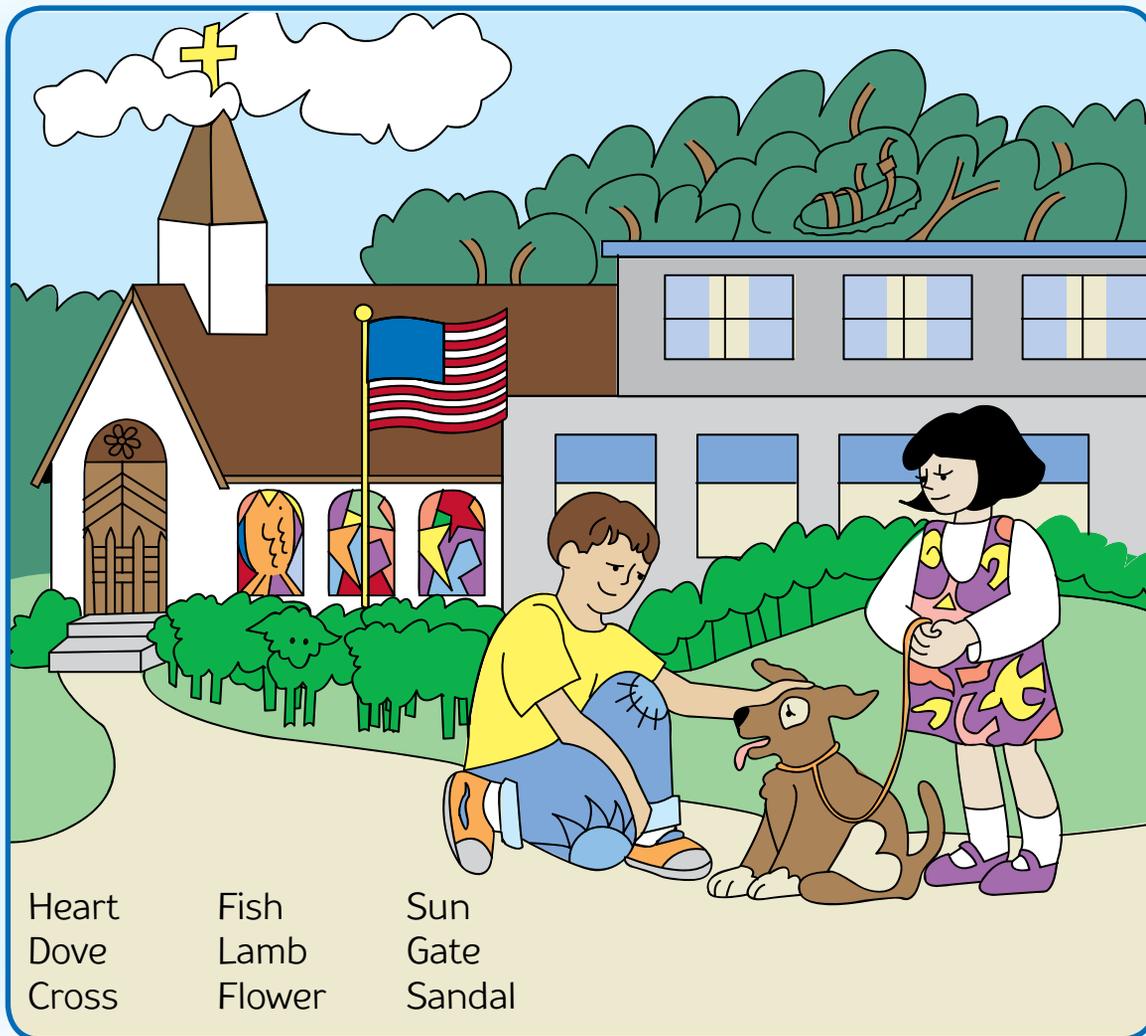
Jesus asked the man if he believed in the Son of Man. The man said he would if he knew who he was. Jesus said, "You are talking to him."

The man said, "Lord, I put my faith in you."



Activity

We are asked to look closely at others just as God does. How closely do you look for what's not easy to see? See if you can find and circle the following objects hidden in this picture.



Heart	Fish	Sun
Dove	Lamb	Gate
Cross	Flower	Sandal

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Family Corner

Faith Focus

God sees things differently than we do. Sometimes we think we have the right perspective on a situation, and then God shows us a whole different way of seeing it. We may be blind and not even know it.

This week, talk about this within your family. Role play some events and then discuss each person's point of view. Practice looking at people and events from all sides of a situation this week.

Family Activity

Arrange a family scavenger hunt this week. Each person should make a list of five items that can be found around the house. Put the lists in separate envelopes and mix them up. Then have each person choose an envelope and try to find the five items in the least amount of time.

Relate this game to how we see one another, sometimes finding things quite easily and sometimes needing more time.

March 29, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Children Celebrate!

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Today's Readings

Ezekiel 37:12–14

Psalms 130:1–2, 5, 7bcd

John 11:3–7, 17, 20–27, 31–45



We Pray

Jesus, we believe in you. We pray that we will one day live with you forever in Heaven. Amen.



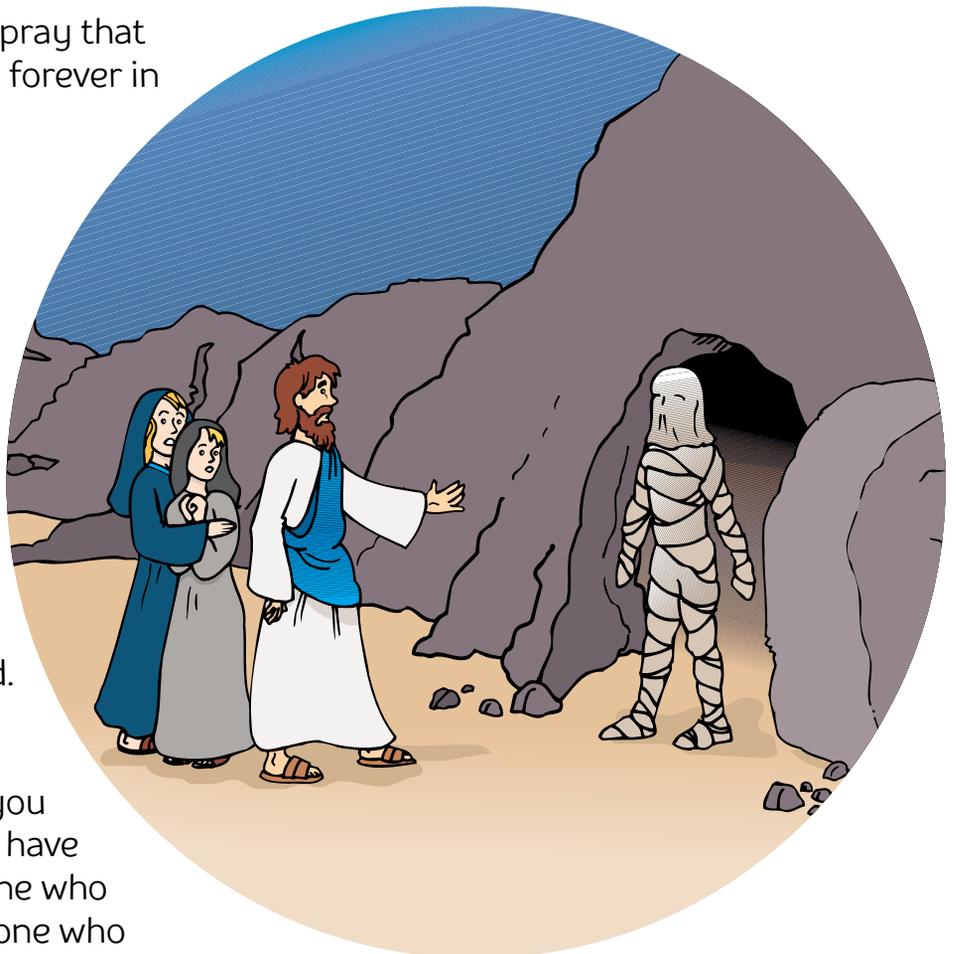
The Word of God This Week

Jesus Gives Lazarus New Life

When Lazarus was sick, Mary and Martha sent for Jesus. By the time he arrived, however, their brother was dead and buried. Everyone was crying. Jesus cried too.

Martha said to Jesus, “If you had been here, he would not have died.” Jesus said, “I am the one who raises the dead to life. Everyone who believes in me will live forever.”

Then Jesus called Lazarus out of his grave and returned him to life.



April 5, 2020

Palm/Passion Sunday

Children Celebrate!

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Today's Readings

The Procession With Palms

Matthew 21:1–11

Mass

Isaiah 50:6–7

Psalm 22:7–8, 16c-17a, 18, 19, 22

Matthew 27:11-54



We Pray

Jesus, we welcome you into our lives and our hearts. We shout, “Hosanna” to welcome you! Amen.



The Word of God This Week

The People Welcome Jesus

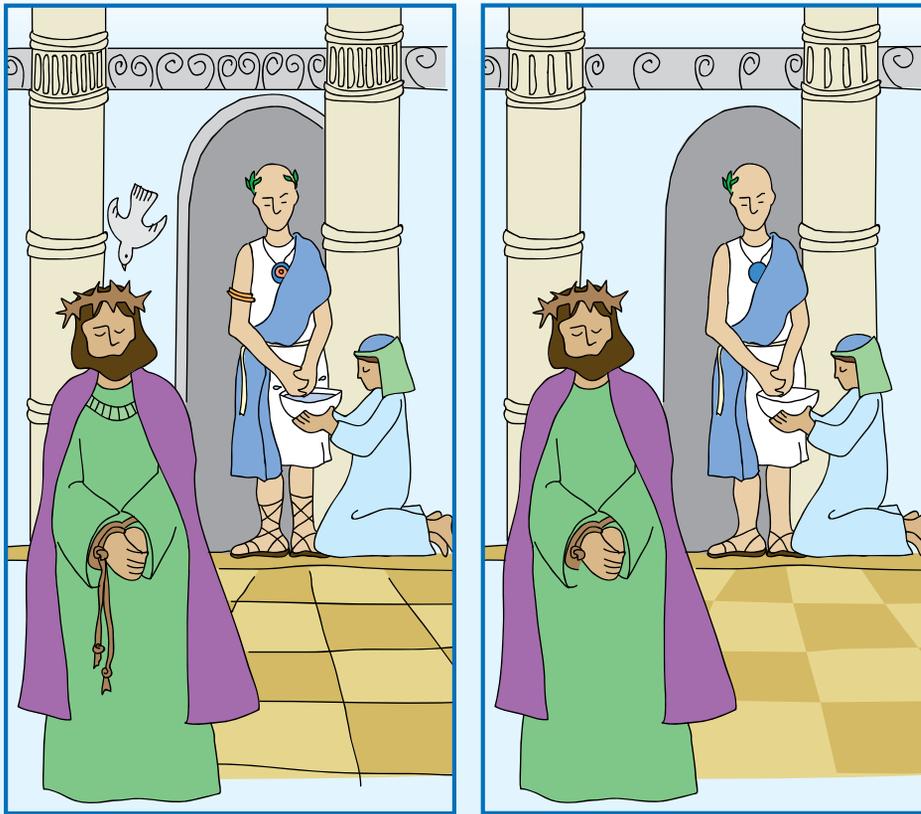
Jesus and his disciples were close to Jerusalem when Jesus said, “Go into the next village. You will find a donkey and her colt. Bring them to me.”

When they got back, Jesus sat on the donkey and rode toward the city. People all along the way greeted him with joyful shouts of “Hosanna!” and made a path for him out of palm branches. Everyone was excited because the prophet from Nazareth had come.



Activity

Look at these two pictures. The one on the right is incomplete. Add the missing elements from the picture on the left so that both pictures are the same.



Jesus was sent to Pilate to decide what should be done with him. Pilate did not want to get involved. He “washed his hands” of Jesus, meaning he was not responsible for what happened to him. Think about this: Do you ever avoid taking responsibility when you really should accept it?

Family Corner

Faith Focus

Family life is full of opportunities for caring and loving one another. We are called to make sacrifices for one another. Sometimes we take the people with whom we live for granted. Sometimes children automatically feel everything will work out in their favor. Sometimes parents fail to see the uniqueness of their children. Jesus calls us to accept his great gift of love as shown in his life, Death, and Resurrection.

Family Activity

Try to make this Holy Week truly holy by spending quality time together. Create an atmosphere of harmony, peace, and solidarity with your own family and with your Church family as you participate in this week’s services—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Make sure that the family gathers to decorate Easter eggs, make Easter place mats, or to participate in other family traditions.

April 12, 2020

Easter Sunday

Children Celebrate!

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Today's Readings

Acts 10:34a, 37–43
Psalm 118:1–2, 15c–16ab,
17, 22–23
Colossians 3:1–4
John 20:1–9



We Pray

Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Jesus, we adore you and we praise you. Amen.



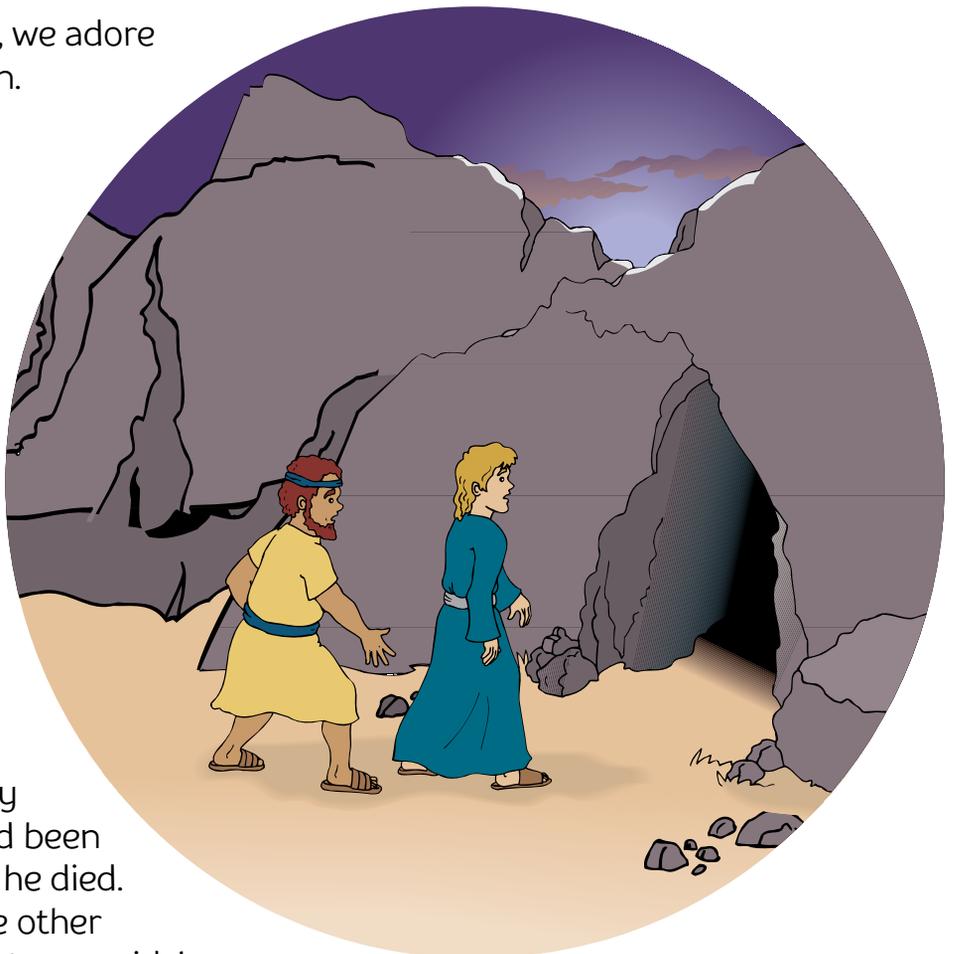
The Word of God This Week

Jesus Is Risen!

On the Sunday after Jesus died, Mary Magdalene went to his tomb. She saw that the tomb was open, so she ran to tell Peter. She was afraid someone had taken Jesus.

When Peter and another disciple went inside they saw that the tomb was empty except for the cloths that had been wrapped around Jesus after he died.

At that time, Peter and the other disciple didn't know the Scriptures said Jesus would rise from the dead.



Activity

Read the Gospel again or ask someone to read it to you. Draw a picture to show what the Gospel tells us. Write the following word below your picture: REJOICE!



Family Corner

Faith Focus

How will your family celebrate this day of new life? Perhaps you'll have the traditional egg hunt, marshmallow chicks, and lamb cakes.

Certainly, celebrating the Eucharist is an excellent start to the day. Sharing a special dinner with relatives and friends is often the focus of Easter gatherings. Going to a care facility to visit a loved one who cannot join you at your table is another wonderful way for the family to celebrate together.

Family Activity

If possible, take a family walk together, either in your own neighborhood or in a favorite park. Have one member of the family carry a small notebook and pen. Record the signs of new life you see as you walk. Identify the trees and flowers that are just starting to bloom (depending on your climate). When you get home, offer a prayer of thanks to God for this greatest day of all.

Children Celebrate!

Liturgy of the Word with Children

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