

Dear Parents,

These are strange times that we are living in. Your children are at home for weeks, and many of you are too. Church doors are closed and the atrium will not be full of sweet voices each Sunday morning.

You may be wondering how to encourage your child's spiritual formation while we are not worshipping together. Our leadership will address corporate worship soon, but I have put together some resources for parents to consider.



1. Set up a prayer table at home. Find a quiet place to set up a small table with a candle, Bible, religious picture, and/or prayer card with a short phrase (Peace or Silence). Learn more about setting up prayer tables [here](#).
2. Read short passages of scripture together. In the atrium, the catechist reads short passages from the Bible and asks very simple, open ended questions such as "What did you hear?" or "What is God telling us?" Resist the urge to answer the questions. It is best to let the questions linger in their mind. They will continue to ponder the mysteries and there are no right or wrong responses. Some typical Lenten readings in our atrium include:
 - The Good Shepherd: John 10:3b-5, 10b-11, 14-16
 - The Found Sheep: Luke 15:4-6
 - Psalm 23:1-4
 - The Last Supper: Luke 22:7-13, Mark 14:17, 22-24, 26
3. For the older child, a favorite Lenten study is looking at the way the different gospels tell the story of Jesus' last week. Attached is a scripture chart on where to find each corresponding story. Read from each gospel and have your child compare and contrast how each author presents the story.
4. Pull out your Book of Common Prayer and pray Compline together each night before bed. It's quite short and a nice way to end the day together! If you don't have a BCP at home, it can be found online [here](#).

Several weeks ago, on the last Sunday after Epiphany, your children created an 'alleluia' card. All of the children drew their own interpretation of the word 'alleluia'. Once finished, they hid the paper somewhere in the atrium. Even I do not know where. But it is there...waiting our rediscovery when all of this passes. Elizabeth and I look forward to proclaiming 'Alleluia' with your children soon.

Peace be with you in these turbulent times. Do not hesitate to reach out if you need anything!

Anne

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