

Shine like Stars...

APRIL 6-8, 2020

Tuesday Activity Sheet for Children/Families

“I no longer call you servants, but I call you friends.”

Parents: The focus of tonight’s children/family activities is two-fold: friendship and the *Upper Room*.

Friendship: Reflecting on the qualities of friendship, both in what makes someone a good friend, and how we are a good friend to others, can help us understand our relationship with God. Our God, the Trinity, three-in-one, is a relationship of persons. And God desires to be in relationship with us! Do we desire the same of Him?

Upper Room: The place named in Scripture where Christ celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples; appeared to them post-resurrection; and where the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles on the Feast of Pentecost. This holy place is where the disciples gathered for fellowship and later consoled and encouraged one another. May our homes be such a place during this time of pandemic and Holy Week ... and always.

Activity Suggestions:

Dinner Fellowship Placemats – decorate paper/poster with words and symbols that represent who is closest to you – friends and family. Include those you hold in your heart who cannot be present (grandparents who live out of town, friends you can’t see because of COVID-19, deceased loved ones). These are the people you would want at your own *Upper Room*. Use the placemats as you fellowship together at meals into the Easter season.

Friendship – Discuss the qualities of a good friend. Create a poster collage of things you like to do with your friends. Talk with your parents about what you think Jesus means when He says, “I no longer call you servants, but I call you FRIENDS.” Do you think you are a good friend to Jesus? What are some ways that you can grow in your friendship with Jesus?

Upper Room – As we approach the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday), we find ourselves entering the holiest time of the year without the opportunity to gather at our houses of worship and celebrate together the special services of Holy Week. What can we do to prepare an *Upper Room* in our own home? Children can work together to create a sacred space in the home that is rich in the symbols of Holy Week, thus preparing your physical space for the upcoming liturgies.

A list of Holy Week symbols for adults and older children can be found [here](#).

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Scavenger Hunt: Look for the following items to enhance your prayer experience at home.

Candles

Bread and Wine

White Tablecloth (or other)

[Mass parts](#)

Olive Oil – Scented Oil

Prayer Cards for [Spiritual Communion](#)

Bowl/Pitcher of Water/Towel(s)

Table for items

Bible

Flowers for Easter

Cross – more than one is great!

Access to prayerful music

Optional/Extension activity: [Formed.org](#) is currently offering free streaming. Many parishes already have accounts with Formed. If yours does not (check your parish website) then you can register yourself. For today's theme of living in relationship with Christ, we recommend learning more about the Saints by watching *The Saints – Our Heavenly Friends* (find under videos for children, in the Brother Francis collection). Learn how they lived as true friends of Jesus, and how they are our friends too!