

Family Faith at Home



Make Sunday Come Alive All Week!

The Department of Youth Faith Formation wants to help you and your whole family explore God's Word in your lives. Each week we will be sending out this resource which can help you reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings with your entire family.

Here are some ideas on how to use this resource:

- Consider reading one of the mass readings each evening.
- Do the discussion questions after dinner one night.
- Watch the video on a different night.
- Pray the prayer each evening.



Fifth Sunday of Easter

Mass Readings:

Acts 9: 26-31

Psalms 22: 26-27, 28, 30, 31-32

1 John 3: 18-24

John 15: 1-8

[Readings can also be found at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.](#)

Discuss

After reading the Sunday readings, discuss as a family:

1. What did Saul do when he arrived in Jerusalem? How did the disciples react and why?
2. Why did the brothers take Saul down to Caesarea?
3. How are we commanded to love in the second reading?
4. What does Jesus mean when He says, "Remain in me"? What is important about "remaining"?
5. What is something concrete you can do this week to remain in Christ and become His disciples?

Share

In this first reading, when Saul arrives in Jerusalem, he immediately seeks out the disciples of Jesus. When at first they do not believe him, Barnabas advocates for him and he is brought into their company. Saul then spends his days there preaching boldly in the name of the Lord until he is sent to Caesarea. Saul surrounds himself with the support of his brother disciples and from that source of strength in the Lord he is encouraged to be bold for the Lord. We, too, are called to be bold for the Lord in the glory of His Resurrection. We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song! Let us surround ourselves with the support of the Church through community, through the Sacraments, through Scripture, through prayer. And from that strength in Christ, let us not be afraid to embrace those around us who do not know the glory of the Resurrection and to boldly share with them His love and the good news of salvation.

Watch

For families with younger children watch this video on [I AM the True Vine](#)

For everyone, watch this video on [How to Practice the Presence of God.](#)

Pray

Pray an Act of Love:

O Lord God, I love you above all things
and I love my neighbor for your sake
because you are the highest, infinite and perfect
good, worthy of all my love.

In this love I intend to live and die.

Amen.

Do

Think of nine fruits and draw them on a piece of paper. Assign to each of them one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Hang them somewhere visible in the family home as a reminder that God is growing these fruits in us.

