

HOMESCHOOLING THE FAITH
Second Sunday of Lent March 16, 2014

The religious traditions that you set up in your home will tell children the faith is important to you. Your greatest gift to your children will be an appreciation of the Faith as a totally new way of looking at life. If we are to live forever with God, we walk thru a passing world with hearts set on a world that will we never end. Jesus teaches us that life is not easy – it is worthwhile! W.W.J.T. (What Would Jesus Think) and W.W.J.D. (What Would Jesus Do) become our way managing life in God's name.

The home is the first church in which a child worships. The home and parents have 90% more impact on children than either the Church or the School. At this time, we will make a renewed effort to share the faith with future generations by beginning where a child's faith begins – in the Home.

Our Thinkabouts are based on the Daily Mass Readings

Sun. March 16, 2014: 2nd Sunday of Lent: Gn. 12:1-4; 2Tm: 1-10; Mt. 17:1-9

God tells Abraham to risk all – trust God – and leave all to follow Him. I receive the same call in Baptism? How can we remember we always go as a team. With God, I can do anything. How does it show? Paul tells us it involves tough love – but it's worth it. Do I have the guts to do it? God shines forth in Christ. Selfless love is contagious.

Mon, Mar. 17, 2014: Feast of St. Patrick: Dn. 9:4-10; Lk. 6 36-38

Patrick discovered God in the long lonely nights of shepherding in a foreign country. Having found God, he went back home and returned to bring God to his captors. What led me to take God more seriously? Share it with the family. Once Patrick found God, he was never alone thereafter. What does God mean to me? Do we talk much?

Tues. March 18, 2014: Is. 7:1-20; Mt. 23:1-12

Isaiah tells God's people: Change your lives. Do things right. God will forgive you. Do I realize I need to change my ways and come back to God? What am I doing for Lent that will bring me closer to God? Jesus tells people of his day: do all your religious leaders tell you – but don't follow their example. The greatest among you serves all.

Wed. Mar. 19: 2014: Feast of St. Joseph: 2 Sm. 7:4-16; Rm. 4:13-22; Mt. 1-24

St. Joseph trusted God totally. He always did what God asked of him without a doubt. What is my reputation with God? Can God depend on me to be faithful, even when it's tough? Joseph didn't speak much – he loved God by actions rather than words. By what things in my life do others know that God is important to me?

Thurs. Mar. 20: 2014: Jer. 17:5-10; Lk. 16 19-31

Jeremiah tells us one who seeks strength in flesh is a fool. Wisdom of the World and Wisdom of God both make sense. But they are miles apart. Do I act on Wisdom of God each day? It's wisdom of God that will get me to eternity with God. How well do I know Christ? Do we talk much? Do I consult Him when I'm uncertain?

Fri. Mar. 21, 2014: Gn. 37:3-28; Mt. 21:33-46

Story of Joseph's being sold as a slave by his brothers out of jealousy is a lesson for us. For Joseph it seemed the end of the world. For God it was part of a plan. Joseph became savior of His people. When tough things happen to us, let's remember Joseph and ask: "What is God going to teach me through this experience? God is in charge.

Sat. Mar. 22, 2014: Mic. 17:14-20; Lk.15: 1- 3, 11-32

The prophet Micah remembers God's forgiving of His people for the many times they did not trust Him. For what am I grateful God has forgiven me? Having been forgiven by God, how have I become a forgiver of others? The Father of the Prodigal Son shows us God's attitude on forgiveness. Each day, he looks for his son's return. What is my attitude towards sinners? Do I condemn them or find excuses for their unfortunate behavior?