

“AT THE TABLE”

“A Eucharistic Family Lenten Journey”

Week Two: “The Mass: The Liturgy of the Word” (Lauren)

Discussion Questions Part 1:

- 1. In the Scriptures, the Lord speaks to each of us. Where do you hear the Lord speak to you?**
 - a. Every time the Lord speaks to us, it is a gift. Even if it is a gift we weren't expecting. What was the best gift you have received and why? Do you think it was a gift from the Lord?
 - b. How do you hear the Lord each day? Or, if you don't, how can you open your heart to hearing Him speak to you?
 - c. Where are some of the little and big ways you have seen the Lord work in your life?

- 2. The Psalms and Gospel Acclamation are an invitation to bring our whole selves to the Lord and to praise Him. How can we join in the cry and joy of the psalmists, and praise the coming of the Lord?**
 - a. Who do you share your feelings with? When you are happy, proud, scared, or upset about something, who do you turn to?
 - b. The psalms teach us to trust in the Lord amidst trials, what does trusting in the Lord look like?
 - c. Where in your life do you need to lift your voice to the Lord? What are the fears, doubts, and joys that you want to bring to Him?

- 3. While only Priests and Deacons can preach the Gospel at Mass, we all are needed to share the Gospel. How can we do this?**
 - a. How can you be kind and help others?
 - b. How would you explain the Gospel message to someone who had never heard it before?
 - c. How comfortable are you sharing the Gospel with others? Brainstorm ideas of how to do this. Remember you don't always need to use words!

Discussion Questions Part 2:

1. Understanding the Creed and the Prayers of the Faithful.

- a. What does it mean to believe in something?
- b. What line stands out to you in the Creed (see the Discussion Aide for the Creed) and why?
- c. The Prayers of the Faithful invite us to pray for others. What are some ways you can pray for others?

2. The Liturgy of the Word forms us in wisdom. How can hearing the Word of God impact our lives beyond Mass?

- a. Think of one of your favorite children's books together, what lessons did it contain?
- b. The Gospels invite us to act. What actions is Christ calling us to?
- c. How can we incorporate the values we read about in the Scriptures into our family?

3. How can you better prepare yourself to hear God's Word each week?

- a. Read the upcoming Sunday's Gospel together, it can be found on the Discussion Aide on our website. Who are the characters? What traits do they embody? What is happening?
- b. Now, that the scene has been set, what can this Gospel teach us?
- c. Brainstorm different ways to include this practice of meditating on God's Word more in your family.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Gospel Saturday 4:30 pm Mass

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" —For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.— Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water. "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking with you." Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him. When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

Gospel for Sunday Masses:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, *Zeal for your house will consume me*. At this the Jews answered and said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken. While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing. But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all, and did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well.