



Lenten Faith Groups

Fifth week of Lenten Faith Groups: March 22-28

Welcome & Prayer (5 mins)

Prayer

Almighty ever living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Open the eyes of our mind that we may understand the teachings of Your Gospel.

Our Father

Icebreaker

How is everyone doing/feeling about this quarantine??

Check In

How did we do on last week's commitment? Did we accomplish it?

Proclaim Gospel: John 11:1-45 (10 mins)

Fifth week of Lent

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried his feet with her hair; it was her brother Lazarus who was ill.

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?"



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Gospel Reading continued

So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

Silence, let people reflect, Wait some time here & Video on Formed.org

Proclaim Gospel again & followed by silence

Questions /Reflections(20-25 mins)

1. What does this passage/reading say to you? Or what struck you?
2. How do you react when we hear that someone is ill?
3. How appropriate it is to have this reading during this time, when there is a virus going around.
How do you think Jesus is reacting to these circumstances?
4. Why did Jesus weep? What causes you to weep?
5. How interesting that Jesus' words are used towards him ("Come and see"). Most times Jesus says these words to other people. Now they are saying these words to him.
6. This passage is like a foreshadowing of Jesus' resurrection.

Commitment (5-10 mins)

Make a commitment that your family can do together will do this week or individually.

Examples: pray a rosary as a family, do something nice for another family member etc.

Closing Prayer

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary during the coronavirus pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

MARY, Mother of Jesus, you were Jesus' gift for us from the Cross. He gave you to us as our mother.

Intercede for all our needs.

Say your Intercessions

Hail Mary... Glory Be...