His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, has made a special video for you and your family.

The Department of Youth Faith Formation wants to support you and your whole family during this difficult time in our world. Each week we will be sending out this resource which can help you reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings with your entire family.

**Holy Week**

This week is the holiest time of the year in our faith. It is when we celebrate the Triduum where we immerse ourselves in the Pascal Mystery—Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. This week’s Family Faith at Home will cover Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

**Pray**
We invite you as a family to celebrate all the Holy Week services with your parish online. Check your parish’s website for details.

If your parish is unable to make them available online, please join the streaming services at St. Patrick’s Cathedral.

**Holy Thursday**

**Mass Readings:**
Exodus 12: 1-8, 11-14
Psalm 116: 12-13, 15-16, 17-18
1 Corinthians 11: 23-26
John 13: 1-15

Readings can also be found at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

**Discuss**
1. Jesus is called the Lamb of God. In the reading from Exodus, do you see any connection between the lamb sacrificed by the Israelites and Jesus’ sacrifice on the Cross?
2. In the reading from 1 Corinthians, do you recognize the words Jesus used? Are they used today in our celebration of the Mass?
3. As Catholics we believe that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist. How can receiving Jesus both in our body and in our heart change us? How can it help us?
4. In the reading from the Gospel of John, what was Jesus showing his Apostles when he washed their feet? What does Jesus ask all his followers to do?

**Share:**
“At one time in the history of our Church, Holy Thursday was also known as ‘Maundy’ Thursday, which comes from the Latin mandatum (commandment), referring to Jesus’ commandment to ‘love one another.’ Foot-washing, according to Jesus’ example, symbolized this love and service. Jesus’ giving of himself as food and drink as well as the washing of feet point us to our serving others in the Church and in the world.” (from Living With Christ: Holy Week)

**Watch**
For those with younger children
For the older children

**Do**
Make a plan to follow Jesus’ command to love and serve others. Look for ways to serve members of your household. Do a chore without being asked. Take some time to play with a younger sibling or spend some extra time in prayer for someone in your neighborhood who might be sick.
Family Faith at Home

**Good Friday**

**Mass Readings:**
- Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- Psalm 31: 2, 6, 12-13-15-16-17, 25
- Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
- John 18: 1-19

Readings can also be found at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

**Discuss**

1. You are going to be meeting someone you have never seen before. Your friend describes to you how this person will look and how they will act. This is so when you see him you will recognize him as the person you are to meet.
   
   Hundreds of years before Jesus, Isaiah describes a special man sent by God who will suffer for others. Why do you think God wanted to tell us ahead of time how the Messiah would look and how he would act?

2. In the Gospel of John, Judas betrays Jesus and leads the soldiers to arrest him. Peter denies knowing Jesus three times. Have you ever been disappointed or betrayed by a friend? How did it make you feel? How do you think Jesus felt? Do you think Jesus forgave Peter?

**Share:**

“Good Friday is the only day of the year on which Mass is not celebrated. The altar is bare, without cloths, candles, or cross. The liturgy consists of the reading of Jesus’ suffering and death from John’s gospel, praying the general intercessions, the veneration of the cross, and a communion service. In early centuries, churches acquired relics of the true cross for these rites; gradually, veneration of the cross became common even when a relic was not available. Although there is no celebration of the Eucharist on Good Friday, we receive Communion of the Presanctified (the bread consecrated on Holy Thursday) at the Good Friday liturgy. Many churches also have a meditation on the Way of the Cross (often called the Stations of the Cross) and meditations on the Seven Last Words spoken by Jesus, as recorded in the various gospels.” (from Living With Christ: Holy Week)

**Watch and Pray the Stations of the Cross**

For those with younger children
For those with older children

**Do**

We are told Jesus offered His suffering so that we could be saved. When we suffer, we can offer this as a prayer for others. Choose the people you wish to pray for today as you offer your suffering to God during this health crisis in the world. Thank Jesus for giving His life for us out of His great love for us.
Easter

Mass Readings:
Acts 10: 34a, 27-43
Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Colossians 3: 1-4
John 20: 1-9

Readings can also be found at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Discuss
1. Suppose you were hearing about Jesus for the first time. Would Peter convince you to want to believe in Jesus? What words especially do you think would make you want to believe in Him?
2. How have we been raised into new life with Christ? When does this happen?
3. What did Mary of Magdala think happened to Jesus? What did the others think when they came to the empty tomb? Even after the disciples were with Jesus through all his actions and words they still couldn’t completely understand. Do you think it would have been hard for you to understand if you were there? Who did Jesus send to us to help us believe?

Share:
“It is the Risen Lord himself who leads every celebration of the Eucharist. It isn’t something we do on our own. The Church teaches that the Mass is the ‘action of Christ and the People of God.’ It is the Risen Lord, in His glorified human body, who calls us together, who hosts the celebration, and invites us to join him as he continues to give himself—and us—to the God he calls Abba. Christ did rise from the dead. That’s why we get together every Sunday to celebrate the Eucharist. And that’s why every Sunday has traditionally been called ‘Little Easter.’” (The Little Black Book: Six-Minute Meditations on the Sunday Gospels of Lent Cycle A. www.littlebooks.org)

Watch
For younger children, the Easter Story
For older children, Fr. Mike Schmitz on Easter

Do
Jesus Christ, suffered, died and rose from the dead because of God’s great love for us. He gave us the Law of Love. Love God. Love Others. Plan how you can show your love for God in the days and weeks ahead. How can you show God’s love for others?

God also wants us to love ourselves. Think of one way you can love yourself and plan how you are going to carry this out.

Department of Youth Faith Formation
The Department of Youth Faith Formation encompasses the Catechetical Office and Office of Youth Ministry. Collaboratively, these offices work with parishes and parish leaders to support their efforts to help young people (grades Pre-K to 12) and their families encounter Christ and grow in their Catholic faith. The Department provides training, resources, consultation, networking and events.

Catechetical Office
Website: NYFaithFormation.org
Facebook: NYFaithFormation

Office of Youth Ministry
Website: OYMNY.org
Facebook: oymny
Instagram: @oymny
Twitter: @oymny