

THE TRAGIC AND TRIUMPHANT CROSS

Family Conversations

SESSION ONE

Young Children

- ...Go over the words of the sign of the Cross.
- ...Show the family cross & tell where you got it.

Middle School Children

- ...Tell why we sign ourselves.
- ...Why do we sign ourselves? at the Gospel?

Teens

- ...What do I proclaim when I wear a Cross?
- ...How does it speak to what we believe about Jesus?

Family blessing:

Each week of Lent sign a difference sense with the sign of the cross, using the RICA blessing.

Receive the sign of the cross on your forehead that Christ may strengthen you by His love.

SESSION TWO

Young Children

- ...Tell them the Barabbas story.
- ...Talk about how sometimes we get punished for what other people did and ask how that feels.

Middle School Children

- ... How do you think Jesus felt when he was betrayed?

Teens

- ...Explain what carrying the cross means. Pg.10 Which is the hardest to do?
- ...Did you ever feel that God did not exist for you? Do you think Jesus might have felt that way too?

Whole family

- ...How can we forgive others?
- ...Talk about forgiving others when life seems unfair.
- ...How hard is it to believe that people don't always know what they are doing?

Family Blessing

Receive the sign of the cross on your feet, that you may walk in the way of Christ.

SESSION THREE

Young Children

- ...Plant seeds for new life. Rejoice in them at Easter

Middle School children

- ...How do we see God? live in our parish?
- ...What sacrifices does God call you to make to show your love?

Teens

- ...Jesus died because people couldn't accept his message. What message of Jesus do you hear that is hard to accept?



Family Blessing

Receive the sign of the cross on your ears that you may hear the voice of the Lord.

SESSION FOUR

Young Children

- ...Talk about why people give blood for others.
- ...Tell the Exodus story of the blood on the doorposts to save the people.

Middle School Children

- ...Talk about obeying God when it is hard.
- ...What sacrifices do you have to make to be obedient to God?

Teens

- ...When have you ever felt abandoned and unloved?
- ...In what ways have you suffered for speaking the truth?
- ...What sacrifices do you see your parents making to obey God?

Family Blessing

Receive the sign of the cross on your heart that Christ may live there by faith.

SESSION FIVE

Young Children

- ...Have them draw or make a cross for Holy Week.
- ...Bless them with holy water as a reminder of baptism.

Middle School Children

- ...When have you heard of someone dying to save another?
- ...Why would someone do that?

Teens

- ...Discuss the contradiction of the cross as a sign of the way the world does things.
- ...How do people see the marks of Christ in you?

Family Blessing

Receive the sign of the cross on your hands that Christ may be known in the work that you do.

SESSION SIX

Young Children

- ...Make a scroll with the names of all those who show you the goodness of Jesus.

Middle School Children

- ...Make a scroll with the names of Christian witnesses you admire.

Teens

- ...How are baptism and the cross linked?
- ...Who are your Christian witnesses?

Whole family

- ...Who is a family member in the “cloud of witnesses” urging us to live the Christian faith?

Family Blessing:

Receive the sign of the cross on your lips that you may respond to the Word of God.