

Dear Friends,

We are quickly moving through these Lenten days. We now have the extra incentive that perhaps we do not have at other times of the year to pause and ask how we might better follow our Lord and Savior. This Church season provides us with a rich backdrop for Leif Kerhwald's suggested faith activities that we have been focusing on this year. I hope that you and your family can have those faith conversations that come out of your practice of family prayer.

By this time in Lent, I am ready to turn towards the conclusion of Lent and the Triduum (Latin for "three days"). The Church celebrates these three days as a single liturgical action beginning the evening of Holy Thursday moving through Good Friday and concluding with Easter. Triduum celebrates the fullness of the Paschal Mystery that we celebrate at every Mass.

For me, Triduum is the great teaching moment of the Church. Give your children a gift and bring them to Triduum this year. With the liturgies of Triduum, Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion and the Easter Vigil on Saturday night, the Church draws us into Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. Along with us, our children cannot help but be drawn into the awesome presence of God that the Church mediates for us.

Leave words behind and let the liturgies teach. Get splashed by the water when Father kneels down to wash the feet of our fellow parishioners on Thursday. Be present again at the Last Supper. Vigil through the night with Jesus as even his apostles abandoned him. Walk with your children to the foot of the cross on Good Friday. Kiss the tree of our salvation. Wait in the empty tomb. At the Vigil, help kindle the Easter fire. Hold up a candle to chase away darkness and sin. Celebrate the Resurrection with lilies, incense and loud alleluias. Shout out with all the newly baptized "I do, I do, I do believe!"

Let us pray for each other as we look toward the Resurrection.
Monica Masso-Rivetti